

These notes refer to the Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022 (c.18) which received Royal Assent on 27 April 2022

Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022

EXPLANATORY NOTES

COMMENTARY ON SECTIONS

Part 1 - Adoption

Chapter 3 - Placement for Adoption and Adoption Orders

Section 50: Orders under section 49: supplementary

An order under section 49 may contain directions on how it will be carried into effect, be made subject to appropriate conditions, be varied or revoked following an application by the child, the adoptive parents or the person named in the order under section 49 and has effect until the child's 18th birthday, or any earlier date specified by the court, unless revoked (*subsection (1)*).

Subsection (2) provides that *subsection (3)* applies to proceedings; on an application for an adoption order in which an application for a section 49 order is made, or the court indicates that it is considering making such an order on its own initiative; an application for a section 49 order; on an application for this order to be varied or revoked. *Subsection (3)* provides that the court must, (in the light of any rules made by virtue of *subsection (4)*), draw up a timetable in relation to orders under section 49 and give directions for ensuring, so far as is reasonably practicable, that any timetable is adhered to.

Subsection (4) sets out that rules of court may specify periods within which specified steps must be taken in relation to proceedings to which *subsection (3)* applies and make other provision with respect to such proceedings for the purpose of ensuring that, as far as reasonably practicable, the court makes determinations about section 49 orders without delay.