

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 5 – Registers

Section 80: Adoption Contact Register: supplementary

Section 80 provides that the Adoption Contact Register is not to be open to public inspection or search (*subsection (1)*). *Subsection (2)* defines relatives. This definition will include, for example, parents, siblings, grandparents, great-grandparents, uncles, aunts, cousins, nephews and nieces, including by blood, half blood, marriage or civil partnership. *Subsection (3)* provides that the Registrar General must not give any information entered in the Register to any person except in accordance with section 79(6)(a) where regulations may provide for the disclosure of information contained in one Part of the Register to persons for whom there is an entry in the other part. The Registrar General must also not give any information entered in the Register in accordance with regulations made under section 63(4)(b) which require the Registrar General to disclose to the appropriate adoption agency any information the adoption agency requires about any entry relating to the adopted person on the Adoption Contact Register.