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STATUTORY RULES OF NORTHERN IRELAND

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**2023 No. 12 (C. 1)**

**HEALTH AND PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICES**

The Adoption and Children (2022 Act)  
(Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023

Made - - - - 13th February 2023

The Department of Health, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 160(1) of the Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022<sup>(1)</sup>, makes the following Order:

**Citation and interpretation**

1.—(1) This Order may be cited as the Adoption and Children (2022 Act) (Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2023.

(2) In this Order “the 2022 Act” means the Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.

**Appointed Day**

2. The day appointed for the coming into operation of section 137 of the 2022 Act is 13th February 2023.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Health on 13th February 2023.



*Mark McGuicken*  
A senior officer of the  
Department of Health

**Status:** *This is the original version (as it was originally made).*

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## **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order brings into operation on 13th February 2023, section 137 of the Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022.

Section 137 provides that a guardian ad litem is to be known as a children's court guardian. It makes a number of consequential amendments and provides that any reference to a guardian ad litem in any other statutory provision is to be read as a children's court guardian.