

Status: This version of this cross heading contains provisions that are prospective.

Changes to legislation: Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, Cross Heading: Adoption support services is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 11 March 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

PROSPECTIVE

SCHEDULES

SCHEDULE 4

Transitional and transitory provisions and savings

Adoption support services

1.—(1) The facilities to be provided by an HSC trust as part of the service maintained under Article 3(1) of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 include such arrangements as a trust may be required by regulations to make for the provision of adoption support services to prescribed persons.

(2) Regulations under sub-paragraph (1) may require an HSC trust—

- (a) at the request of a prescribed person, to carry out an assessment of the person's needs for adoption support services,
- (b) if, as a result of the assessment, a trust decides that the person has such needs, to decide whether to provide any such services to the person,
- (c) if a trust decides to provide any such services to a person, and the circumstances fall within a description prescribed by the regulations, to prepare a plan in accordance with which the services are to be provided to the person and keep the plan under review.

(3) Subsections (7) and (8) (except paragraph (a)) of section 5 of this Act apply to regulations under sub-paragraph (1) as they apply to regulations made by virtue of that section.

(4) Article 59(1) of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 (prohibited payments) does not apply to any payment made in accordance with regulations under sub-paragraph (1).

(5) In this paragraph, “HSC trust” has the meaning given by Article 2 of the Adoption (Northern Ireland) Order 1987.

Commencement Information

II Sch. 4 para. 1 not in operation at Royal Assent, see [s. 160\(1\)](#)

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Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

- Act applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2018/412, Sch. 3 (as substituted) by [2022 c. 18 \(N.I.\) Sch. 3 para. 83](#)