

*Status: This version of this provision is prospective.*

**Changes to legislation:** *Adoption and Children Act (Northern Ireland) 2022, Section 24 is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 04 May 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*



## 2022 CHAPTER 18

### PART 1

#### Adoption

#### CHAPTER 3

#### Placement for adoption and adoption orders

#### *Placement of children by adoption agency for adoption*

PROSPECTIVE

#### **Contact: supplementary**

**24.—**(1) An order under section 23—

- (a) has effect while the adoption agency is authorised to place the child for adoption or the child is placed for adoption; but
- (b) may be varied or revoked by the court on an application by the child, the agency or a person named in the order.

(2) The agency may refuse to allow the contact that would otherwise be required by virtue of an order under that section if—

- (a) it is satisfied that it is necessary to do so in order to safeguard or promote the child's welfare; and
- (b) the refusal is decided upon as a matter of urgency and does not last for more than seven days.

(3) Regulations may make provision as to—

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- (a) the steps to be taken by an agency which has exercised its power under subsection (2);
  - (b) the circumstances in which, and conditions subject to which, the terms of any order under section 23 may be departed from by agreement between the agency and any person for whose contact with the child the order provides;
  - (c) notification by an agency of any variation or suspension of arrangements made (otherwise than under an order under that section) with a view to allowing any person contact with the child.
- (4) Before making a placement order the court must—
- (a) consider the arrangements which the adoption agency has made, or proposes to make, for allowing any person contact with the child; and
  - (b) invite the parties to the proceedings to comment on those arrangements.
- (5) An order under section 23 may provide for contact on any conditions the court considers appropriate.

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#### **Commencement Information**

- II** S. 24 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](#)