



# Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953

1953 CHAPTER 20 1 and 2 Eliz 2

## PART I

### REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS

#### 1 Particulars of births to be registered.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this Part of this Act, the birth of every child born in England and Wales shall be registered by the registrar of births and deaths for the sub-district in which the child was born by entering in a register kept for that sub-district such particulars concerning the birth as may be prescribed; and different registers shall be kept and different particulars may be prescribed for live-births and still-births respectively:

Provided that, where a [<sup>F1</sup>still-born child] is found exposed and no information as to the place of birth is available, the birth shall be registered by the registrar of births and deaths for the sub-district in which the child is found.

- (2) The following persons shall be qualified to give information concerning a birth, that is to say—
- (a) the father and mother of the child;
  - (b) the occupier of the house in which the child was to the knowledge of that occupier born;
  - (c) any person present at the birth;
  - (d) any person having charge of the child.
- [<sup>F2</sup>(e) in the case of a still-born child found exposed, the person who found the child.]

- [<sup>F3</sup>(3) In the case of a child who has a parent by virtue of section 42 or 43 of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008, the reference in subsection (2)(a) to the father of the child is to be read as a reference to the woman who is a parent by virtue of that section.]

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**Changes to legislation:** There are outstanding changes not yet made by the [legislation.gov.uk](https://www.legislation.gov.uk) editorial team to Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953. Any changes that have already been made by the team appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

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### Textual Amendments

- F1** Words substituted by [Children Act 1975 \(c. 72\)](#), **Sch. 3 para 13(1)**
- F2** S. 1(2)(e) added by [Children Act 1975 \(c. 72\)](#), **Sch. 3 para. 13(2)**
- F3** S. 1(3) inserted (6.4.2009 for specified purposes, 1.9.2009 in so far as not already in force) by [Human Fertilisation and Embryology Act 2008 \(c. 22\)](#), s. 68(2), **Sch. 6 para. 2**; S.I. 2009/479, art. 6(1)(e)(2) (with art. 7, Sch.)

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**Changes and effects yet to be applied to :**

- s. 1(3) substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 2\(3\)](#)

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

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 1(2)(a)(aa) substituted for s. 1(2)(a) by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 2\(2\)](#) (This S.I. is amended by S.I. 2014/560, Sch. 1 para. 34 and S.I. 2019/1458, reg. 19(2)(a))
- s. 1(4) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 2\(4\)](#) (This S.I. is amended by S.I. 2019/1458, reg. 19(2)(b))
- s. 2A-2E inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 4](#) (This S.I. is amended by S.I. 2019/1458, reg. 19(4))
- s. 9(3A) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 10\(2\)](#) (This S.I. is amended by S.I. 2019/1458, reg. 19(5))
- s. 9(6) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 10\(3\)](#)
- s. 10(1)(h) and word inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 11\(2\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 10(1B)(g) and word inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 11\(3\)\(d\)](#)
- s. 10(1C) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 11\(4\)](#)
- s. 10(1C)s. 10(2)(b) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 11\(5\)](#)
- s. 10(1C)s. 10(2A)(b) words substituted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 11\(5\)](#)
- s. 10B10C inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 13](#) (This S.I. is amended by S.I. 2019/1458, reg. 19(7))
- s. 16(2)(ba) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 8\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- s. 16(4) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 8\(5\)](#)
- s. 17(2)(aa) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 9\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- s. 17(4) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 9\(4\)](#)
- s. 18(1) s. 18 renumbered as s. 18(1) by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 10\(5\)](#)
- s. 18(2) amendment to earlier affecting provision [2009 c. 25, Sch. 21 para. 10\(5\)](#) by [2022 c. 35 s. 39\(6\)\(a\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. The insertion of s. 18(2) by [2009 c. 25, Sch. 21 para. 10\(5\)](#) remains prospective.)
- s. 18(2) inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 10\(5\)](#)
- s. 23(4) inserted by [2022 c. 35 s. 44](#)
- s. 33A inserted by [2009 c. 25 Sch. 21 para. 19](#)
- s. 33A(1) words substituted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 15 para. 27\(a\)](#)
- s. 33A(3) omitted by [2016 c. 19 Sch. 15 para. 27\(b\)](#)
- s. 36(aa) inserted by [2009 c. 24 Sch. 6 para. 15](#)