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STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

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**2021 No. 1436**

**The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment)  
(England and Wales) Regulations 2021**

**Amendment of the Registration of Births and Deaths Regulations 1987**

2.—(1) The Registration of Births and Deaths Regulations 1987<sup>(1)</sup> are amended as follows.

(2) In regulation 2 (interpretation)<sup>(2)</sup>—

(a) after the definition of “the 2009 Act”, insert—

““approved electronic form” means any form of electronic communication or electronic storage (including an electronic signature) approved by the Registrar General pursuant to the powers conferred under section 9(2) of the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1926, or under section 39(2) of the Act;”;

(b) after the definition of “description”, insert—

““electronic communication” has the meaning given in section 15(1) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000<sup>(3)</sup>;

“electronic signature” has the meaning given in section 7(2)(4) of the Electronic Communications Act 2000;”.

(3) After regulation 2, insert—

**“2A Sending and providing notices, information or other documents**

**2A** Where any notice, information, declaration, certificate, return or other document is required to be given, sent, delivered, produced, supplied, transmitted or otherwise provided for any purpose of these Regulations, the requirement may be met by—

- (a) sending the document by post, or
- (b) providing the document, or a copy of it, in an approved electronic form.

**2B Declarations and certificates in an approved electronic form**

(1) If a declaration or certificate under these Regulations is prescribed to be made or issued in a form listed in paragraph (2), that declaration or certificate may also be made or issued in an approved electronic form.

(2) The forms are—

- (a) form 2,
- (b) form 3,
- (c) form 4,

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(1) [S.I. 1987/2088](#).

(2) Regulation 2 was amended by [S.I. 2009/2165](#), [2012/1203](#), and [2013/1869](#).

(3) [2000 c. 7](#). Section 15(1) was amended by the Communications Act 2003 ([c. 21](#)), section 406(1) and Schedule 17, paragraph 158.

(4) Section 7(2) was amended by [S.I. 2016/696](#).

- (d) form 6A,
  - (e) form 6B,
  - (f) form 10,
  - (g) form 11,
  - (h) form 12,
  - (i) form 14,
  - (j) form 15,
  - (k) form 16,
  - (l) form 17,
  - (m) form 18.”.
- (4) In regulation 3 (preparation of draft particulars)(5)—
- (a) for paragraph (1)(b), substitute—
    - “(b) in an approved electronic form.”;
  - (b) for paragraph (2)(b), substitute—
    - “(b) in an approved electronic form.”;
  - (c) in paragraph (3)—
    - (i) omit “where the informant is present”,
    - (ii) for “him”, substitute “the informant”.
- (5) In regulation 9(6) (entry of particulars on registration) in paragraph (1), omit—
- (a) “forthwith”, and
  - (b) “in the presence of the informant”.
- (6) In regulation 13 (declaration and registration under section 9 of the Act), in paragraph (3)(a), omit “in the presence of the declarant”.
- (7) In regulation 14 (alteration or giving of name after registration), in paragraph (2)(7)—
- (a) in sub-paragraph (a), for the words from “if the entry” to “form 3”, substitute “where the name was altered or given in baptism”;
  - (b) in sub-paragraph (b), for the words from “if the entry” to “form 4”, substitute “where the name was altered or given otherwise than in baptism”.
- (8) In regulation 17 (re-registration of birth)(8)—
- (a) in paragraph (2)
    - (i) for the words before sub-paragraph (a) substitute—
      - “In a section 10A(1)(a) case, the registrar shall enter the particulars to be registered concerning the birth in spaces 1 to 13 on form 1, and call upon the mother and father to verify the particulars entered, and to sign the entry in space 14.”; and
    - (ii) omit sub-paragraph (a);
    - (iii) renumber sub-paragraph (b) as paragraph (2A);
  - (b) for paragraph (3), substitute—

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(5) Regulation 3 was substituted by S.I. 1992/2753 and amended by S.I. 1997/844, 2009/2165 and 2012/1203.

(6) Regulation 9(1), and the heading of regulation 9, were amended by S.I. 2012/1203.

(7) Regulation 14(2) was amended by S.I. 1991/2275.

(8) Regulation 17 was amended by S.I. 2009/2165 and 2012/1203.

“(3) In a section 10A(1B)(a) case, the registrar shall enter the particulars to be registered concerning the birth in spaces 1 to 13 on form 1, and call upon the mother and other parent to verify the particulars entered, and to sign the entry in space 14.”.

(9) In regulation 34 (registration where no reference to coroner), in paragraph (1)(9)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (a), for the words from “in form 10” to “form 11”, substitute “or a declaration, in a form prescribed under regulation 32,”;
- (b) in sub-paragraph (c), omit “personally”;
- (c) in the words after sub-paragraph (c), omit “in the presence of the informant”.

(10) In regulation 35 (registration on coroner’s notification where no inquest is held), in paragraph (1)(10), omit the words “and the particulars”.

(11) In regulation 41 (reference to coroner), in paragraph (1)(b)(ii)(11), for “14 days” substitute “28 days”.

(12) In regulation 42 (registration within twelve months from date of death where no report to coroner), in paragraph (1)(12)—

- (a) in sub-paragraph (c), omit “personally”;
- (b) omit—
  - (i) “forthwith”, and
  - (ii) “in the presence of the informant”.

(13) In regulation 42A (declaration and registration under section 23A of the Act), in paragraph (3)(a), omit “in the presence of the declarant”.

(14) In regulation 43 (registration where inquest is not held), in paragraph (1)(13), omit “in the presence of a qualified informant”.

(15) In regulation 47 (registration after 12 months), in paragraph (3)(14), omit—

- (a) “shall arrange for that informant to attend at his office and”, and,
- (b) “in his presence”.

(16) In regulation 50 (notification of disposal), for paragraph (a) substitute—

- “(a) write, sign and date the notification of disposal embodied in form 17 or in the coroner’s order with regard to the deceased, and deliver the notification to the relevant registrar; or
- (aa) where a certificate under regulation 49(1) is issued in an approved electronic form, notify the relevant registrar of the disposal in an approved electronic form; or”.

(17) In regulation 56 (correction of other minor clerical errors after completion)(15)—

- (a) in paragraph (1), omit “in the presence of an informant”;
- (b) in paragraph (2), omit “in the presence of..”, in both places it occurs.

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(9) Regulation 34(1) was amended by [S.I. 2012/1203](#), and modified by the Coronavirus Act 2020, section 18(1), Schedule 13, Part 1, paragraph 6(1) and (2). The modifications have a temporary effect by virtue of section 89 of that Act.

(10) Regulation 35(1) was amended by [S.I. 1997/844](#), and by [S.I. 2012/1203](#).

(11) Regulation 41(1)(b)(ii) was modified by the Coronavirus Act 2020, section 18(1), Schedule 13, Part 1, paragraph 6(1) and (3). The modifications have a temporary effect by virtue of section 89 of that Act.

(12) Regulation 42(1) was amended by [S.I. 2006/2827](#) and modified by the Coronavirus Act 2020, section 18(1), Schedule 13, Part 1, paragraph 6(1) and (4). The modifications have a temporary effect by virtue of section 89 of that Act.

(13) Regulation 43(1) was amended by [S.I. 2006/2827](#) and modified by the Coronavirus Act 2020, section 18(1), Schedule 13, Part 1, paragraph 6(1) and (5). The modifications have a temporary effect by virtue of section 89 of that Act.

(14) Regulation 47(3) was amended by [S.I. 1997/844](#) and modified by the Coronavirus Act 2020, section 18(1), Schedule 13, Part 1, paragraph 6(1) and (6). The modifications have a temporary effect by virtue of section 89 of that Act.

(15) Regulation 56(1) and (2) were substituted by [S.I. 2006/2827](#).

- (18) In regulation 57 (correction of other clerical errors after completion)(**16**)—
- (a) omit paragraph (1)(b);
  - (b) in paragraph (2), omit the words from “, in the presence” to the end of the paragraph;
  - (c) in paragraph (3) for the words from “shall enter a marginal note” to the end of the paragraph, substitute—
    - “shall—
    - (a) enter a marginal note in the following form—
      - “In space [or column] .. .. corrected to .. .. on .. .. by me .. .. [registrar or superintendent registrar] on authority of the Registrar General”;
    - (b) complete and sign the note in the places provided; and
    - (c) record on the marginal note the informant’s qualification for giving information concerning the correction.”.