

### Is there an alternative?

Adopted adults and birth relatives can register a wish for contact or no contact on the Adoption Contact Register. We can give you some information but you need to contact the General Register Office for a form to register your wishes.

### If you have more questions, ring us on:

01432 383240

### Or email us on:

[adoption@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:adoption@herefordshire.gov.uk)

### Or write to us at:

Adoption Team  
Moor House  
Widemarsh Common  
Hereford  
HR4 9NA

### Or email Adoption Support on:

[info@adoptionssupport.co.uk](mailto:info@adoptionssupport.co.uk)

Helpline: 0121 6666014

Monday to Thursday

9.30am—5pm

Website: [www.adoptionssupport.co.uk](http://www.adoptionssupport.co.uk)

### Or write to Adoption Support at:

Suite A  
6th Floor  
Albany House  
Hurst Street  
Birmingham  
B5 4BD

### Useful websites:

[www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.uk](http://www.adoptionsearchreunion.org.uk)

[www.baaf.org.uk](http://www.baaf.org.uk)

[www.adoptionuk.org](http://www.adoptionuk.org)

### Some useful contacts

NORCAP—Supporting adults affected by adoption  
112 Church Road  
Wheatley  
Oxfordshire  
OX33 1LU  
Tel; 01865 875000  
Email: [enquiries@norcap.org](mailto:enquiries@norcap.org)  
Website: [www.norcap.org.uk](http://www.norcap.org.uk)

The Adoption Contact Register  
The General Register Office  
Smedley Hydro  
Trafalgar Road  
Southport  
PR8 2HH  
Tel; 0151 471 4830  
Email: [adoption@ons.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:adoption@ons.gsi.gov.uk)  
Website: [www.gro.gov.uk](http://www.gro.gov.uk)



Working together for the people of Herefordshire



## Registering an Adoption VETO

### Information for adopted people

*Advice and information at your fingertips*

The Adoption Team work across Herefordshire providing advice, information and support to adopters, adoptees and birth relatives

***If you need help to understand a document, or would like it in another format or language, please call 01432 260500 or email: [info@herefordshire.gov.uk](mailto:info@herefordshire.gov.uk)***

## Registering an Adoption Veto

If you want to prevent or limit contact from some or all of your birth relatives, and you are over 18, you can register a veto with the adoption agency which holds your records.

Herefordshire's adoption team can help you with this, if Herefordshire holds your adoption records.

Registering a veto is a very important decision which could have major consequences for you and your family. The Adoption and Children Act 2002, requires us to discuss it thoroughly with you and to be satisfied that you understand all the implications of your decision.

We will meet with you to talk all the options through, and provide you with counselling if you would like it. Then if you want to go ahead we will help you complete your veto registration form, and then put it on your Records.

## Intermediary agencies

**An 'intermediary agency' is an adoption agency or adoption support agency which provides a service to trace adopted adults and birth relatives and, if they wish, put them in touch with each other.**

### Types of veto

There are two types of veto: an 'absolute veto' and a 'qualified veto'.

#### **What would an 'absolute veto' mean?**

It would mean that an intermediary agency could not in any circumstances contact you on behalf of any birth relative who was enquiring about you.

#### **What would a 'qualified veto' mean?**

It would mean that an intermediary agency could contact you, but only on behalf of a birth relative specified by you, or in particular circumstance decided by you (for example, to pass on important medical information).

## Things we will do before accepting your veto form

- Check your identity, and find out why you want to register a veto
- Make sure you know about the two types of veto and the effect and implications of each
- Explain that you can alter your veto at any time, and how you can do this
- Make sure you understand the effects of a veto on your children, or any children you may have in the future
- Make sure you understand the effect of a veto on any birth brothers or sisters who were in the same adoptive family as you
- Even if you are asking for an absolute veto, make sure you understand the meaning of a qualified veto
- Make sure you understand that registering a veto may not prevent birth relatives searching for you themselves
- Explain that a veto will only bar an intermediary agency from contacting you. An adoption agency may still do so.