

DATED

2025

- (1) BLAENAU GWENT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (2) BRIDGEND COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (3) CAERPHILLY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (4) THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF CARDIFF
- (5) CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
- (6) CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL
- (7) CONWY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (8) DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
- (9) FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
- (10) GWYNEDD COUNTY COUNCIL
- (11) ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
- (12) MERTHYR TYDFIL COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (13) MONMOUTHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
- (14) NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (15) NEWPORT CITY COUNCIL
- (16) PEMBROKESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
- (17) POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL
- (18) RHONDDA CYNON TAF COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (19) THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SWANSEA
- (20) TORFAEN COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL
- (21) VALE OF GLAMORGAN COUNCIL
- (22) WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

DEED OF VARIATION OF AGREEMENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT
COMMITTEE FOR THE NATIONAL ADOPTION SERVICE

TO BE TRANSLATED ONCE SIGNED

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This Deed of Variation is dated

2025

Parties

(1) Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council of Municipal Offices, Civic Centre Ebbw Vale NP23 6XB (“Council”)

(2) Bridgend County Borough Council of Civic Offices, Angel Street, Bridgend CF31 4WB (“Council”)

(3) Caerphilly County Borough Council of Ty Penallta, Tredomen Park, Ystrad Mynach, Hengoed CF82 7PG (“Council”)

(4) The County Council of the City and County of Cardiff of County Hall, Atlantic Wharf, Cardiff CF10 4UW (“Council”)

(5) Carmarthenshire County Council of County Hall, Carmarthen, Carmarthenshire SA31 1JP (“Council”)

(6) Ceredigion County Council of Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron, Ceredigion SA46 OPA (“Council”)

(7) Conwy County Borough Council of Bodlondeb, Bangor Road, Conwy LL32 8DU (“Council”)

(8) Denbighshire County Council of County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin LL15 1YN (“Council”)

(9) Flintshire County Council of County Hall, Mold CH7 6NB (“Council”)

(10) Gwynedd Council of Council Offices, Shirehall Street, Caernarfon LL55 1SH (“Council”)

(11) Isle of Anglesey County Council of Council Offices, Llangefni, LL77 7TW (“Council”)

(12) Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council of Civic Centre, Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8AN (“Council”)

(13) Monmouthshire County Council of PO Box 106, Caldicot NP26 9AN (“Council”)

(14) Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council of Port Talbot Civic Centre, Port Talbot SA13 1PJ (“Council”)

(15) Newport City Council of Civic Centre, Godfrey Road, Newport NP20 4UR (“Council”)

(16) Pembrokeshire County Council of County Hall, Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire SA61 1TP (“Council”)

(17) Powys County Council of Powys County Hall, Spa Road East, Llandrindod Wells, Powys LD1 5LG (“Council”)

(18) Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council of The Pavilions, Cambrian Park, Clydach Vale, Tonypanydy CF40 2XX (“Council”) 2

(19) The Council of the City and County of Swansea of Civic Centre, Oystermouth Road, Swansea SA1 3SN (“Council”)

(20) Torfaen County Borough Council of the Civic Centre, Pontypool, Torfaen NP4 6YB (“Council”)

(21) Vale of Glamorgan Council of Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, Vale of Glamorgan CF63 4RU (“Council”)

(22) Wrexham County Borough Council of The Guildhall, Wrexham LL11 1AY (“Council”)

(collectively referred to as “the Councils” for the purposes of this Agreement)

BACKGROUND

- (A) The Councils entered into an agreement dated 19th April 2024 for establishment of a Joint Committee for the national Adoption Service (Agreement).
- (B) Within the Agreement, it sets out the required quorum for attendance at the Joint Committee. At a Joint Committee meeting on the 24th September 2025, the Councils proposed to amend the current quorum. The parties therefore wish to amend the Agreement as set out in this Deed of Variation with effect from the date of this deed] (**Variation Date**).

Agreed terms

1. Terms defined in the Agreement

In this Deed of Variation, terms defined in the Agreement and used in this Deed of Variation have the meaning set out in the Agreement unless otherwise defined or context requires otherwise or as set out below.

2. Variation

2.1 With effect from the Variation Date, the parties agree the following amendments to the Agreement:

a)	New Definitions	<p>Insert the new following definitions:</p> <p>“Regional Areas means each of the following areas;</p> <p>North Wales regional area comprising of the following 6 local authorities - Ynys Mon, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire and Wrexham</p> <p>South East Wales regional area comprising of the following 5 local authorities - Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen, Monmouthshire, Newport, Caerphilly</p> <p>Vale Valleys and Cardiff regional area comprising of the following 4 local authorities - Merthyr Tydfil, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan</p> <p>Western Bay regional area comprising of the following 3 local authorities - Swansea, Bridgend and Neath Port Talbot</p> <p>Mid and West Wales regional area comprising of the following 4 local authorities - Carmarthenshire, Ceredigion, Pembrokeshire and Powys”</p>
b)	Schedule 1 para 16	<p>The entire paragraph is deleted and replaced with:</p> <p>“A meeting of the Joint Committee shall require a quorum of 40% of the voting members subject to there being representation from at least 3 Regional Areas. If there is a quorum of members present but neither the chair nor the vice-chair is present, the members present shall designate one member to preside as chair for that meeting.”</p>

2.2 Except as set out in clause 2.1, the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

2.3 To the extent of any conflict between the terms of the Agreement and this Deed of Variation, the terms of this Deed of Variation shall prevail.

3. Governing law

This Deed of Variation and any dispute or claim (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter or formation shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the law of England and Wales.

4. Jurisdiction

Each party irrevocably agrees that the courts of England and Wales shall have exclusive jurisdiction to settle any dispute or claim (including non-contractual disputes or claims) arising out of or in connection with this Deed of Variation or its subject matter or formation.

5. Counterparts

- 5.1 This Deed of Variation may be executed in one or more counterparts. Any single counterpart or set of counterparts executed, in either case, by all the parties shall constitute a full original of this Deed of Variation for all purposes.

This document has been executed as a deed and is delivered and takes effect on the date stated at the beginning of it.

THE COMMON SEAL OF Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council
was affixed in the presence of

Authorised Signatory

THE COMMON SEAL OF Bridgend County Borough Council
was affixed in the presence of

Authorised Signatory

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Authorised Signatory

THE COMMON SEAL OF The County Council of the City
and County of Cardiff was affixed in the presence of

Authorised Signatory

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Authorised Signatory

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