



Statement of Wishes

What is a Statement of Wishes?

A Statement of Wishes is a written statement provided to the Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection (the Department) by an adopted person, birth parent or adoptive parent that sets out their wishes in relation to contact by another party to the adoption. Statements of Wishes are provided for in section 27B(4) of the *Adoption Act 1988*, which came into effect on 18 December 2017.

From 18 December 2017, any person who lodged a direction under the 'old section 27B' of the *Adoption Act 1988* (known as an 'adoption information veto') may lodge a Statement of Wishes with the Department. The person can choose whether they want to lodge a Statement of Wishes. They do not have to do so.

If a person lodges a Statement of Wishes and another party to the adoption applies for information relating to that person, the Department must provide a copy of the Statement of Wishes with any information released.

The Adoption Act requires that the Department must provide the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages with a copy of the Statement of Wishes. The Registrar will release this along with any certificates provided to applicants.

A Statement of Wishes is not a veto. It does not prevent the Department from releasing information that identifies the person making the Statement of Wishes or information which would enable that person to be traced.

A Statement of Wishes stays in effect until such time as the person making the statement withdraws it.

Who can make a Statement of Wishes?

A Statement of Wishes can only be completed by a person who previously lodged an 'old section 27B direction' ('adoption information veto') with the Department prior to 18 December 2017.

What can I say in my Statement of Wishes?

You can set out your wishes in relation to contact with another party to the adoption. This may include:

- whether you wish to be contacted by all or some of the other parties to the adoption, or an agency on their behalf
- under what circumstances you wish to be contacted, if at all
- your preferred means of contact (e.g. telephone, email, letter, face to face).

When can I lodge a Statement of Wishes?

- A Statement of Wishes **can** be lodged from **18 December 2017**.
- A Statement of Wishes **cannot** be lodged after **17 December 2022**, which is the expiry day for 'adoption information vetoes'.
- If you have lodged a Statement of Wishes, you can revoke it or vary it **any time** before or after 17 December 2022.

How do I lodge a Statement of Wishes?

To make a Statement of Wishes, please complete the attached Statement of Wishes form and send it to:

The FOI Team
Department for Child Protection
GPO Box 1072, Adelaide SA 5001
Or email it to: DCP.FOI@sa.gov.au

What happens to my old direction (veto)?

The law allowing for 'old section 27B directions' ('adoption information vetoes') to be placed with the Department has been repealed. If you had an active veto that you placed with the Department prior to 18 December 2017 it will continue to apply until 17 December 2022, unless you revoke it earlier.

After 18 December 2017, no person can place a new veto or renew an existing veto with the Department.



Can I provide other information in addition to my Statement of Wishes?

Yes. You may wish to provide the Department with other information, for example family health background you would like the other party to have, even if you are not seeking contact.

In providing this information you should include the details of the adoption, such as the date of birth of the adopted person and the names and addresses of the parties at the time of the adoption.

You can do this by emailing the information to DCP.FOI@sa.gov.au or by posting it to:

The FOI Team
Department for Child Protection
GPO Box 1072, Adelaide SA 5001

This information should be on a separate document to your Statement of Wishes form.

Support is available

If you wish to talk to someone about providing a Statement of Wishes or about other matters related to adoption, you can contact:

Post Adoption Support Services (non-government)

Email: passinfo@rasa.org.au

Phone: (08) 8245 8100

Nunkuwarrin Yunti - Link-Up SA (non-government service for Aboriginal people)

Email: reception@nunku.org.au

Phone: (08) 8406 1600

Department for Child Protection Freedom of Information Team (government)

Email: DCP.FOI@sa.gov.au

Phone: (08) 8226 4399



Statement of Wishes Lodgement details

About you (This page will not be provided to any other party)					
Last name:				Date of Birth:	
First and middle names:					
Previous names:					
Current address:					
				Postcode	
Telephone number:	Home		Work		Mobile
Email address:					
Tick the box that describes you	I am: <input type="checkbox"/> an adopted person <input type="checkbox"/> a birth parent <input type="checkbox"/> an adoptive parent				
Do you have a written direction (a "veto") that is currently in effect (which you lodged with the Department for Child Protection)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes - date it was placed (if known) <input type="checkbox"/> No – you are not eligible to lodge a Statement of Wishes (see page 1 "Who can make a Statement of Wishes?")				
Signature - Please ensure you have signed and dated this form	<p>I submit this statement pursuant to section 27B(4) of the <i>Adoption Act 1988</i>.</p> <p>I also acknowledge that if, after the 17 December 2022, the Chief Executive of the Department for Child Protection discloses information relating to me under section 27 of the <i>Adoption Act 1988</i>, the Chief Executive must ensure that a copy of my Statement of Wishes accompanies the information disclosed.</p> <p>Your name: _____</p> <p>Signature: _____ Date: / /</p>				



Please complete your Statement of Wishes on the following page and send to

The FOI Team
Department for Child Protection
GPO Box 1072, Adelaide SA 5001
Or email it to: DCP.FOI@sa.gov.au



Statement of Wishes

Made pursuant to section 27B(4) of the *Adoption Act 1988*

(Please complete a separate form for each party to the adoption)

Name or description of the other party*	
Do you wish to be contacted directly by this person?	YES / NO (please circle your response)
If you circled YES , what is your preferred means of contact? (E.g. telephone, email, letter, face to face)	<i>Your contact details will be given to the other party along with your Statement of Wishes when they apply for their adoption information.</i>
If you circled NO , would you accept contact on behalf of the other party by an adoption support agency such as the Post Adoption Support Services, Nunkuwarrin Yunti or the Department for Child Protection? (see page 2)	YES / NO (please circle your response) <i>If YES your supplied contact details will be given to the support agency upon request. Your contact details will only be given for the purposes of contacting you on behalf of the other party.</i>
There may be reasons for you to be contacted other than for contact with the other party. In what circumstances would you accept contact from an adoption support agency or other agency? (Such circumstances may relate to medical or other family information).	

Under section 27B(4) of the *Adoption Act 1988*, if the Chief Executive discloses information under Section 27 relating to a person who has given the Chief Executive a Statement of Wishes, the Chief Executive must ensure that a copy of the statement accompanies the information disclosed.



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<p>In these circumstances, what is your preferred means of contact? (e.g. telephone, email, letter, face to face)</p>	<p><i>Your supplied contact details will be given to the support or other agency upon request. Your contact details will only be given for the purposes of contacting you about the circumstances you have specified.</i></p>
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***Party:** means adopted person, birth parent or adoptive parent. Some relatives of these parties may also seek contact.

This Statement relates only to your wishes with respect to contact by other parties to the adoption. If you wish to provide other information to the Department, you may do so by emailing DCP.FOI@sa.gov.au or by posting it to: The FOI Team, Department for Child Protection, GPO Box 1072, Adelaide SA 5001, Australia.