1. Cabinet considered a policy paper about reforming adoption laws.
2. The policy paper covers the following matters:

* the consents required for a child's adoption to proceed
* how a birth parent's consent to a child's adoption is provided
* provisions for open adoption, where birth parents and adoptive parents agree
* eligibility criteria for prospective adoptive parents
* the operation of the adoption expression of interest and assessment registers
* relative and step-parent adoption
* the process for selecting and assessing prospective adoptive parents
* court oversight of adoption processes.

1. The provisions governing information access and objections to contact and the release of identifying information were originally not part of the review of adoption laws. A consultation paper on privacy and access in relation to adoption information is proposed for release.
2. Cabinet approved the release for public information of a policy paper on future adoption legislation.
3. Cabinet approved the release for public consultation of a consultation paper on privacy and access in relation to adoption information.
4. *Attachments*

* [*Future Adoption Laws – Policy Paper*](attachments/future-adoption-laws.pdf)
* [*Balancing Privacy and Access – Adoption Consultation Paper*](attachments/balancing-privacy-and-access.pdf)