

**Subject:** 202100221335 - Request for information regarding adoption records.

**FOI reference:** 202100221335

**Date received:** 6 July 2021

**Date responded:** 21 July 2021

**Information requested:**

You asked: "My family and I are trying to obtain a copy of our deceased mother's original birth certificate in order to try and trace her siblings who were also placed for adoption in 1960. We know that our mum had a copy but we are unable to locate it and are unsure how to obtain a copy, we believe she was born in England but adopted in Scotland."

**NRS Response:**

When an adoption is granted by a court the records are normally sealed for 100 years, the information contained therein only available to the adoptee or their named representative (in writing). However as your mother has passed you can apply to a Sheriff at the court where her adoption was granted to ask permission to see the records.

The name of the court you should apply to is included within a full extract adoption certificate. As you do not have access to this, if you can supply the information in questions 1 to 3 below to [adoptions@nrscotland.gov.uk](mailto:adoptions@nrscotland.gov.uk) the Adoption Unit can look it up for you and supply the necessary information:

1. Your mother's full name
2. Her date of birth
3. The names of her adoptive parents.

Please note that access is at the discretion of the individual Sheriff, it is not automatically given, and any access is likely to be delayed by COVID-19 restrictions.