**Feedback on Key issues raised by SIGs:**

**Potential Briefing Papers for IASW**

**April 2019**

**Social Workers in Foster Care (SWIFC):** Key Issue – **The impact of the new GDPR on the delivery of an Adoption Information & Tracing Service**

**1.** The conflict that arises because of the extremely restrictive interpretation of the GDPR has almost brought the provision of an Adoption Information and Tracing Service to a standstill. Continued social work practice in accordance with the Standardised Framework drawn up by Adoption Board in 2008 in consultation with all stakeholders in adoption can no longer be adhered to for fear of breach in these regulations.

**2.** Limitations are now being placed on the release of information to adopted adults is in contradiction with the Convention of Human Rights which supports the rights of individuals to their identity. In the absence of adoption legislation this is currently non -identifying third party information which is disclosed without consent and goes against the spirit of the new proposed Adoption (Information and Tracing) legislation.

The application of GDPR is having an extremely damaging impact on service users. There is ongoing confusion regarding the limitations and reasons regarding the release of information; public documents such as birth marriage and death certificates are being released with the names of the other parties redacted; service users are being advised that information that had previously been released before GDPR should not have been released; there are potential life threatening implications for adopted adults who require immediate health information about birth relatives.