CONSULTATION QUESTIONS

The registration of civil partnerships

Question 1 (Paragraphs 2.12 and 2.13)
Do you agree that legislation should be changed so that civil partnerships could be registered through religious ceremonies?

Yes ☐
No ☑
Don't know ☐

Please give reasons for your answer.

Comments
In religious ceremonies, there is an understanding that marriage is a covenant relationship entered into between one man and one woman.

Question 2 (Paragraphs 2.14 to 2.19)
Do you think that the proposals in England and Wales on registration of civil partnerships in religious premises would be appropriate for Scotland?

Yes ☐
No ☑
Don't know ☐

If you have answered no, please explain what elements of the proposals in England and Wales you consider inappropriate for Scotland.

Comments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 3</th>
<th>(Paragraphs 2.20 to 2.24)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you agree with allowing religious celebrants to register civil partnerships in religious premises?</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>□</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>☑</td>
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<td>Don't know</td>
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Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

See answer to Question 1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 4</th>
<th>(Paragraphs 2.20 to 2.24)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Do you agree with allowing religious celebrants to register civil partnerships in other places agreed between the celebrant and the couple?</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>□</td>
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<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don't know</td>
<td>□</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
Question 5  (Paragraph 2.25)
Do you agree that religious bodies should not be required to register civil partnerships?
Yes ☑
No ☐
Don’t know ☐
Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
ANY LEGISLATION WOULD BE AN INFRINGEMENT OF
FREE DOM OF SPEECH, BELIEF AND RELIGION.

Question 6  (Paragraphs 2.26 and 2.27)
Do you consider that religious celebrants should not be allowed to register civil partnerships if their religious body has decided against registering civil partnerships?
Yes ☑
No ☐
Don’t know ☐
Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
WHILE ALLOWING FOR RELIGIOUS FREEDOM, WE WOULD ANTICIPATE
THAT A CELEBRANT WHO DISAGREED WITH THE STANCE OF THEIR
RELIGIOUS BODY WOULD NOT CONTINUE TO MINISTER WITHIN THAT
BODY.
Question 7 (Paragraphs 2.28 to 2.30)

Do you agree that individual religious celebrants should not be required to register civil partnerships?

Yes ☑
No ☐
Don’t know ☐

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

In issues of faith there should be no 'requirement' through legislation, but obedience to the doctrinal beliefs of the religious body.

Question 8 (Paragraphs 2.31 to 2.35)

Which of the options do you favour to ensure that religious bodies and celebrants do not have to register civil partnerships against their will?

Do you favour:

Option 1 ☐
Option 2 ☐
Neither ☐

If you have another option, please describe it.

Comments
Question 9  (Paragraphs 2.36 to 2.40)

Religious bodies may not wish their premises to be used to register civil partnerships. Do you agree that no legislative provision is required to ensure religious premises cannot be used against the wishes of the relevant religious body?

Yes  
No  
Don't know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

In order for it to be clear that no religious body is required to allow use of its property against its wishes, legislation may well be needed.
Question 10  (Paragraphs 3.11 and 3.12)
Do you agree that the law in Scotland should be changed to allow same sex marriage?

Yes □
No □
Don't know □

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments


Question 11  (Paragraph 3.13)
Do you agree that religious bodies and celebrants should not be required to solemnise same sex marriage?

Yes □
No □
Don't know □

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

SEE ANSWER TO QUESTION 10
Question 12  (Paragraphs 3.14 to 3.18)
Do you agree with the introduction of same-sex civil marriage only?

Yes  
No  
Don't know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

See Answer to Question 10

Question 13  (Paragraph 3.19)
Do you agree with the introduction of same-sex marriage, both religious and civil?

Yes  
No  
Don't know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

See Answer to Question 10
Question 14 (Paragraphs 3.23 and 3.24)

Do you agree that religious bodies should not be required to solemnise same sex marriage?

Yes [ ]
No [ ]
Don’t know [ ]

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

SEE ANSWER TO QUESTION 10

Question 15 (Paragraphs 3.25 and 3.26)

Do you consider that religious celebrants should not be allowed to solemnise same sex marriages if their religious body has decided against solemnising same sex marriage?

Yes [ ]
No [ ]
Don’t know [ ]

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

TO DO SO WOULD BE TO REBEL AGAINST THE DECISION OF THE RELIGIOUS BODY AND ITS AUTHORITY AND SO THEY WOULD EITHER HAVE TO RESIGN OR THEIR POSITION IN THAT BODY BE TAKEN FROM THEM.
Question 16 (Paragraphs 3.27 and 3.28)

Do you agree that individual religious celebrants should not be required to solemnise same sex marriage?

Yes ☑
No ☐
Don't know ☐

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

See answer to Question 15

Question 17 (Paragraphs 3.29 to 3.33)

Which of the options do you favour to ensure that religious bodies and celebrants do not have to solemnise same sex marriage against their will?

Do you favour:
Options 1 ☐
Option 2 ☑
Neither ☐
Don't know ☐

Please give reasons for your answer and if you have another option, please describe it.

Comments

SHOULD THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT PERMIT WITH ITS PROPOSAL TO REMOVE MARRIAGE, OPTION 2 IS THE PREFERABLE OPTION AS IT MIGHT PROVIDE A DEGREE OF PROTECTION TO THOSE WHO OBJECT TO 'MARRIING' SAME-SEX COUPLES BUT WHO WOULD WANT TO CONTINUE MARRYING HETEROSEXUAL COUPLES BY HAVING THEIR NAME PLACED ON THAT LIST.
Question 18 (Paragraphs 3.34 to 3.39)

Religious bodies may not wish their premises to be used to solemnise same sex marriage. Do you agree that no legislative provision is required to ensure religious premises cannot be used against the wishes of the relevant religious body?

Yes ☐  No ☑  Don’t know ☐

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

Question 19 (Paragraph 3.41)

If Scotland should introduce same-sex marriage, do you consider that civil partnerships should remain available?

Yes ☐  No ☐  Don’t know ☐

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

OUR ANSWERS TO MANY OTHER QUESTIONS HAVE MADE OUR POSITION CLEAR ON BOTH CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS AND SAME-SEX MARRIAGE AND THEREFORE WE HAVE NOT TICKED ANY OF THE BOXES.
Question 20 (Paragraph 4.19)

Do you have any other comments?

| Yes |  | No |

We are particularly interested in your views on:

- potential implications of the proposals for transgender people (paragraph 3.42);
- possible transitional arrangements (paragraphs 3.43 and 3.44);
- recognition of Scottish same sex marriages elsewhere (paragraphs 3.45 to 3.49);
- any comments on forced marriage (paragraphs 3.51 and 3.52);
- any comments on sham marriage (paragraph 3.53);
- potential financial implications (paragraphs 4.01 to 4.08);
- potential equality implications (paragraphs 4.09 to 4.14).

Comments