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
A CIVIL PARTNERSHIP IS A PURELY SECULAR ARRANGEMENT WITH NO RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE.

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   ABSTAINING
Question 3  (Paragraphs 2.20 to 2.24)

Do you agree with allowing religious celebrants to register civil partnerships in religious premises?

Yes □
No  □
Don't know □

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS HAVE NO RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE

Question 4  (Paragraphs 2.20 to 2.24)

Do you agree with allowing religious celebrants to register civil partnerships in other places agreed between the celebrant and the couple?

Yes □
No  □
Don't know □

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

ABSTAINING
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

CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS HAVE NO RELIGIOUS SIGNIFICANCE

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

NO RELIGIOUS BODY WOULD HAVE ANY CREDIBILITY IF ITS MEMBERS WERE ALLOWED TO IGNORE OR DEFY ITS STATED BELIEFS
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
IF RELIGIOUS BODIES ARE OPPOSED TO CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS THEN THEIR MEMBERS SHOULD CLEARLY NOT BE REQUIRED TO REGISTER THESE.

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

IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT IT IS ENSHRINED IN LAW THAT NO RELIGIOUS PREMISES CAN BE USED IN ANY WAY AGAINST THE WISHES OF THE RELEVANT RELIGIOUS BODY.
**Same sex marriage**

**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**

MARRIAGE IS BETWEEN A MAN AND A WOMAN — IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO USE THE WORD "MARRIAGE" FOR THE UNION OF TWO PEOPLE OF THE SAME SEX.

**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**

THIS IS A MATTER OF CONSCIENCE
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

ABSENTING

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 COMMENTS 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 COMMENTS TO

Question 10 and 13

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

Obviously any religious celebrant wishing to oppose their religious body on this matter should no longer be considered a member of that body
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

Matter of Conscience

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:
Option 1 ☐
Option 2 ☑
Neither ☐
Don't know ☐

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

Comments
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

THIS HAS TO BE ENSHRINED IN LAW — PREVIOUS CHANGES HAVE BEEN IMPOSED ON RELIGIOUS BODIES AGAINST THEIR WILL (E.g. Adoption)

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

Abstain
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

WE SEE NO REASON WHY SCOTLAND SHOULD CONSIDER THIS MATTER WHEN AROUND 96% OF COUNTRIES ACROSS THE WORLD REJECT IT — WE HAVE FAR MORE IMPORTANT ISSUES TO ADDRESS — IN PARTICULAR, FOR THE BENEFIT OF SOCIETY, MARRIAGE NEEDS TO BE STRENGTHENED AND NOT UNDETERMINED.