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  X
No
Don’t know

Please give reasons for your answer.

Comments
Many Lesbian and Gay people have a deep faith and would want to include God in their commitment ceremony. As CP’s are the only means to register a commitment at this point in time it is important to allow for this to be an option.

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  X
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
The cost for religious organisations to apply for registration is prohibitive.
Question 3  (Paragraphs 2.20 to 2.24)
Do you agree with allowing religious celebrants to register civil partnerships in religious premises?

Yes  \(\checkmark\)
No  
Don't know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
Absolutely. Many lesbian and Gay people attend church on a regular basis and would want their pastor/vicar/priest etc. to be able to perform the ceremony.

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  \(\checkmark\)
No  
Don't know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
As with the previous question, especially if the religious organisation will not allow the premises to be registered it will be necessary for the celebrant to conduct the ceremony elsewhere.
Question 5  (Paragraph 2.25)

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

Yes  X
No  
Don’t know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

If this would be against their current understanding of scripture then they should not do it. Who would want someone who is opposed to conduct the ceremony?

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  X
Don’t know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments

This should be a personal decision.
### Question 7 (Paragraphs 2.28 to 2.30)

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

Please give reasons for your answer

**Comments**

See comments to questions 5 and 6

### 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:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option 1</th>
<th>Option 2</th>
<th>Neither</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
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If you have another option, please describe it.

**Comments**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 9  (Paragraphs 2.36 to 2.40)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes ✗</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No ❑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t know ❑</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
As it is necessary to apply for registration nothing further is needed.
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  X
No
Don’t know

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
It’s a matter of equality.

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

Yes  X
No
Don’t know

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
As with CP’s. Also, religious bodies and celebrants already have criteria by which they will not marry couples such as divorcees, not of that denomination etc.
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

This would not be equality – Heterosexual couples have a choice between religious or civil marriage – homosexual couples should have the same choice.

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

This is the only real equality!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 14  (Paragraphs 3.23 and 3.24)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you agree that religious bodies should not be required to solemnise same sex marriage?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes  ☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please give reasons for your answer</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The same reasons as for CP’s</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 15  (Paragraphs 3.25 and 3.26)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No    ☒</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Please give reasons for your answer</td>
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</tbody>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Comments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>This should be a personal thing based on a pastoral decision.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
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  X
No  
Don't know  

Please give reasons for your answer

Comments
For the same reasons as in CP’s

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  X
Option 2  
Neither  
Don’t know  

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

Comments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 18 (Paragraphs 3.34 to 3.39)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>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?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
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</table>

Please give reasons for your answer

**Comments**

It depends on how the law is brought in. If it just opens up marriage to all people then something will be needed. If it is a separate law which requires religious bodies to register separately for same sex marriage then nothing will be needed.

Only the first option is equality.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question 19 (Paragraph 3.41)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>If Scotland should introduce same-sex marriage, do you consider that civil partnerships should remain available?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Don’t know</td>
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</table>

Please give reasons for your answer

**Comments**

There are some people who are not happy with marriage because of its patriarchy and heteronormativity. CP’s should be available to heterosexual couples as well as homosexual couples.
Question 20  (Paragraph 4.19)

Do you have any other comments?

Yes  X
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

Bringing in marriage for all couples regardless of gender will remove the ridiculous situation regarding transgender people which is currently the case. It is also the only true way to achieve equality.