Conversion of civil partnership to marriage

Couples can now convert Civil Partnerships to Marriage. This will come into effect on 10 December 2014 and is applicable to Civil Partnerships formed in England and Wales.

To do this, couples will need to:

- attend an appointment in person at the Register office in Reading
- provide evidence of their identity, address and civil partnership registration.

The conversion will take place when the couple signs a declaration to confirm they have not dissolved their civil partnership and that they both wish to convert their Civil Partnership to a Marriage. The conversion will be registered and a certificate of conversion into Marriage will be issued.

You have two options for when and where you sign the Declaration:

1. You can sign at the point your documents are checked

   OR

2. (This next stage has been presented to parliament as an amended proposal) Having attended the initial checking appointment, you can choose to have a celebration ceremony in the Yeomanry Suite at the Register Office or at any approved venue in Reading. This ceremony can happen on the same day the documents are checked or at a later date of your choosing.

   More information can be found on the GOV.uk website:

   Celebrate your commitment to each other in Reading!

While there is no statutory ceremony attached to the conversion - and you and your partner do not go through a marriage ceremony - our ceremony team is proud to offer you and your partner a non-statutory Celebration Ceremony where you can renew your commitment to each other.

To book an appointment for your conversion and to help you arrange your celebration ceremony, you will need to speak to a member of the Registration Team. Our Contact Centre - reachable at 0118 937 3533 - is open Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm.

Find out more

Couples converting from a Civil Partnership formed before 24th March 2014 will not be required to pay a fee for their conversion appointment - as long as it takes place before 10th December 2015. If a couple opt for a conversion ceremony, however, there is a charge.