

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The Civil Partnership (Attestation) (Scotland) Regulations 2006 SSI/2006/574

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by sections 88(5) and 92(2) of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 (“the 2004 Act”), with the approval of the Scottish Ministers in accordance with section 126(3) of that Act. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

Section 52 of the Local Electoral Administration and Registration Services (Scotland) Act 2006 (“the 2006 Act”) amended the 2004 Act, enabling the Registrar General for Scotland to prescribe the manner of attestation for documents submitted under that Act. Those documents are a declaration of eligibility to enter into a civil partnership contained in the civil partnership notice form and a certificate provided by a registered medical practitioner supporting an objection to a civil partnership (at present they are signed paper copies). Allowing the manner of attestation to be prescribed provides flexibility and paves the way in the future for both documents to be submitted electronically (it is not expected that this will be introduced before 2008).

The purpose of this instrument is to re-prescribe, on an interim basis, the existing manuscript signature for attestation.

Consultation

The Regulations are made in accordance with the provisions contained in the 2006 Act which were the subject of 2 consultation exercises in 2000 and 2005. They do not alter the current position.

Financial Effects

The instrument has no financial effects on the Scottish Executive, local government or on business.

General Register Office for Scotland
November 2006