SCHEDULE 3

Amendments to the Civil Partnership Act 2004 and the Civil Partnership Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005

PART 1

5. After section 143 (civil partnership schedule) insert—

"Civil partnership notice: false information or evidence

- **143A.**—(1) A registrar may refuse to complete a civil partnership schedule under section 143 (or where one has already been completed, may cancel it) in a case where—
 - (a) notice of a proposed civil partnership has been given under section 139, and
 - (b) the registrar has reasonable grounds for suspecting that a relevant decision was made incorrectly because of the provision of false information or evidence in or accompanying that notice.
- (2) If the registrar refuses to complete (or cancels) a civil partnership schedule under subsection (1), the parties to the proposed civil partnership are to be taken not to have given notice under section 139; but that does not prevent criminal proceedings from being brought against either party, or any other person, in relation to the giving of the notice.
- (3) This section does not limit the powers of the registrar to refuse to complete (or, as the case may be, cancel) a civil partnership schedule.
 - (4) In this section—
 - "evidence" includes a photograph or other image;
 - "exempt person" has the same meaning as in section 139E;
 - "relevant decision" means a decision of a registrar that a party to the proposed civil partnership is an exempt person."