



Equality Act 2010

2010 CHAPTER 15

PART 16

GENERAL AND MISCELLANEOUS

Civil partnerships

202 Civil partnerships on religious premises

- (1) The Civil Partnership Act 2004 is amended as follows.
- (2) Omit section 6(1)(b) and (2) (prohibition on use of religious premises for registration of civil partnership).
- (3) In section 6A (power to approve premises for registration of civil partnership), after subsection (2), insert—
 - “(2A) Regulations under this section may provide that premises approved for the registration of civil partnerships may differ from those premises approved for the registration of civil marriages.
 - (2B) Provision by virtue of subsection (2)(b) may, in particular, provide that applications for approval of premises may only be made with the consent (whether general or specific) of a person specified, or a person of a description specified, in the provision.
 - (2C) The power conferred by section 258(2), in its application to the power conferred by this section, includes in particular—
 - (a) power to make provision in relation to religious premises that differs from provision in relation to other premises;
 - (b) power to make different provision for different kinds of religious premises.”
- (4) In that section, after subsection (3), insert—

Changes to legislation: Equality Act 2010, Cross Heading: Civil partnerships is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) View outstanding changes

- “(3A) For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this Act places an obligation on religious organisations to host civil partnerships if they do not wish to do so.
- (3B) “Civil marriage” means marriage solemnised otherwise than according to the rites of the Church of England or any other religious usages.
- (3C) “Religious premises” means premises which—
- (a) are used solely or mainly for religious purposes, or
 - (b) have been so used and have not subsequently been used solely or mainly for other purposes.”

Commencement Information

- II** [S. 202](#) wholly in force at 5.12.2011; [s. 202](#) not in force at Royal Assent see 216; [s. 202\(3\)](#) wholly in force and [s. 202\(1\)\(4\)](#) in force for certain purposes at 11.7.2011 by [S.I. 2011/1636](#), [art. 2\(b\)-\(d\)](#); [s. 202](#) in force so far as not already in force at 5.12.2011 by [S.I. 2011/2646](#), [art. 2](#)

Changes to legislation:

Equality Act 2010, Cross Heading: Civil partnerships is up to date with all changes known to be in force on or before 06 May 2024. There are changes that may be brought into force at a future date. Changes that have been made appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole Act associated Parts and Chapters:

Whole provisions yet to be inserted into this Act (including any effects on those provisions):

- s. 40A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 1](#)
- s. 120(9) inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 2\(b\)](#)
- s. 124A inserted by [2023 c. 51 s. 3](#)