

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The Registration Services (Prescription of Forms) (Scotland) Regulations 2009 (SSI 2009/314)

The above instrument is made in exercise of the powers conferred by Schedule 1 paragraph 1(1) and 6(4) of the Adoption and Children (Scotland) Act 2007, Schedule 1 and paragraph 1(1) of the Adoption (Scotland) Act 1978, sections 88(1) and (5), 94 and 95(3) of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 and section 55(2) of the Local Electoral Administration and Registration Services (Scotland) Act 2006. The instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

Where the numbered spaces in each of the existing prescribed register pages has a designation description relating to “father” or “mother”, “/parent” has been added where appropriate in the replacement pages, set out in Schedules 1, 2, and 5 of these regulations. The effect of this is that the parents’ designation description will be the same in every register page for every individual, no matter how they were conceived or the sex of their adoptive parents, as the case may be. So, for example, every child’s adopted birth certificate will be in the same format whether they have same-sex or opposite-sex parents. The same policy has been applied to the Book of Scottish Connections pages and the Civil Partnership Notice form set out in the remaining Schedules.

Consultation

Consultation with the Association of Registrars in Scotland was undertaken in 2009 in considering how best to incorporate these consequential changes into the registration forms and advice material produced by the General Register Office for Scotland and used by them. The British Association for Adoption and Fostering was also consulted in 2009 about the format of the Adopted Children Register and the Parental Order Register and the existing format has been changed in the light of their comments.

Financial Effects

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

General Register Office for Scotland
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