

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO THE  
REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES  
(FEES) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2005**

**2005 No.1997**

1. This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Office for National Statistics and is laid before Parliament by Command of Her Majesty.

**2. Description**

2.1 On various occasions in relation to the registering of births, deaths and marriages, a fee has to be paid. The level of the individual fees is determined by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Marriage attendance fees have not increased since April 2000 and this instrument now increases four of the fees payable in respect of the civil marriage process.

**3. Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments**

3.1 None.

**4. Legislative Background**

4.1 The fees increased by this instrument are increased in line with inflation.

**5. Extent**

5.1 This instrument applies to England and Wales.

**6. European Convention on Human Rights**

6.1 The Financial Secretary confirms that the provisions of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Fees) (Amendment) Order 2005 are compatible with the Convention rights.

**7. Policy background**

7.1 This instrument is being made and laid contemporaneously with the Registration of Civil Partnerships (Fees) Order 2005 which sets out what fees are to be paid in connection with the registration of civil partnerships.

7.2 The civil marriage fees increased by this instrument have been increased in line with the rate of inflation to allow local authorities to recover their costs.

## **8. Impact**

8.1 There will be no impact on business, charities or voluntary bodies.

## **9. Contact**

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