Marriage of Prisoners
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

PSO 4450 MARRIAGE OF PRISONERS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To inform establishments of the policy and procedures for facilitating prisoners’ requests to marry under civil law taking account of recent relevant legislation.

DESERVED OUTCOME

To ensure that all prisoners can marry under civil law and in accordance with Article 12 of the ECHR and provide safeguards to ensure that such requests do not present a risk to the public, prison order, national security, or violate any prison rule. The PSO also provides advice on the steps to take if a prisoner makes an application to marry.

MANDATORY ACTIONS

Mandatory actions are specified in this PSO by the use of italic typeface.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

This PSO replaces CI 35/1998, and much of the policy reflects current practice. However, the introduction of the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999 (implemented on 1 January 2001) requires individuals to attend in person to notify the Superintendent Registrar of their intention to marry. The Asylum & Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc) Act 2004 also applies, which covers the procedures for persons wishing to marry where either party is subject to immigration control, when they are marrying after civil preliminaries. In some cases there may be a need for a prison escort, and although prisoners will be expected to pay the costs of escort in addition to the usual fees, there may be an impact on staff time/resources.

All references to Governors should be taken to include Directors of Contracted out Prisons.

IMPLEMENTATION DATE: 5 November 2007

(signed)

Ian Poree
Director of Operational Policy

Area/Operational Manager

Further advice or information on this PSO can be obtained on 0207 035 1538 or 0207 035 1535 – Offender Policy & Rights Unit, 1st Floor, Fry Building, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF
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Annex A    Addresses and telephone numbers of local Crown Prosecution Offices (18/07/2007)
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1. **INTRODUCTION**

1.1 Under the terms of the Marriage Act 1983, all prisoners can exercise their right to marry under civil law in the place of their detention, and this right is reinforced by the Human Rights Act. This PSO replaces Circular Instruction 35/1988 and sets out the changes introduced by the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999. This Act applies to parties who are marrying after civil preliminaries, and affects the way in which each party to a civil marriage formally notifies the Superintendent Registrar of their intention to marry. The Asylum & Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc) Act 2004 also applies and covers the procedures for persons wishing to marry where either party is subject to immigration control, again where they are marrying after civil preliminaries. These were introduced on 1 January 2001, and 1 February 2005, respectively.

2. **ELIGIBILITY**

2.1 *Prisoners must be permitted to marry subject to the requirements set out below:*

(i) **Sentenced prisoners** who, at the time of their application to marry, are not expected to be released, or to have the opportunity to marry while on Resettlement Day Release (RDR) or Release Overnight (ROR) Temporary Release, within three months of submitting their request.

(ii) **Unsentenced prisoners** who are likely to remain in custody for three months or longer after their application.

(iii) **Prisoners who have less than three months to serve at the time of their application to marry**, where there are exceptional compassionate reasons for allowing the marriage to take place sooner, for example, where the marriage is between parents whose child is expected to be born within three months (medical evidence of the likely date of birth will be required) or in the case of someone who is terminally ill.

Governors should discuss with prisoners who have an upcoming release date the possibility of postponing their wedding until after release where they would like to have an outside ceremony but this cannot be allowed for security reasons. Prisoners may prefer to wait until after release to make the arrangements and also avoid the extra cost of having the Registrar visit the prison.

2.2 *An application to marry from a remand (unconvicted) prisoner must immediately be referred to the local office of the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to see if there are any objections to the marriage taking place.* Normally, such objections will be on the grounds that it may be an attempt by the defendant to obstruct the course of justice by marrying a witness. Any objections from the CPS should be made directly to the Superintendent Registrar or registration authority as soon as is practicable from the date the Governor’s notification. It is for the CPS to substantiate any objections. Contact details for all CPS offices are attached at Annex A.

2.3 *The Governor must also report all applications to marry by prisoners detained under Section 53 (1) or (2) – juveniles - to Section 53/92 Unit of the Youth Justice Board.* For juveniles under 18, the Governor must inform the Superintendent Registrar of any information which may be relevant to the requirements for parental consent. Parents or carers should be involved at all stages.

3. **LEGAL REQUIREMENTS & RESPONSIBILITIES OF PRISONERS**

3.1 It should be made clear to prisoners that, regardless of where the ceremony takes place, they are responsible for complying with the requirements of the civil and church authorities.
This includes production of all necessary documentation (e.g. passports, birth certificates, divorce decrees, or parental consent), and payment of any fees. Fees may be paid from earnings, private cash, or money remitted to the prisoner from outside or paid direct to the appropriate authority by the prisoner’s partner/fiancé/fiancée.

3.2 The Marriage Act 1983 does not apply if the marriage is to take place outside the prison. The prisoner will have to observe the legal preliminaries by either giving notice of marriage in person to a Superintendent Registrar or, if it is to be an Anglican marriage, complying with the requirements of the church of England/Church in Wales.

3.3 If the marriage is to take place in the prison, the prisoner must also give notice of the marriage in person to a Superintendent Registrar while still in custody. The prisoner’s partner also has to give notice and a marriage in prison can only take place on the authority of two superintendent registrar’s certificates for marriage.

Notice of intention to marry

3.4 The procedures by which couples give formal notice of their intention to marry to the Superintendent Registrar are laid down in the Marriage Act 1949, as by the Immigration & Asylum Act 1999. It is now a legal requirement for each party to give his/her notice in person and if one or both parties are subject to immigration control (see paragraph 3.6 below), they have to attend together to give their notices. This may have implications for prison resources in cases where a prisoner is not eligible for either ROTL or Escorted Absence. In such cases it has been agreed that the Superintendent Registrar may visit the prison for this purpose but the prisoner or their partner will incur a set fee for travelling expenses, in addition to the standard fee for the Notice of Marriage. Details of the current fees can be obtained from the local register office. It is the responsibility of the prisoner or their prospective spouse to obtain this information.

Asylum and Immigration (Treatment of Claimants) Act 2004

3.5 The following advice was provided by the Border & Immigration Agency (BIA) but it has subsequently been the subject of judicial review by both the High Court and the Court of Appeal and should be applied on a case by case basis. Staff should contact the Border & Immigration Agency either on 0870 606 7766 or email indpublicenquiries@ind.homeoffice.gsi.gov.uk for guidance on Certificate of Approvals and what necessary steps must taken. Alternatively staff may contact OPRU on 020 7035 1538 for advice on how to proceed.

3.6 The introduction of the Asylum & Immigration (Treatment of Claimants, etc) Act 2004, changes the procedures for persons wishing to marry, who are subject to immigration control and who wish to marry by Superintendent Registrar’s certificate. For the purposes of the Act, a person will be subject to immigration control unless he/she:

(i) is a British Citizen with the right of abode in the United Kingdom;
(ii) holds a certificate of entitlement to the right of abode in the United Kingdom placed in his/her passport;
(iii) is a European Economic Area national.

3.7 The Act only allows the following persons subject to immigration control to give notice of a marriage:

(i) those who have indefinite leave to remain;
(ii) those who hold a valid visa or entry clearance issued from a British Embassy abroad allowing them to come to the UK for the purpose of marriage;
(iii) those who hold a “certificate of approval to marry” issued by the Border & Immigration Agency (BIA) allowing them to apply to a register office to get married.
3.8 If a foreign national prisoner requires a “certificate of approval to marry”, they should apply to BIA using the “Certificate of Approval (Marriage) Application Form”. These forms can be obtained on the BIA website www.bia.homeoffice.gov.uk - or by calling 0870 241 0645 and should be sent together with the relevant fee to:

Border & Immigration Agency
Leave to Remain (COA)
PO Box 504
DURHAM
DH99 1WE

Details of the current fee can be obtained from the above website and may be made by a variety of payment methods. Applications should not be sent to Criminal Casework Team (CCT), the part of BIA which normally considers foreign national prisoners who are liable to deportation.

3.9 BIA will usually only issue certificates to persons who:

(i) were granted leave to be in the United Kingdom for more than six months;
(ii) are still in the UK legally and who have at least three months to run on their leave.

3.10 Once the certificate has been issued, it is valid for three months (or to the date when the person's leave to remain expires if this is less) and then entitles them to give notice to marry at one of the 76 designated register offices in England & Wales. If the marriage is to take place in prison they can give notice to the Superintendent Registrar of a designated register office, who will attend the prison for that purpose. A certificate only allows the person to give notice of a marriage; it does not give them permission to remain in the United Kingdom, although it will be taken into consideration by BIA when determining whether a prisoner should be deported and prisoners should be advised of this.

3.11 It is the prisoner's responsibility to obtain the required immigration documentation. While there is no responsibility on the part of Governors to inform BIA of the intention to marry, Governors must notify the BIA at first reception of all foreign nationals, dual nationals and those whose nationality is initially unclear, or where the prisoner refuses to give their nationality, in order to establish their immigration status as required by PSO 4630 Immigration & Foreign Nationals in Prison].

4. LOCATION OF REGISTRATION AND MARRIAGE CEREMONY

4.1 Once a prisoner's eligibility to marry whilst in custody has been confirmed, it will then be necessary to decide whether to hold the wedding inside the establishment - under the provisions of the Marriage Act 1983 (except if it is a marriage according to the usages of the Jews or the Society of Friends (Quakers) which are not bound by the provisions of the Marriage Act 1983 - see paragraph 4.4 for further details).

Security Considerations

4.2 Most prisoners would prefer a ceremony outside the establishment and sympathetic consideration should be given to this whilst taking account of security and other public protection issues. The Governor must bear in mind the following security considerations when deciding on the appropriate venue:

(i) Prisoners who are Category A, provisional category A, restricted status or on the Escape list must not be allowed to marry at an outside registration. Governors must inform the Category A Section of the Directorate of High Security Prisons...
about the prisoner’s intention to marry. The prisoner must provide the details of all intended guests, which also should be sent to Category A Section together with details of the proposed arrangements. The Category A Section will consult Police Advisers and advise the Governor of actions to be taken, including security precautions. Governors may stipulate any further conditions about guests if required in the interests of security.

**Escape list prisoners** – Governors must ascertain details of all intended guests before the date of the ceremony and the local police must be asked to carry out appropriate checks on these guests. The Governor should also consider where within the establishment the ceremony is to take place and whether there is a possible need for a police presence outside the establishment due to security concerns about the location.

(ii) **Category B prisoners** will not normally be allowed an outside registration, and must not be allowed if the Governor considers that there is a high risk of the prisoner seeking to escape, and if this was successful that they would pose a serious threat to the public. The Governor should consult the local police, through the police liaison officer, to obtain an up-to-date assessment of the likelihood of an escape attempt, having regard to information available about the prisoner, his family and known associates and assess the risk the prisoner would pose in the event of an escape. The police must also be consulted about the need for a police presence either outside the establishment or at an outside ceremony. For ceremonies within the establishment, the prisoner must be asked to provide details of intended guests and again. Again, the Governor may stipulate conditions restricting the number of guests, or refuse to permit a particular guest.

(iii) **Category C prisoners** may be allowed an outside registration unless the Governor assesses that there is a high likelihood that the prisoner may seek to escape (again taking account of information from the local police).

(iv) **Category D prisoners** should normally be permitted to attend an outside ceremony.

(v) Young adults and women should be risk assessed to determine whether an outside ceremony can be permitted.

**Ceremonies inside the establishment**

4.3 Operational managers, equivalent to a governor grade, should normally oversee arrangements for marriages taking place in prison. However, it is for prisoners to make all necessary arrangements with the Superintendent Registrar and/or relevant faith Chaplain in consultation with the co-ordinating Chaplain as necessary. However, the Governor is required, under section 27A of the Marriage Act 1949 as amended, to provide a statement which clearly identifies the establishment and to state that they have no objections to it being named on the notice of marriage as the place where the marriage is to be solemnized. The appropriate form (as at Annex B) will be issued to the prisoner or their fiancé/fiancée by the Superintendent Registrar on request, and should be completed by the Governor and given to the prisoner for return to the Superintendent Registrar. Two forms will be necessary where notice is being given to different Superintendent Registrars. The form should give both the official name of the establishment and the private postal address. However, the prisoner should be advised that they may ask the Superintendent Registrar to use only the private postal address of the establishment in the notice of marriage, if they do not want it recorded that the marriage took place in prison.

4.4 Where the prisoner is marrying according to the usages of the Jews or the Society of Friends (Quakers), the provisions of the Marriage Act 1983 do not apply. The marriage can
take place in the prison under the usual provisions of the Marriage Act 1949 and a statement under section 27A of the Marriage Act 1949 is not needed. The marriage would be registered by either the Secretary (for marriages) of the male partner’s Synagogue or the Registering Officer of the Society of Friends (Quakers), as the case may be. The person who registers the marriage may not attend the ceremony. For further details or advice on this subject, staff may contact the local office of the Superintendent Registrar.

4.5 If the ceremony is conducted by a Church of England Chaplain, they will enter the marriage on the parish register book, which will be given to them for the occasion. There is no need for the Registrar to be present. Other marriage ceremonies, in which another faith chaplain is asked to officiate, are likely to require the presence of the Registrar, who will charge a fee. Once the Registrar has completed their official duties, the appropriate faith Chaplain may then perform the religious part of the wedding ceremony.

4.6 There may be occasions when the faith Chaplain will decline, as a matter of conscience, to conduct the ceremony or the prisoner requests that a particular member of the clergy performs the service. In such cases the necessary security checks should be made. If no Minister is willing to officiate, the prisoner may choose to go ahead with a civil ceremony only.

4.7 A civil ceremony requires the presence of both the Superintendent Registrar and Registrar. For both religious and civil ceremonies, the Governor will decide, in consultation with any faith Chaplain involved, on the most appropriate place to hold the ceremony. For religious ceremonies, this will normally be the chapel, Muslim prayer room or multi-faith room used for services of the religion or denomination concerned. Registrars will not conduct their part of the ceremony in any religious building. The intention should be to make the arrangements as relaxed as possible.

Guests

4.8 Prisoners should be informed that only a reasonable number of guests will be allowed to attend the ceremony, including two witnesses. The precise number will be for the Governor to decide in the light of local circumstances, including the security implications and the availability of staff to escort the guests. The prisoner is required to give full details of all guests attending well in advance of the proposed date of the ceremony in order to complete security clearances.

4.9 The Governor may refuse admission to any guest and must do so in writing (see guidance on Visits in PSO 4410). In the rare event of someone wishing to enter an objection to a marriage taking place in prison before the day of the ceremony, he or she should be referred to the Superintendent Registrar. If the person arrives at the prison on the day of the ceremony, he/she should be allowed to speak to the Superintendent Registrar or officiating Registrar.

Ceremonies outside the establishment

Temporary release

4.10 Prisoners who can be safely released to attend an outside ceremony without a prison escort and who meet the eligibility requirements set out in PSO 6300 must be allowed to do so subject to passing the necessary risk assessment. If a prisoner is eligible for Resettlement Day (RDR) or Overnight (ROR) RDR/ROR within three months of their application, the prisoner should normally arrange for their marriage to take place during this period.
4.11 For prisoners not eligible for RDR or ROR, temporary release may be granted under a Special Purpose Licence (see eligibility requirements in PSO 6300 – paragraph 2.6). The Governor may also grant a Special Purpose Licence on the day of the wedding ceremony subject to passing the necessary risk assessment.

4.12 A prisoner who is released on temporary licence will normally be expected to arrange and pay for his/her own transport. The Governor may provide official transport but the prisoner should pay the actual cost. These charges may be paid from earnings, private cash or money remitted to the prisoner.

Escorts

4.13 For prisoners who cannot be granted temporary release, who present a low security risk and where there are no other reasons to prevent an outside ceremony, every effort should be made to provide an escort for him/her to do so - bearing in mind the impact on the regime of other prisoners. Prisoners will be required to meet the costs of the escort and transport, and Governors should inform them of the total cost in advance. Costs should be determined on an individual basis, taking into account the number of officers required, their hourly rate of pay, amount of time taken off normal duties and the cost of transport. It is also important to plan the resources committed to the escort so as to prevent any last minute cancellations. Information on the procedures for escorts is contained in the National Security Framework.

4.14 The prisoner must be conveyed to the ceremony in civilian clothes and with a suitable escort, who should normally wear civilian clothes and carry out their duties as unobtrusively as is consistent with the needs of security. However, it remains the Governor’s responsibility to ensure the safe custody of the prisoner and it is a matter of judgement as to what the security arrangements should be, and whether any special arrangements with the local police are required. *The prisoner must be returned to the establishment as soon as the ceremony is over.*

Venue

4.15 Where an application to marry is approved and the ceremony is to take place outside the establishment under escort, it must be arranged at the register office, or place of worship of the appropriate denomination nearest to the prison. Subject to security considerations, the couple will be able to decide, within reason, the date and time of the ceremony. *The local police must be informed of the ceremony, including details of the venue, the relevant times, and any other details they may require, even if a police presence is not required on the day.* The Media Relations Unit should be consulted about any case that might give rise to particular public interest or concern.

4.16 The Governor should arrange an on-site meeting with the relevant officiating officer (Minister of Religion or Registrar) and, where appropriate, a representative from the local police force, to discuss any security implications of the ceremony being held in those particular premises. The Governor or security manager (possibly in liaison with local police) should conduct a thorough risk assessment of the church or register office in advance to determine whether it is a suitable venue. *The security assessment must cover the room in which the ceremony is to take place and any other parts of the building that the prisoner will have access to.* Particular attention should be paid to doors and windows, which may provide a means of escape either from the room in which the ceremony is to take place or any other part of the building. *Arrival and departure routes must also be checked.*

4.17 Where ceremonies are to be held at an outside venue that has already been assessed, contact should be made to ensure that the venue has not been recently altered. Detailed
information on the location and layout of the intended premises and precise instructions on
the use of restraints should be given to the escorting officer(s) as part of the initial briefing.

5. **PUBLIC PROTECTION ISSUES**

5.1 In cases where an application to marry is received from a prisoner who has been assessed
as presenting a risk of harm to either the intended partner or their children the Governor
should consult with all those responsible for the risk management of the prisoner. This
would include relevant prison staff, the interdepartmental risk management team, offender
manager and other MAPPA responsible authorities as well as Social Services.

5.2 It will then be necessary to decide whether to disclose information about the risk of harm
presented by the prisoner (including their offending history) to the intended partner or
another third party. It should first be established whether the prisoner consents to such
disclosure. If the offender does not consent, staff should refer to National MAPPA
guidance (Information sharing and Disclosure) for information on disclosing information in
these circumstances, and if necessary seek guidance from the NOMS Public Protection
Unit – National MAPPA Team (020 7217 5267).

6. **REQUESTS FOR PURELY RELIGIOUS/FAITH CEREMONIES WITHOUT ANY
INTENTION FOR SUBSEQUENT CIVIL REGISTRATION UNDER UK LAW**

6.1 Guidance on religious ceremonies can be found in PSO 4550 - Religion Manual. Advice
can also be sought from the Chaplaincy team, Area Chaplain, Chaplaincy Headquarters or
relevant Faith Adviser. It should be drawn to the prisoner’s attention that any request for a
purely religious marriage ceremony (i.e. where a prisoner is only seeking to have their
marriage blessed or recognised within their own faith), they would still require the
completion of the necessary civil preliminaries for the marriage to be legally registered and
recognised according to law in England & Wales. The Governor has the discretion to
decide whether to permit a purely religious ceremony to take place without the civil
requirements, but any such request would potentially engage Article 8 (right to privacy and
family life) and Article 9 (freedom of religion) of the Human Rights Act, so each case must
be considered on its merits. Although the decision rests with the Governor, the expectation
is that a refusal would be an exception rather than the norm and it will be necessary to
demonstrate that the reasons for a refusal are justifiable and proportionate.
Annex A

**ADDRESSES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS OF LOCAL CPS OFFICES**

**Avon & Somerset**
2nd Floor
Froomsgate House
Rupert Street
BRISTOL
BS1 2QJ
Tel: 0117 930 2800
Fax: 0117 930 2810

**Bedfordshire**
Sceptre House
7-9 Castle Street
LUTON
Beds
LU1 3AJ
Tel: 01582 816600
Fax: 01582 816678

**Cambridgeshire**
Justinian House
Spitfire Close
Ermine Business Park
Huntingdon
CAMBRIDGESHIRE
PE29 6XY
Tel: 01480 825200
Fax: 01480 825205

**Cheshire**
2nd Floor
Windsor House
Pepper Street
CHESTER
CH1 1TD
Tel: 01244 408600
Fax: 01244 408658

**Cleveland**
5 Linthorpe Road
Middlesbrough
CLEVELAND
TS1 1TX
Tel: 01642 204500
Fax: 01642 204503

**Cumbria**
1st Floor
Stocklund House
Castle Street
Carlisle
CUMBRIA
CA3 8SY
Tel: 01228 882900
Fax: 01228 882910

**Derbyshire**
7th Floor
St Peter’s House
Gower Street
DERBY
DE1 1SB
Tel: 01332 614000
Fax: 01332 614009

**Devon & Cornwall**
Hawkins House
Pynes Hill
Rydon Lane
Exeter
DEVON
EX2 5SS
Tel: 01392 288000
Fax: 01392 288008

**Dorset**
1st Floor
Oxford House
Oxford Road
BOURNEMOUTH
BH8 8HA
Tel: 01202 498700
Fax: 01202 498701

**Durham**
Elvet House
Hallgarth Street
DURHAM
DH1 3AT
Tel: 0191 383 5800
Fax: 0191 383 5801
<table>
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<th>Address</th>
<th>Floor</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
<th>Fax</th>
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<tr>
<td>London</td>
<td>50 Ludgate Hill, LONDON EC4M 7EX</td>
<td>7th</td>
<td>020 7796 8000</td>
<td>020 7710 3447</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Offices in London</td>
<td>Serious Casework Section 4th Floor 50 Ludgate Hill, LONDON EC4M 7EX</td>
<td></td>
<td>020 7796 8000</td>
<td>020 7796 8670</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London West</td>
<td>King's House, Kymberley Road, Harrow, MIDDLESEX HA1 1YH</td>
<td></td>
<td>020 7796 8000</td>
<td>020 7378 4186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London North</td>
<td>Solar House, 1-9 Romford Road, Startford, LONDON E15 4LJ</td>
<td></td>
<td>020 7796 8000</td>
<td>020 8221 3184</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merseyside</td>
<td>7th Floor (South), Royal Liver Building, LIVERPOOL L3 1HN</td>
<td></td>
<td>0151 239 6400</td>
<td>0151 239 6410</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norfolk</td>
<td>Carmelite House, St James Court, Whitefriars, Norwich, NORFOLK NR3 1SL</td>
<td></td>
<td>01603 693000</td>
<td>01603 693001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northumbria</td>
<td>St Ann's Quay, 122 Quayside, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE NE1 3BD</td>
<td></td>
<td>0191 260 4200</td>
<td>0191 260 4241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Yorkshire</td>
<td>Athena House, Kettlestring Lane, Clifton Moor, YORK YO30 4XF</td>
<td></td>
<td>01904 731700</td>
<td>01904 731764</td>
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<tr>
<td>North Wales</td>
<td>Bromfield House, Ellice Way, WREXHAM LL13 7YW</td>
<td></td>
<td>01978 346000</td>
<td>01978 346001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nottinghamshire</td>
<td>2 King Edward Court, King Edward Street, NOTTINGHAM NG1 1EL</td>
<td></td>
<td>0115 852 3300</td>
<td>0115 852 3314</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
South Wales
20th Floor
Capital House
Greyfriars Road
CARDIFF
CF10 3PL
Tel: 029 2080 3902
Fax: 029 2080 3936

South Yorkshire
Greenfield House
32 Scotland Street
SHEFFIELD
S3 7DQ
Tel: 0114 229 8600
Fax: 0114 229 8607

Staffordshire
11a Princes Street
STAFFORD
ST16 2EU
Tel: 01785 272200
Fax: 01785 272299

Suffolk
9th Floor, St Vincent’s House
1 Cutler Street
Ipswich
SUFFOLK
IP1 1UL
Tel: 01473 282100
Fax: 01473 282101

Surrey
3 Onslow Street
Guildford
SURREY
GU1 4UA
Tel: 01483 468200
Fax: 01483 468202

Suffolk
9th Floor, St Vincent’s House
1 Cutler Street
Ipswich
SUFFOLK
IP1 1UL
Tel: 01473 282100
Fax: 01473 282101

Sussex
City Gates
185 Dyke Road
Hove
EAST SUSSEX
Tel: 01273 765600
Fax: 01273 765606

Surrey
3 Onslow Street
Guildford
SURREY
GU1 4UA
Tel: 01483 468200
Fax: 01483 468202

Sussex
City Gates
185 Dyke Road
Hove
EAST SUSSEX
Tel: 01273 765600
Fax: 01273 765606

Thames Valley
Eaton Court
112 Oxford Road
Reading
BERKSHIRE
RG1 7LL
Tel: 01189 513600
Fax: 01189 513666

Warwickshire
Rossmore House
10 Newbold Terrace
Leamington Spa
WARWICKS
CV32 4EA
Tel: 01926 455000
Fax: 01926 455003

West Mercia
Artillery House
Heritage Way
Droitwich
WORCESTER
WR9 8YB
Tel: 01905 825000
Fax: 01905 825103

West Midlands
14th Floor
Colmore Gate
2 Colmore Road
BIRMINGHAM
B3 2QA
Tel: 0121 262 1300
Fax: 0121 262 1500

West Yorkshire
Oxford House
Oxford Row
LEEDS
LS1 3BE
Tel: 0113 290 2700
Fax: 0113 290 2707

Wiltshire
Fox Talbot House
Bellinger Close
Malmesbury Road
Chippenham
WILTSHIRE
SN15 1BN
Tel: 01249 766100
Fax: 01249 766101
STATEMENT BY RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY

PROPOSED MARRIAGE OF

______________________________________ AND ____________________________________
(name and surname of man) (name and surname of woman)

I,

being the responsible authority for the place of detention known as

________________________________________________________________________________

(Address)

at

which ________________________________

(name and surname of person)

is being detained, state that I have no objection to that establishment being specified in the notice
of marriage as the place where the marriage of the above named persons is to be solemnized.

Date__________________________________Signed__________________________________

Designation________________________________

NOTES

1. Responsible authority means:

(a) if the person is detained in a hospital (within the meaning of Part II of the Mental Health Act
1983), the managers of that hospital (within the meaning of Section 145 (1) of that Act); or

(b) if the person is detained in a prison or other place to which the Prison Act 1952 (c.52) applies,
the Governor or other officer for the time being in charge of that prison or other place.

2. Notice of marriage must be given within 21 days of the signing of this statement.