

Mr Simon Stockwell  
Civil Law and Legal System Division  
The Scottish Government  
St Andrew's House  
EDINBURGH  
EH1 3DG

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: MM/BM  
Date: 9 May 2014

Dear Mr Stockwell

**Implementation of the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2014**

I write in regard to your correspondence dated 10 April 2014, in connection with the above.

Highland Council welcomes the changes which will be implemented on 1 September 2014. The removal of a layer of bureaucracy will provide opportunities within Highland to further extend and develop the Registration Service, and local businesses may decide to have weddings which may previously not have been offered due to the licensing costs.

Yours sincerely

*Michelle Morris*

**Michelle Morris**  
**Depute Chief Executive**