Converting a Civil Partnership to a Marriage

There are two ways to convert a civil partnership into a marriage
- a simple administrative process called a 'standard conversion'
- a two stage process where the conversion is followed by a ceremony

The standard conversion

This is a simple administrative process where you will both attend an appointment at any register office and complete a declaration with details about you and your civil partnership. The documents that you will need to produce include
- evidence of your name and date of birth - current passports or birth certificates
- evidence of your address - recent Council Tax or utilities bill
- an original civil partnership certificate

A legal declaration will then be drawn up for you to both sign with the Superintendent Registrar. If you wish you can choose to say the declaration wording aloud to one another before signing the conversion document. Your marriage is then registered and a marriage certificate will be issued. This service is free of charge for all those who entered into a civil partnership in England and Wales before 29 March 2014 and wish to convert your civil partnership to a marriage before 10 December 2015. There is a charge of £4 for each marriage certificate ordered before the conversion.

A conversion followed by a ceremony

There are two stages to this type of conversion. The first part is where you will both need to attend an appointment at any register office and complete a declaration with details about you and your civil partnership. The documents that you will need to produce include
- evidence of your name and date of birth - current passports or birth certificates
- evidence of your address - recent Council Tax or utilities bill
- an original civil partnership certificate

The signing of the declaration can then be followed by a ceremony at venues where same sex couples are able to marry. For example
- Register Office
- approved premises
- religious buildings that are registered for the marriage of same sex couples
- premises where a ceremony according to the Jewish faith of the Society of Friends is to immediately follow the conversion
Following the ceremony your marriage is registered, and a marriage certificate can then be issued. Your marriage certificate can either be collected or posted.

Fees apply to this service.

If you are in a civil partnership and are considering converting this to a marriage, please contact the Register Office for more guidance and information at register_office@bathnes.gov.uk