

21st July 2011

Re: Marriage leave in the civil service – Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010.

Dear Personnel Officer

1. The marriage leave allowance on marriage for civil servants is set out in circular 7/1982 – “*Special leave with pay on marriage*”. The allowance was increased most recently in 2004 in General Council Report 1449 which provided an overall total between annual leave and marriage leave for civil servants of 26 days.
2. In accordance with section 3 of the Civil Partnership and Certain Rights and Obligations of Cohabitants Act 2010, I wish to inform you of new provisions to current marriage leave arrangements in the civil service that will now include civil servants on the occasion of civil partnership registration.

New Provisions:

The terms of the scheme for granting of marriage leave have now been extended to include civil servants on the occasion of civil partnership registration subject to the same annual leave conditions outlined in General Council Report 1449 – that at the time of civil partnership registration a maximum of 5 days paid leave may be granted subject to an overall total, between annual leave and civil partnership registration leave of 26 days. The new arrangements are effective for the annual leave year from 1 April 2011.

Please bring this to the attention of all civil service staff in your Department or in any bodies under the aegis of your Department.

Yours sincerely

Louise McGirr
Principal