**Civil partnership ceremony**

Good morning/afternoon and welcome to ……………… We are here today to witness ……….. and …….. complete the process which will officially register their civil partnership.

Through their words during this ceremony they shall be entering into a commitment with one another and the signing of the civil partnership schedule will form the legal part of today’s ceremony.

Civil partnership enables couples who to be able to have their partnership legally registered. It is the intention that these partnerships be stable, long-term relationships, which are recognised by law and acknowledged by society.

There are many legal consequences related to civil registered partnerships and they should not be entered into lightly.

I can confirm that ……. and ……….. have completed the legal preliminaries to enter into a civil partnership, and have stated that there is no impediment to them forming this partnership.

………. and ……….. now wish to make a formal and public pledge to each other and offer each other the security that comes from exchanging pledges which are sincerely made and will be faithfully kept.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Partner 1 then partner 2 | I ………………… promise you ………………..That I will grow with you and value your ideas and expressionsI will always talk with you and share our happy times and our sad timesAnd I will always honour and respect the bond we have made todayIn the presence of these witnesses. |

Their commitment made to each other, ……………. and ……………….. have decided to exchange a ring (or gift, watch etc) as a token of the pledges they have given to each other.

……………. pass your ring to ……………….. and repeat after me.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Partner 1 then partner 2 | I give you this ring (gift) as a symbol of the pledge I have made to you and as a token of the commitment we have entered into. |

By entering into a registered civil partnership …….. and …….. acquire rights and responsibilities that reflect the commitment they have made to each other and will help them organise their lives together.

I will now ask you both to sign the schedule which confirms that you both consent to the formation of this civil partnership. I will now ask your witnesses to also sign the schedule.

Congratulations - you have both now attained the new status of registered civil partners.