

Committees:	Dates:
Port Health & Environmental Committee Community and Children's Services Committee Court of Common Council	24 January 2017 17 February 2017 9 March 2017
Subject: Update to Scheme of Delegations – Marriage Licencing	Public
Report of: Town Clerk and Director of Community and Children's Services	For Decision
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Summary

Under the Marriage Act 1949, the Court of Common Council has authority to grant licences to premises for the solemnization of marriages. Currently, this function is carried out by the Town Clerk, through the Committee and Member Services Team. However, all other aspects of registration (births, deaths, marriages, etc) are delegated to the Director of Community and Children's Services.

Therefore, it is intended to update the Scheme of Delegation to delegate marriage premises licensing to the Director of Community and Children's Services. This will regularise all marriage registration and licensing functions into a single Department. In addition, the current reference to the delegation being under Section 29 of the Local Government Act is incorrect. This should refer to the Registration Service Act 1953

Therefore, it is proposed to change the Scheme of Delegation to amend paragraph 29 of the delegations to the Director of Community Services to read "To act as the Proper Officer for the London City Registration District (Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.) pursuant to ~~Section 29 of the Local Government Act 1972,~~ *the Registration Service Act 1953 and to approve premises under the Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005.*" (additions highlighted with italics and underlined, deletions struck through).

The current level of workload for this function is very small (less than an hour of work each week) and can therefore be transferred to the Department of Community and Children's Services without any significant resource implications.

Recommendation

Members are asked to recommend to the Court of Common Council an amendment of the Scheme of Delegations, amending Paragraph 29 of the Delegations to the Director of Community and Children's Services to read "To act as the Proper Officer for the London City Registration District (Registration of Births, Deaths, Marriages, etc.) pursuant to the Registration Service Act 1953 and to approve premises under the Marriages and Civil Partnerships (Approved Premises) Regulations 2005."

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