Report on	Appointment of Approved Humanist Celebrant
Date of Meeting	8 November 2018
Reporting Officer	Marissa Canavan
Contact Officer	Sandra Matchett-Gabr

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes		
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	Х	

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform of the legal requirement for The General Register Office to direct the Council to approve appointment of Humanist Celebrants to conduct humanist led civil ceremonies.
2.0	Background
2.1	After a judicial review of the current legislation 2003 Marriage Order, GRO was required to broaden the interpretation of Article 31 (3) of the 2003 Marriage Order to include the appointment by Councils of Humanist Celebrants to conduct civil ceremonies on a temporary basis.
3.0	Main Report
3.1	GRO in the short term have amended procedures to facilitate the approval of humanist celebrants by:- - Using a new version of the marriage notice form - GRO determining the suitability of humanist celebrants for each wedding and - The Council appointing the approved humanist as a temporary celebrant for the marriage detailed in the notice of marriage form The Registrar Sandra Matchett-Gabr will be nominated to receive details of the approved Humanist Celebrant from GRO and notify the Celebrant of their appointment by letter. The Celebrant will not be an employee of the Council.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial:
	N/A
	Human:
	N/A

	Risk Management: N/A
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications:
	N/A
	Rural Needs Implications:
	N/A
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	N/A
6.0	Documents Attached & References
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6.1	Letter from Registrar General to Chief Executive from GRO outlining change in law regarding allowing humanists to conduct civil ceremonies