1. **The Modern Civil Partnership Ceremony**
2. Good Morning/Afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to \_\_\_\_.

My name is\_\_\_\_ and I am the Deputy Superintendent Registrar, I will be guiding you through this civil partnership ceremony.

Before we start may I ask you both to confirm your full names.

Ladies and Gentlemen, the place in which we are now met has been duly sanctioned according to the law for the registration of civil partnerships. You are here to witness the formation of a Civil Partnership by \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and if any person knows of any lawful impediment to this civil partnership they should declare it now.

Civil Partnership enables two people to share their strengths and their weaknesses, their hopes and their fears, their desires and aspirations, as well as their doubts and disappointments. It is an opportunity for mutual support which can enhance all of life’s experiences – sorrows are halved and joys are doubled.

 \_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_ you have chosen to pledge yourselves to each other by committing to a legally binding contract and from the moment that you both sign the Partnership Schedule you will become a legal union of two people. This pledge represents a promise of your life-long commitment to each other, in the presence of your family and friends/witnesses.

(Optional: First reading here)

*Would you all please stand.*

I am going to ask each of you in turn to declare that you know of no legal reason why you should not be joined as Civil Partners here today, by repeating after me:

**I declare that I know of no legal reason why we may not register as each other’s civil partner. I understand that on signing this document we will be forming a civil partnership with each other.**

*(Optional:)* \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ - you have declared your freedom to form your civil partnership and now I am going to invite you make your own personal vow to one another. If you would like to face one another and join hands and repeat after me:

*(Or own personalised vow):* **I choose you above all others to share my life with, and I promise to honour this pledge, as long as I live.**

(Optional: Second reading here)

Optional: We now come to the giving of rings. The giving of a band signifies the sealing of the contract you have made and is an outward sign of the life long promises you have made to one another.

*Please take the ring and place it on the third finger of her/his hand, and repeat after me:*

**I give you this ring as a symbol of my love for you.** **Wear it always as a reminder of this moment and the commitment we have made today.**

May I ask you both to read the Partnership Schedule before signing, along with your witnesses.

*Signing by the couple and their witnesses.*

\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_ you have both signed the declarations required by law to formalise the precious promises you have made to one another. We hope that this day will be a special day in your lives to remember with much joy and happiness. It therefore gives me great pleasure to announce that you are now Civil Partners together.

*You may now share a kiss*

Ladies and Gentlemen we have come to the end of our ceremony here today. On behalf of us all may I wish the couple a very long and happy partnership and many congratulations. So ladies and gentlemen, join me in a round of applause for \_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_.