

BOROUGH OF DARLINGTON

REGISTRATION OF BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES

SCHEME UNDER SECTION 14 OF THE REGISTRATION SERVICE ACT 1953

The Council of the Borough of Darlington, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by section 14 of the Registration Service Act 1953, makes the following Scheme:-

TITLE

1. This Scheme may be cited as “The Darlington Registration Scheme 2010” and shall come into operation on the first day of April 2010.

INTERPRETATION

2. In this Scheme, the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them:-

“the Act” means the Registration Service Act 1953;

“the Council” means the Council of the Borough of Darlington;

“area” means the area of the Borough of Darlington;

“the Code of Practice” means the Registrar General’s Code of Practice for Local Authorities in place at the time of the making of this Scheme, as amended from time to time, and attached to this Scheme as Annex 1;

"the Service Delivery Plan" means the Council’s plans and targets, as amended from time to time, for the local delivery of the registration service and attached to this Scheme as Annex 2;

“Principal Officer” means superintendent registrar or registrar of births and deaths and “principal office” shall be construed accordingly;

“the Proper Officer” means the officer appointed by the Council for the purposes of the Act;

“Registrar General” means the Registrar General for England and Wales appointed by virtue of section 1 of the Act (as amended by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007).

REGISTRATION DISTRICTS AND SUB-DISTRICTS

3. The Council shall, in accordance with the Code of Practice, divide its area into registration districts and sub-districts and shall set out those district and sub-district boundaries in its Service Delivery Plan.

4. The Council shall determine the location of the offices and provide, equip and maintain those offices so as to meet the delivery targets in the Code of Practice and relevant legal requirements. The Council shall set out the location of all offices in its Service Delivery Plan.

OFFICERS

5. (1) The Council shall determine the number of Principal Officers and other officers so as to provide sufficient staff resource to ensure delivery of services in accordance with the service standards contained in the Code of Practice. There shall be a minimum of one superintendent registrar and one registrar of births and deaths for each registration district and sub-district respectively. The Council shall set out the number of Principal Officers in its Service Delivery Plan.

(2) The Proper Officer shall notify the Registrar General of all Principal Officer appointments. Such notification may be made electronically.

DEPUTIES

6. (1) It shall be for the Proper Officer to appoint deputies under section 8(1) (deputy superintendent registrars and registrars of births and deaths) of the Act (as amended by the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007).

(2) The Proper Officer shall notify the Registrar General of all deputy appointments. Such notification may be made electronically.

(3) A deputy shall continue to hold office notwithstanding a change in the holder of the principal office.

FUNCTIONS OF REGISTRAR OF MARRIAGES

7. Every registrar of births and deaths appointed within the area may perform the functions of a registrar of marriages.

POWERS OF THE PROPER OFFICER

8. There shall be vested in the Proper Officer, subject to any regulations that may from time to time be in force under section 20(b) (regulations) of the Act the powers and key responsibilities as set out in the Code of Practice. Additionally that the Proper Officer shall have the powers set out in Section 13(2)(h) of the Act.

REVOCAATION

9. The Darlington Registration Schemes 1996 and 2004 are revoked but without prejudice to anything done or to any right, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under them.

REVISION TO THE CODE OF PRACTICE

10. The Council may adopt any revision to the Code of Practice by means of the Proper Officer confirming their acceptance of the revision to the Registrar General.

Dated this..... day of2010

Council’s Sealing Clause

The Secretary of State for the Home Department hereby approves the foregoing scheme without modification.

Signed on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Home Department

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on thisday of2010

Executive Director, Identity and Passport Service