EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This note is not part of the Order)

This Order brings into force on 15 April 2005 the provisions of the Civil Partnership Act 2004 (c. 33) ("the Act") listed in Column 1 of each of the two Schedules to the Order.

These provisions of the Act are being commenced for the particular purpose or purposes specified in the corresponding entry in column 2 of each of the two Schedules to the Order. Where no particular purpose is specified, a provision is being commenced for all purposes. The purposes relate to the making of regulations, orders, Orders in Council, rules of court and the issuing of guidance under provisions of the Act and under provisions in existing legislation amended by the Act.

Sections 213(2) to (6), 247(2) to (7), 248(2) to (5), 254(2) to (6), 255, 258, 259, 260, 262, 263, and 264 of the Act came into force on Royal Assent.

A full regulatory impact assessment has not been produced for this instrument. A regulatory impact assessment identifying the impact on business and the exchequer of the provisions in the Act was published at the time the Act received Royal Assent in November 2004. It is available from http:// www.dti.gov.uk/access/ria/index.htm.