

**JEREMY QUIN MP**  
Member of Parliament for Horsham



**HOUSE OF COMMONS**  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

10th February 2017

*Dear Constituent,*

**RE: CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS**

Thank you for contacting me about the future of civil partnerships.

The Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Act 2013 had a specific focus on extending marriage to same-sex couples who could not previously marry. The Act did, however, stipulate that there should be a review of civil partnership in England and Wales.

The Government carried out a full public consultation on the future and operation of civil partnership in 2014, receiving almost 11,500 responses, during which a range of views were expressed. The majority of respondents were against broadening civil partnerships to include opposite sex couples. In 2016 the decision not to extend civil partnerships to opposite sex couples was subject to judicial review that found the current system does not discriminate against heterosexual couples. The case has recently also been heard in the Court of Appeal and we are awaiting the outcome.

As with a majority of respondents to the Public Consultation I do not feel that extending Civil Partnerships to opposite sex couples is necessary and will not be supporting the Bill but I will of course listen carefully to the ruling of the Court of Appeal.

Best wishes,

*Yours sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Quin'.