

**News Alert: January 2012**

## **Gay community holding off on coupling ceremonies with hopes of same-sex marriage government approval in 2012**

With Australian marriage equality being a major focus point in parliament and in the national press late last year, marriage celebrants are noticing a significant delay within the gay community who appear to be holding off on coupling ceremonies in the hope amendments will be made to the marriage act by the government in 2012.

Registered celebrant and director of online marriage celebrant hub Engage Celebrants Sarah Cummings says the mood is positive from both celebrants and same-sex clients when it comes to the potential of their union finally being recognised with full legal equality, and both are more than happy to wait in preference to the current availability of a civil service.

Ms Cummings said: "Up until recently, celebrants in the Engage Celebrant network regularly performed commitment ceremonies. Over the last 12 months the enquiries have really dropped off. It seems people are waiting to see what will happen in 2012."

With recent outcries from the gay community; visiting celebrities such as Elton John, Boy George and rugby star Dave Pockock; and with the majority of Australians now 'strongly agreeing' that same-sex couples should be able to legally marry, the Australian government is under more pressure than ever to make the necessary changes for Australian marriage equality.

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**For interviews and further comments from Sarah Cummings from [Engage Celebrants](#), contact Juliet Potter at Girl PR:  
P. (02) 9368 1235 E. [thelatest@girlpr.com.au](mailto:thelatest@girlpr.com.au)**