

Consular Section British Embassy Thunstrasse 50 3005 Berne

Tel: ++41 (0)31 359 77 00 Fax: ++41 (0)31 359 77 65 www.gov.uk/world/switzerland

Informative Note Common-law spouses in the United Kingdom

'To whom it may concern:

Although the terms common-law wife or husband are frequently used to describe a couple who live together, these relationships do not have legal recognition in the UK.

Couples who choose to live together without getting married, do so without the benefit of matrimonial legislation.

Prepared by

Consular section, British Embassy Berne

The information contained in this letter is general and should not be taken as a definitive statement of law.