



Update 30.04.2021 Marriage / Civil Partnership Ceremony Restrictions

Please be aware that your marriage/civil partnership ceremony must be conducted under the current NI Executive restrictions.

Marriages and Civil Partnerships

- Numbers at marriage and civil partnership ceremonies will be determined by a risk assessment carried out by the venue.
- Face masks must be worn by all except the couple being married or forming a civil partnership. Current guidance states that children under the age of 12 do not have to wear a face mask.
- No mixing of households is permitted at a private dwelling therefore it will not be possible for a ceremony to be held indoors as the registrar/officiant is not permitted to enter the premises.
- Outdoor gathering in a private garden is restricted to 10 people from two different households. If all other participants at the ceremony are not from the same household the ceremony cannot proceed as the registrar/officiant can be the only person from a separate household.
- Can take place in a person's home if one of the parties is terminally ill with up to 10 people in attendance (this includes the couple, two witnesses and the officiant).

Chief Executive, Marie Ward

Oifig an Iúir, Newry Office, O'Hagan House, Monaghan Row, Newry BT35 8DJ

Oifig Dhún Pádraig, Downpatrick Office, Downshire Civic Centre, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick BT30 6GQ



- A religious/belief officiant can carry out a marriage ceremony at any location in Northern Ireland, it does not have to be an approved venue. It is the responsibility of the religious/belief officiant to ensure that COVID-19 restrictions are adhered to.

Marriage and Civil Partnerships from 30 April 2021

- Numbers at marriage and civil partnership ceremonies will be determined by a risk assessment carried out by the venue.
- Face masks must be worn by all except the couple being married or forming a civil partnership. Current guidance states that children under the age of 12 do not have to wear a face mask.
- No mixing of households is permitted at a private dwelling therefore it will not be possible for a ceremony to be held indoors as the registrar/officiant is not permitted to enter the premises.
- Can take place in a person's home if one of the parties is terminally ill with up to 10 people in attendance (this includes the couple, two witnesses and the officiant).
- Outdoor gatherings in a private garden will be restricted to 15 people (including children) from 3 different households. If all other participants at the ceremony are from two households the ceremony can proceed with the registrar/officiant being the person from the third household.

Chief Executive, Marie Ward

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Oifig Dhún Pádraig, Downpatrick Office, Downshire Civic Centre, Downshire Estate, Ardglass Road, Downpatrick BT30 6GQ

Ag freastal ar an Dún
agus Ard Mhacha Theas
Serving Down
and South Armagh



Comhairle Ceantair
an Iúir, Mhúrn agus an Dúin
Newry, Mourne and Down
District Council

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