

Weddings FAQ

Right now, our venues are closed and weddings have to be postponed. We await Government advice on when they can re-open. In the meantime, we appreciate couples have concerns about wedding plans. We hope this set of Q&As will help. If you still have questions, just talk to the team eventhires@renfrewshire.gov.uk

Q: We can't afford to go ahead with our wedding due to financial difficulties. What should we do?

A: Don't worry. We can postpone the date for you and reschedule when you can afford it. The deposit is normally non-refundable but during the Covid lockdown, we will return your deposit. If you have made down-payments towards the final balance, we'll refund these too.

Q: We or our relatives might not be able to travel to the wedding. What should we do?

A: If your wedding is booked in, we can be flexible and wait until nearer the date to decide. We imagine you will want to make a final decision a month or two before the big day. Just let us know and we can reschedule it. If you decided just to cancel, we would refund any monies paid on top of the deposit.

Q: Can I keep the current date in the diary as a possible and put a hold on a second date, in case I have to reschedule?

A: We can pencil one later date in the diary. So long as you still have the original date in the diary, we can't confirm that second date but we'll let you know if someone else is interested in it so you have first option on swapping the original date to that later date.

Q: If I choose to cancel altogether, will I get my deposit back? When and how?

A: We are not able to operate as normal at the moment. We will process refunds as soon as we are able. We will keep you informed. We can guarantee you won't lose the refund. We'll pay it straight into your account.

Q: My wedding was booked at Tweedie Hall. I can't get another date I want there. Can I move it to another of Renfrewshire Leisure venues?

A: Yes of course. We have town halls in Johnstone and Renfrew too (Paisley Town Hall is closed for major renovations). We will hold your deposit and the date can transfer across.

Q: My wedding is booked later in the year. What are the chances of it being cancelled? How much notice will I get?

A: We are cancelling events one month ahead from current date until we have clear instruction from Government that we can open. If you'd prefer to cancel, that's fine. We are keeping in touch with customers to offer the option to postpone or cancel.

Q: What is our timeframe for rescheduling our wedding?

A: We are flexible. Let us know when you prefer for later in this year or next.

Q: If I reschedule the date, how many people can I have at my wedding? If it has to be smaller than the original plan, what would I pay?

A: We are currently and will continue to follow Government guidance. If you booked for 100 and now there are 6 of you, obviously we're not going to charge you for 100 dinners. There are some

fixed costs and some costs that vary depending on the number of guests. Talk to the Venue Manager about the package you booked and the new reduced cost.

Q: What options are there, if I want a bigger gathering later?

A: You may choose to go ahead with a small wedding as early as possible and we can agree a reduced fee so you can postpone the main celebration for all your guests to a safe time. It's worth knowing that celebrants can offer 'renewal of vows' ceremonies that look and feel much like the original wedding so that your guests can enjoy the day at a later time.

Q: I have yet to book my ceremony. Can I still go ahead?

A: We can pencil in bookings for later in the year and keep checking with you. You can still make plans with a celebrant of your choice: a Registrar (see Renfrewshire Council's website), faith leader (contact your church or faith group) or a Humanist celebrant (Google search to see options or contact Humanist Society Scotland).

Further information

National Records of Scotland who authorise weddings as legal ceremonies advise:

'Please be aware that during the period of the pandemic, registration offices may be operating with reduced registration staff. We ask for your patience when trying to make contact with an office. For public health reasons, registration staff will be prioritising the registration of deaths and still-births. Marriages and civil partnerships will not take place during the pandemic period, and most birth registrations will be postponed.' However, for Renfrewshire Council, it looks as if all Marriage/Civil Partnerships have been cancelled due to the pandemic until further notice.

Renfrewshire Council advises:

Marriages and Civil Partnerships

Unfortunately, we are unable to hold any ceremonies just now due to the latest Government advice. If you have had to rearrange your ceremony at short notice, we apologise and understand how disappointing this must be.

Rearranging your ceremony

If you have to postpone your ceremony and would like re-arrange for later this year, you don't need to fill out a new notice form or pay additional notice fees. If you would like to move to a date in 2021, you do need to fill out a fresh notice form but you won't have to pay additional notice fees.

Arranging a marriage or civil partnership

If you would like to arrange a new marriage or civil partnership ceremony, remember that we cannot hold any ceremonies during the current restrictions so please consider this when completing the form.

We aren't able to accept completed [notice forms](#) in person for now. Please post, together with your email address and daytime contact details, to:

Registration Office
Renfrewshire House
Cotton Street
Paisley
PA1 1TR.