

Combined Wedding Ceremonies

Information for Couples

Staffordshire County Council, working in partnership with Civil Ceremonies Ltd, has launched a new initiative for couples marrying in the county. You now have the option to hold a '**Combined Wedding Ceremony**' under a new pilot scheme. This means you can have your legal formalities **within** a Celebrant-led ceremony, at the same location and time.

You will **NOT** have to go to the register office at a different time or date to do the legal formalities.

Advantages:

The scheme has many advantages for you:

- There is no need to go to the Register Office at a different time or day to conduct your legal formalities.
- The legal and Celebrant parts of the ceremony will be seamless.
- All your guests can witness the legal union as well as the content of the Celebrant-led ceremony.
- There is scope for different parts of the ceremony to be held in different locations within a venue, such as outside areas.
- You will know for sure what day to celebrate your anniversary!

Feedback

Feedback from couples taking part in the scheme will be very important so, if you go ahead and book a Combined Wedding Ceremony, we will ask you to complete a short online survey once ceremony has been held.

Anne Barber, Managing Director of Civil Ceremonies Ltd is coordinating the scheme and can be contacted on 01480 276080 or anne@civilceremonies.co.uk.

Important legal information about holding a 'Combined Wedding Ceremony'

Your Celebrant will make sure that you are aware of the actions you must take to ensure that your marriage complies with all legal requirements and help you with the process, **but your celebrant cannot legally marry you.**

Booking the legal ceremony

You need to call 0300 111 8001 and speak to the Staffordshire Registration Service to book the time and date that you would like for your ceremony.

How to find a celebrant participating in the scheme

Look at the enclosed list and call any of the celebrants listed, look at their websites and see who you think matches your requirements. Alternatively call Civil Ceremonies on 01480 276080 and we will match you to a suitable celebrant.