**MARRIAGE/ CIVIL PARTNERSHIP CEREMONY RESTRICTIONS from the**

**26 November 2020**

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

**Marriages and Civil Partnerships**

* No marriage or civil partnership can take place at any venue that is licensed to sell alcohol, provides accommodation or is currently prevented from opening under the current restrictions. Venues prevented from opening include hotels, restaurants, cafes, social clubs, bed & breakfast establishments, theatres, concert halls, museums, galleries, visitor and other cultural attractions and outdoor visitor attractions.
* A marriage or civil partnership occurring at a permitted location such as a place of worship or registration office is limited to 25 people, this includes the couple, witnesses, officiant and all guests (including children under 12).
* 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 would not be permitted to enter the premises.
* Outdoor gatherings at a **private dwelling** (including the garden of the dwelling) is restricted to six people from two different households. Children aged 12 and under from those two households are discounted from this total. 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 to10 people in attendance (this includes the couple, two witnesses and the officiant).