

Wording for clergy about booking future weddings

Given the ongoing uncertainties about how COVID19 will progress during the coming months it would be prudent to ensure that when booking weddings for later in 2020 or 2021 couples are advised that there may still be a possibility that their wedding may not be able to take place or that it may be subject to restrictions which are imposed at some future time. It is therefore recommended that you write to or email the couple and include the following wording:

I very much hope that your wedding booked for [] will be able to proceed, but none of us know what the future might bring and therefore you do need to be prepared for the fact that it might be necessary due to government regulations or guidelines for us to cancel your wedding or postpone it.

It might be the case that your wedding can proceed, but that restrictions on the numbers who can attend may be imposed. We may find that we cannot conduct the wedding service that you would like because of controls on singing, bell ringing or social distancing measures. As a consequence you may in those circumstances wish to postpone the wedding yourselves.

As a church we have no control over what may happen in the future and we therefore reserve the right to postpone or cancel your wedding should it become necessary to do so. We would of course consult you before doing this.

Given the cost of wedding preparations you might want to consider taking out wedding insurance which might help you with the financial ramifications of your wedding being postponed or cancelled.