

1. Can a legal notice of marriage to the council be altered, free of charge, once it has been submitted?

A legal notice cannot be altered if the authority to marry is already issued. There may be occasions where the two notices agreed originally, but the party has subsequently advised that some particular given was incorrect. If the Superintendent Registrar agrees, the signed notice can be amended in the presence of the party, with the party adding their initials to the corrected details. Where a couple subsequently decide to marry at a venue different to the one recorded in the marriage notices and there is no error in the venue shown in the original notices, then both parties must give a fresh notice for the statutory fee.

2. What, if any, refund, or compensatory policy does the council offer couples, whose wedding plans, as detailed on their legal statement, have been cancelled or postponed due to circumstances caused by the coronavirus pandemic (thereby nullifying their legal notice)?

The Government have not provided any change in marriage laws or regulation, for a legal notice to be extended. In Barnet, all decisions are made on a case by case basis. - On the whole, the rule of thumb is, if the couple can demonstrate that the venue they chose was unable to accommodate them during the validity period of their notice and they wish to have a ceremony at the same venue, we will accommodate a fresh notice free of charge.

3) How many legal notices of marriage did the council receive for the years 2020 and 2021, respectively, and in what years were these notices given?

Registration officers and anyone who acts on their behalf in carrying out statutory registration duties are outside the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Superintendent registrars and registrars are not a public authority as defined in the Act and, therefore, are not subject to its provisions. Data held by them - including information held in marriage registers or notices of intent to marry taken – it is thus not subject to disclosure under the FOI Act.

4) How much money did the council earn from legal notices of marriage for the years 2020, and 2021?

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5) How many of these legal notices of marriage for 2020 and 2021 respectively, were nullified due to cancellation, or change of wedding venue or date, caused by the pandemic? If reason for nullification is not given, please simply provide the number of nullified legal marriage notices for

2020 and 2021, respectively.

Data not held

6) How many resubmissions of legal notices of marriage did the council receive from couples whose previous legal notice of marriage, for the years 2020 and 2021, were nullified due to the pandemic? If reason for nullification is not given, please simply provide the number of resubmitted

Data not held

7) How much money did the council receive from resubmissions of legal notices of marriage, by couples whose previous legal notices of marriage for the years 2020 and 2021, were nullified due to the pandemic? Again, if reason for nullification is not given, please simply provide the amount of money received from resubmitted legal notices of marriages, of those originally submitted for 2020 and 2021, respectively.

Data not held

8) How many legal notices of marriage did the council receive for the year 2019, and how much money did the council earn from these legal notices.

Data not held – the Local Authority do not collect the information. In addition, this is exempt as the data is collected in the duties of the Registration Officer

9) How many resubmissions of legal notices of marriage did the council receive, from couples whose previous legal notice of marriage were nullified due to a change in wedding venue or date (originally planned for 2019), and how much did the council earn from these resubmissions?

Data not held