

Thurrock Register Office

Example civil partnership ceremony

The Thameside

To the whole party:

Good morning / afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. My name is _____. I am a Civil Partnership Registrar and I will be conducting your ceremony today.

The place in which you are now met has been duly sanctioned, according to law, for the celebration of civil partnerships.

On behalf of _____ and _____, I would like to welcome you all here to _____. I know it means a great deal to them that you can be here to share with them in their happiness and to witness their vows.

However, if any person here present knows of any lawful impediment to this civil partnership then he or she should declare it now.

Partnership requires devotion, the ability to listen, the wisdom to know when we are wrong and the humility to be able to put things right. Above all, it requires unquestioning love.

It is a fluid relationship that assumes many different forms throughout the years, a relationship that is always growing or changing. If you are growing as individuals, different today from yesterday, and if you can communicate this growth emotionally, philosophically and physically, your partnership over the years will remain vital and creative.

As well as the strong love and respect that _____ and _____ have for each other, they share similar principles and priorities. Their relationship enables them to face life positively and constructively, and they now wish to live with the commitment and understanding that their partnership represents.

I am now going to ask each of you to declare that you know of no lawful reason why you may not be joined in civil partnership to each other.

To party one:

Please repeat after me:

**I do solemnly declare
that I know not
of any lawful impediment
why I _____
may not form a civil partnership
with _____.**

To party two:

Please repeat after me:

**I do solemnly declare
that I know not
of any lawful impediment
why I _____
may not form a civil partnership
with _____.**

A family member or friend may now read poetry or prose.

To the couple:

Entering into a partnership is a personal, intimate decision, but a large part of its importance comes from its recognition by those who are close to the couple. So, I ask you now, in the presence of this company...

To party one:

_____, will you take _____ to be your partner, and will you remain true to her/him for the rest of your life together?

I will.

To party two:

_____, will you take _____ to be your partner, and will you remain true to him/her for the rest of your life together?

I will.

To the whole party:

Ladies and gentlemen, we have now reached the moment where _____ and _____ will exchange their vows with each other, so will you all please stand.

To party one:

Please repeat after me:

**_____, I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and commitment
I call upon these persons here present
to witness that I, _____,
take you, _____,
to be my lifelong partner,
to love, respect and cherish as long as we both shall live.**

To party two:

Please repeat after me:

**_____, I give you this ring as a symbol of my love and commitment
I call upon these persons here present
to witness that I, _____,
take you, _____,
to be my lifelong partner,
to love, respect and cherish as long as we both shall live.**

To the couple:

_____ and _____, you have both now made promises to one another in the presence of your witnesses and guests gathered here today. If you remain as committed and loving to each other as you are today, then you will live full and rich lives together.

It gives me great pleasure to declare that you will now become civil partners.

Now ladies and gentlemen, please be seated while the schedule is signed.

Ladies and gentlemen, the ceremony you have just witnessed was brief and simple, but I would like to assure everyone here, especially _____ and _____, that they are legally and solemnly joined together, so please would you all join me in a round of applause for them.