

Committee: Full Council

Agenda Item

Date: 14/04/2015

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Title: Adoption of updated model byelaws for the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis by the council.

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Summary

1. Members are asked to agree the recommendations set out below to adopt the updated byelaws for the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis by local authorities. Adoption of the updated model byelaws will ensure that businesses carrying out these activities are all monitored by Environmental Health Officers to ensure their compliance.

Recommendations

2. The updated byelaws as appended be adopted.

Financial Implications

3. There are some minor costs relating to advertising and postage which can be met within existing resources
4. There are adequate resources in the environmental health commercial team to monitor compliance with the byelaws as proposed to be updated, The registration fee of £170 for businesses that provide semi-permanent skin colouring will result in modest additional revenue.

Background Papers

5. Regulation of tattooing and body piercing businesses Standard Note: SN/SC/5079 Updated model byelaws for the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis

Impact

Communication/Consultation	
Community Safety	An increased level of public health protection.

Equalities	None
Health and Safety	To help ensure the safety of persons undergoing skin piercing treatments
Human Rights/Legal Implications	<p>The Council's powers have previously been limited to regulating ear-piercing, tattooing, electrolysis and acupuncture. In order for the Council to have powers to regulate cosmetic piercing and semi-permanent skin colouring, new byelaws relating to these activities will be necessary.</p> <p>Subject to approval by this Committee an application will be made to the Secretary of State for Health for confirmation of the byelaws using the following procedure: least one month before applying to the Secretary of State for confirmation, notice of the Council's intention to apply for confirmation must be given in at least one local newspaper circulating in the area to which the byelaws apply</p> <p>A copy of the byelaw will be available for inspection by the public, without charge and at all reasonable times during that month, at the Council's offices</p> <p>The byelaws must have the Council's Seal affixed to them before being sent to the Secretary of State.</p>
Sustainability	None
Ward-specific impacts	None
Workforce/Workplace	Resource requirement of extra inspections and advice visits to be met within existing workforce

Situation

- Under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 the local authority in England and Wales is responsible for regulating and monitoring businesses offering the services of ear-piercing, acupuncture, electrolysis and tattooing. This Act has now been amended to include bodypiercing and semi-permanent skin-colouring techniques such as micropigmentation, semi-permanent make-up and temporary tattoo services.

7. All of these procedures involve some degree of skin piercing and therefore carry potential health risks to those undergoing them, for example, skin infections, transmission of blood-borne diseases.
8. Businesses wanting to offer these services must register both the premise and themselves with the local authority and must follow the relevant associated conditions that are within the relevant byelaws.
9. Local authorities have the powers to inspect any premises that carry out piercing or tattooing, and make sure that they are observing local byelaws that relate to the hygiene of their premises, staff and equipment.

Updated Byelaws

10. Updated model byelaws for the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis by local authorities' have been developed by the Department of Health to include the additional activities of body-piercing and semi-permanent skin colouring. (Cosmetic piercing refers to both ear-piercing and bodypiercing).
11. It is a criminal offence for a registered business to be in breach of the relevant byelaws, or for a business offering the services not to be registered with the local authority
12. By adopting the 'Updated model byelaws for the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis by local authorities' it will ensure the safety for customers of businesses offering these services within the district of Uttlesford.
13. The new model byelaws will replace the existing byelaws in relation to acupuncture, tattooing, ear- piercing and electrolysis.

Risk Analysis

Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Mitigating actions
Businesses breach the byelaws leading to a potential risk of skin infections, allergic or toxic reactions to various substances used on or in the skin, and transmission of blood borne viruses (such as hepatitis or HIV).	2 It is possible that some businesses will fail to adequately protect public safety	3 The public will be put at risk of infections	All registered & new Businesses to be given a copy of the updated byelaws. Regular inspections carried out by Environmental Health Officers to ensure compliance with byelaws

1 = Little or no risk or impact

2 = Some risk or impact – action may be necessary.

3 = Significant risk or impact – action required

4 = Near certainty of risk occurring, catastrophic effect or failure of project.

Appendix 1:

MODEL BYELAWS

Acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis

Byelaws for the purposes of securing the cleanliness of premises registered under sections 14(2) or 15(2) or both of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and fittings in such premises and of persons registered under sections 14(1) or 15(1) or both of the Act and persons assisting them and of securing the cleansing and, so far as appropriate, sterilization of instruments, materials and equipment used in connection with the practice of acupuncture or the business of tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing or electrolysis, or any two or more of such practice and businesses made by in pursuance of sections 14(7) or 15(7) or both of the Act.

Interpretation

1.—(1) In these byelaws, unless the context otherwise requires—

“The Act” means the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982;

“client” means any person undergoing treatment;

“hygienic piercing instrument” means an instrument such that any part of the instrument that touches a client is made for use in respect of a single client, is sterile, disposable and is fitted with piercing jewellery supplied in packaging that indicates the part of the body for which it is intended, and that is designed to pierce either—

(a) the lobe or upper flat cartilage of the ear, or

(b) either side of the nose in the mid-crease area above the nostril;

“operator” means any person giving treatment, including a proprietor;

“premises” means any premises registered under sections 14(2) or 15(2) of the Act;

“proprietor” means any person registered under sections 14(1) or 15(1) of the Act;

“treatment” means any operation in effecting acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing or electrolysis;

“the treatment area” means any part of premises where treatment is given to clients.

(2) The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of these byelaws as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2.—(1) For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of premises and fittings in such premises a proprietor shall ensure that—

- (a) any internal wall, door, window, partition, floor, floor covering or ceiling is kept clean and in such good repair as to enable it to be cleaned effectively;
- (b) any waste material, or other litter arising from treatment is handled and disposed of in accordance with relevant legislation and guidance as advised by the local authority;
- (c) any needle used in treatment is single-use and disposable, as far as is practicable, or otherwise is sterilized for each treatment, is suitably stored after treatment and is disposed of in accordance with relevant legislation and guidance as advised by the local authority;
- (d) any furniture or fitting in premises is kept clean and in such good repair as to enable it to be cleaned effectively;
- (e) any table, couch or seat used by a client in the treatment area which may become contaminated with blood or other body fluids, and any surface on which a needle, instrument or equipment is placed immediately prior to treatment has a smooth impervious surface which is disinfected—
 - (i) immediately after use; and
 - (ii) at the end of each working day.
- (f) any table, couch, or other item of furniture used in treatment is covered by a disposable paper sheet which is changed for each client;
- (g) no eating, drinking, or smoking is permitted in the treatment area and a notice or notices reading “No Smoking”, and “No Eating or Drinking” is prominently displayed there.

(2)(a) Subject to sub-paragraph (b), where premises are registered under section 14(2) (acupuncture) or 15(2) (tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis) of the 1982 Act, a proprietor shall ensure that treatment is given in a treatment area used solely for giving treatment;

(b) Sub-paragraph (a) shall not apply if the only treatment to be given in such premises is ear-piercing or nose-piercing using a hygienic piercing instrument.

(3)(a) Subject to sub-paragraph (b), where premises are registered under section 15(2) (tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring and cosmetic piercing) of the 1982 Act, a proprietor shall ensure that the floor of the treatment area is provided with a smooth impervious surface;

(b) Sub-paragraph (a) shall not apply if the only treatment to be given in such premises is ear-piercing or nose-piercing using a hygienic piercing instrument.

3.—(1) For the purpose of securing the cleansing and so far as is appropriate, the sterilization of needles, instruments, jewellery, materials and equipment used in connection with treatment—

- (a) an operator shall ensure that—
 - (i) any gown, wrap or other protective clothing, paper or other covering, towel, cloth or other such article used in treatment—
 - (aa) is clean and in good repair and, so far as is appropriate, is sterile;
 - (bb) has not previously been used in connection with another client unless it consists of a material which can be and has been adequately cleansed and, so far as is appropriate, sterilized.

- (ii) any needle, metal instrument, or other instrument or equipment used in treatment or for handling such needle, instrument or equipment and any part of a hygienic piercing instrument that touches a client is sterile;
 - (iii) any jewellery used for cosmetic piercing by means of a hygienic piercing instrument is sterile;
 - (iv) any dye used for tattooing or semi-permanent skin-colouring is sterile and inert;
 - (v) any container used to hold dye for tattooing or semi-permanent skin-colouring is either disposed of at the end of each treatment or is cleaned and sterilized before re-use.
- (b) a proprietor shall provide—
- (i) adequate facilities and equipment for—
 - (aa) cleansing; and
 - (bb) sterilization, unless only pre-sterilized items are used.
 - (ii) sufficient and safe gas points and electrical socket outlets;
 - (iii) an adequate and constant supply of clean hot and cold water on the premises;
 - (iv) clean and suitable storage which enables contamination of the articles, needles, instruments and equipment mentioned in paragraphs 3(1)(a)(i), (ii), (iii), (iv) and (v) to be avoided as far as possible.

4.—(1) For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of operators, a proprietor—

- (a) shall ensure that an operator—
- (i) keeps his hands and nails clean and his nails short;
 - (ii) keeps any open lesion on an exposed part of the body effectively covered by an impermeable dressing;
 - (iii) wears disposable examination gloves that have not previously been used with another client, unless giving acupuncture otherwise than in the circumstances described in paragraph 4(3);
 - (iv) wears a gown, wrap or protective clothing that is clean and washable, or alternatively a disposable covering that has not previously been used in connection with another client;
 - (v) does not smoke or consume food or drink in the treatment area; and
- (b) shall provide—
- (i) suitable and sufficient washing facilities appropriately located for the sole use of operators, including an adequate and constant supply of clean hot and cold water, soap or detergent; and
 - (ii) suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for operators.

(2) Where an operator carries out treatment using only a hygienic piercing instrument and a proprietor provides either a hand hygienic gel or liquid cleaner, the washing facilities that the proprietor provides need not be for the sole use of the operator.

(3) Where an operator gives acupuncture a proprietor shall ensure that the operator wears disposable examination gloves that have not previously been used with another client if—

- (a) the client is bleeding or has an open lesion on an exposed part of his body;
or
- (b) the client is known to be infected with a blood-borne virus; or
- (c) the operator has an open lesion on his hand; or
- (d) the operator is handling items that may be contaminated with blood or other body fluids.

5. A person registered in accordance with sections 14 (acupuncture) or 15 (tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis) of the Act who visits people at their request to give them treatment should observe the requirements relating to an operator in paragraphs 3(1)(a) and 4(1)(a).

6. The byelaws relating to *state subject matter* that were made by *insert name* on the *insert date* and were confirmed by *insert name of confirmation authority* on *insert date* are revoked.

COUNCIL'S SIGNATURE

COUNCIL'S SEAL

The foregoing byelaws are hereby confirmed by the Secretary of State for Health
on _____ and shall come into operation on _____

Member of the Senior Civil Service
Department of Health

NOTE – THE FOLLOWING DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE BYELAWS

Proprietors shall take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with these byelaws by persons working on premises. Section 16(9) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 provides that a registered person shall cause to be prominently displayed on the premises a copy of these byelaws and a copy of any certificate of registration issued to him under Part VIII of the Act. A person who contravenes section 16(9) shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale (see section 16(10)).

Section 16 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 also provides that any person who contravenes these byelaws shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 3 on the standard scale. If a person registered under Part VIII of the Act is found guilty of contravening these byelaws the Court may, instead of or in addition to imposing a fine, order the suspension or cancellation of the person's registration. A court which orders the suspension of or cancellation of a person's registration may also order the suspension or cancellation of the registration of the premises in which the offence was committed if such premises are occupied by the person found guilty of the offence. It shall be a defence for the person charged under the relevant sub-sections of section 16 to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid commission of the offence.

Nothing in these byelaws extends to the practice of acupuncture, or the business of tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing or electrolysis by or under the supervision of a person who is registered as a medical practitioner, or to premises in which the practice of acupuncture, or business of tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing or electrolysis is carried out by or under the supervision of such a person.

Nothing in these byelaws extends to the practice of acupuncture by or under the supervision of a person who is registered as a dentist, or to premises in which the practice of acupuncture is carried out by or under the supervision of such a person.

The legislative provisions relevant to acupuncture are those in section 14. The provisions relevant to treatment other than acupuncture are in section 15.

The key differences in the application of requirements in respect of the various treatments are as follows:

*The references in the introductory text to provisions of section 14 (acupuncture) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 **only apply to acupuncture.***

*The references in the introductory text to provisions of section 15 (tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 **do not apply to acupuncture.***

*The references in paragraph 1(1) in the definition of "premises" to provisions of section 14 (acupuncture) **only apply to acupuncture.***

The references in paragraph 1(1) in the definition of “premises” to provisions of section 15 (tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis) do not apply to acupuncture.

*The requirement in paragraph 2(2) that treatment is given in a treatment area used solely for giving treatment **applies to acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis but not to ear-piercing or nose-piercing using a hygienic piercing instrument.***

*The requirement in paragraph 2(3) that the floor of the treatment area be provided with a smooth impervious surface **applies to tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring and cosmetic piercing but not to acupuncture or electrolysis or ear-piercing or nose-piercing using a hygienic piercing instrument.***

*The requirements relating to dye or a container used to hold dye used for treatment in paragraphs 3(1) (a) (iv) and (v) **apply to tattooing and semi-permanent skin-colouring.***

*The requirement in paragraph 4(1)(a)(iii) that an operator wears disposable examination gloves that have not previously been used with another client **does not apply to acupuncture otherwise than in the circumstances described in paragraph 4(3).***

*The provisions of paragraph 4(2) in relation to washing facilities **apply to cosmetic piercing using only a hygienic piercing instrument.***

*The exception whereby the byelaws do not apply to treatment carried out by or under the supervision of a **dentist applies only to acupuncture (see section 14(8) of the Act).***