BYELAWS RELATING TO TATTOOING

Byelaws for the purposes of securing the cleanliness of premises registered under section 15 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 and fittings in such premises and registered persons and persons assisting them and cleansing and, so far as appropriate, sterilization of instruments, materials and equipment used in connection with the business of tattooing made by Wealden District Council in pursuance of section 15 (7) of the Act.

Interpretation

1. a. In these byelaws, unless the context otherwise requires –

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

"Client" means any person undergoing treatment;

"Operator" means any person giving treatment;

"Premises" means any premises registered under part VIII of the Act;

"Proprietor" means any person registered under part VIII of the Act;

"Treatment" means any operation in the practice of tattoing;

"The treatment area" means any part of the premises where treatment is given to clients.

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

2. For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of premises and fittings in such premises a proprietor shall ensure that –

a. All internal walls, doors, windows, partitions, floors and floor coverings, and ceilings are kept clean and in such good repair as to enable them to be cleaned effectively;

b. The treatment area is used solely for giving treatment;

c. The floor of the treatment area is provided with a smooth impervious surface;

d. All waste materials, and other litter, arising from the treatment, is placed in a leak proof liner bag contained within a covered receptacle which is washable and leak proof. The liner bag shall be changed at least once every working day or more frequently as necessary and shall be sealed prior to disposal;

e. All needles intended for disposal are placed in disposable needle boxes designed for the purpose. The boxes shall be disposed of safely. All needles intended for re-use shall be placed in leak proof and washable containers capable of being sterilized. The containers shall be emptied at least once every working day or more frequently as necessary and the needles and the containers sterilized for re-use;

f. All furniture and fittings in the premises are kept clean and in such good repair as to enable them to be cleaned effectively;

g. All tables, couches and seats used by clients in the treatment area, and any surface on which the items specified in 4b are placed immediately prior to treatment, have a smooth impervious surface which is wiped down with a suitable disinfectant between the treatment of different clients and thoroughly cleaned at the end of each working day;

h. Where tables and couches are used, they are covered by a disposable paper sheet which is changed for each client;

i. No eating or drinking or smoking is permitted in the treatment area and a notice or notices reading “No Eating or Drinking” is prominently displayed within the treatment area;

j. No pets or animals are permitted in the treatment area, with the exception of guide dogs or other service animals. A notice to be prominently displayed within the treatment area.

3. For the purpose of securing the cleansing and so far as is appropriate, the sterilization of instruments, materials and equipment used in connection with the treatment –

a. An operator shall ensure that, before use in connection with treatment, any gown, wrap or other protective clothing, paper or other covering, towel, cloth or other such article used in the treatment –

i. is clean and in good repair and, so far as is appropriate, sterile;

ii. has not previously been used in connection with any other client unless it consists of a material which can be and has been adequately cleaned and, so far as is appropriate, sterilized;

b. An operator shall ensure that –

i. any needle, metal instrument, or other instrument or equipment, used in treatment or for handling such needles, instruments or equipment

and any part of a hygienic piercing instrument that touches a client is sterile;

ii. all dyes used for tattooing are sterile and inert;

iii. the containers used to hold the dyes for each client are either disposed of at the end of each session of treatments, or are cleaned and sterilized before re-use;

c. A proprietor shall provide –

i. adequate facilities and equipment for the purpose of sterilization (unless pre-sterilized items are used) and of cleansing, as required in pursuance of these byelaws;

ii. sufficient and safe gas points and/or electrical socket outlets to enable compliance with these byelaws;

iii. an adequate constant supply of clean hot and cold water readily available at all times on the premises;

iv. adequate storage for all items mentioned in byelaw 3a and b above, so that those items are properly stored in a clean and suitable place so as to avoid, as far as possible, the risk of contamination.

4. For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of operators –

a. An operator shall ensure that -

i. his/her hands and nails are clean and finger nails are short;

ii. he/she wears a gown, wrap or protective clothing that is clean and washable or alternatively wears a disposable covering which has not been used in connection with another client;

iii. he/she wears disposable examination gloves that have not been used in connection with another client;

iv. he/she keeps any open boil, sore, cut or open wound on an exposed part of his body effectively covered by an impermeable dressing;

v. the operator does not consume food or drink in the treatment area;

vi. if the operator is a known or suspected to be a Hepatitis “B” Surface Antigen Carrier, a clean face mask and clean disposable surgical gloves are worn;

b. A proprietor shall provide –

i. suitable and sufficient washing facilities for the sole use of operators, including hot and cold running water, soap or detergent and a nailbrush;

ii. suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for operators;

iii. suitable first aid materials.

These byelaws were approved by the Department of Health on 3rd September 2018
To be effective from 3rd October 2018

NOTE – THE FOLLOWING DOES NOT FORM PART OF THE BYELAWS

A. Proprietors shall take all reasonable steps to ensure compliance with these byelaws by persons working on the premises. Section 16(9) of the Act 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. Every registered operator shall prominently display on the premises or their person a copy of the photographic identification badge as issued by Wealden DC.

B. Section 16(2) of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 provides that any person who contravenes any of 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 the fine, order the suspension or cancellation of his registration and 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 sub-sections (1), (2), (8) or (10) of Section 16 to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid the commission of the offence.

C. Nothing in these byelaws extends to the practice of tattooing by or under the supervision of a person who is a registered medical practitioner such as a Doctor or to premises in which the practice of tattooing is carried on by or under the supervision of such a person.

D. Wealden DC inspects Tattoo Parlours and will grant a Tattoo Hygiene Rating on application.

E. A centralised accredited register of tattooists does not exist in the United Kingdom, however it is recommended that anyone wishing to select a tattooist consults the following websites:

http://www.nhs.uk/video/pages/tattoos.aspx

http://www.britishtattooartistsfederation.co.uk/home/4579485276

http://www.safe-tattoos.com/index.html

F. Before treatment the operator must inform the client how the process is conducted and any risks during and after treatment. The operator must record the client's details; name, address, date of birth, nature of treatment, medical history, health assessment, name of treating operator and a signed consent form. These records must be kept securely and in accordance with Data

Protection legislation but must be made available to an authorised officer of Wealden DC on request.