BEDFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL

Regulatory Services
Environmental Health and Trading Standards

Byelaws for TATTOOING
BYELAWS

TATTOOING

1. Interpretation
   a. In these byelaws, unless the context otherwise requires:
      “Client” means any person undergoing treatment;
      “Operator” means any person giving treatment;
      “Premises” means any person registered under Part VIII of the Act;
      “Proprietor” means any person registered under Part VIII of the Act;
      “Treatment” means any operation in effecting tattooing;
      “The treatment area” means any part of premises where treatment is given to client.
   b. The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of these byelaws as it applies for the interpretation of the Act of Parliament.

2. For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of premises and fittings therein 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 material, and other litter, arising from the treatment, is placed in suitable covered receptacles, which are washable and leakproof, or use a leakproof liner bag. The receptacles should be emptied, or the bags changed, at least once every working day, or more frequently as a necessary, and the material disposed of safely. Where liners are not used, the receptacles should then be cleaned.
   e. All needles used in treatment are placed after use in separate covered and leakproof washable boxes, or disposable needle boxes designed for the purpose. Where washable boxes are used they should be emptied at least once every working day or more frequently as necessary, and the contents disposed of safely or sterilised for re-use as appropriate. The box should then be cleaned. Where needle boxes are used they should be disposed of safely at suitable intervals;
   f. All furniture and fittings in the premises area 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 items specified in 3b below are place 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. In the case of tables and couches, clients should lie on a disposable paper sheet which should be changed for each client;
   i. A notice or notices reading “No Smoking” are prominently displayed within the treatment area.
3. For the purpose of securing the cleansing and, so far as is appropriate, the sterilisation 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, cloth or other such articles used in the treatment –
      
      i. is clean and in good repair, and, so far as is appropriate, is 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, sterilised.

   b. i. Any needle, metal instrument or other item of equipment, used in treatment or for handling instruments and needles used in treatment, is in a sterile condition and kept sterile until it is used;

      ii. all dyes used for tattooing are bacteriologically clean and inert;

      iii. the containers used to hold the dyes for each customer are either disposed of at the end of each session of treatment, or are sterilised before re-use;

   c. A proprietor shall provide –

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

      ii. provide 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, so that those items shall be 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 whilst giving treatment shall ensure that –

      i. his hands and nails are clean, and nails kept short;

      ii. he is wearing clean and washable clothing, or alternatively a disposable covering that he has not in connection with any other client;

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

      iv. he does not smoke or consume food or drink;

   b. A proprietor shall provide –

      i. suitable and sufficient washing facilities for the sole use of operators, such facilities to have hot and cold water, sanitising soap or detergent, and a nail brush;

      ii. suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for operators.