

Regulatory Impact Assessment: Introduction of Skin Piercing and semi-permanent skin-colouring Byelaws

1. Introduction

This Regulatory Impact Assessment (RIA) outlines the potential impacts of introducing byelaws to regulate skin piercing and semi-permanent skin colouring within Adur District Council.

The aim is to:

- **Protect public health and safety:** By ensuring hygienic practices and preventing the transmission of infectious diseases.
- **Safeguard children and young people:** By establishing age restrictions and parental consent requirements.
- **Promote responsible business practices:** By setting clear standards for premises, equipment, and practitioner qualifications.

2. Need for Intervention

- **Existing Gaps:** Current legislation may be insufficient to address specific local concerns, such as:
 - Lack of regulation on specific piercing techniques.
 - Inadequate enforcement mechanisms for existing health and safety standards.
 - Concerns about the impact of unregulated piercing businesses on the local community.
- **Public Health Concerns:**
 - Risk of infection from unsanitary practices.
 - Potential for serious complications, including allergic reactions and nerve damage.
 - Transmission of blood-borne diseases.
- **Child Protection:**
 - Need to protect minors from potentially harmful or irreversible procedures.
 - Importance of ensuring informed consent and parental involvement.

3. Potential Impacts

- **Economic Impacts:**
 - **Positive:** May stimulate the growth of legitimate and responsible piercing businesses.
 - **Negative:** Potential for increased costs for businesses, which could lead to closures.
- **Social Impacts:**
 - **Positive:** Improved public health and safety.
 - **Negative:** Potential for unintended consequences, such as the rise of unregulated underground businesses.
- **Environmental Impacts:**
 - **Potential** for increased waste from single-use equipment, although proper disposal regulations can mitigate this.
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4. Consultation and Engagement

- **Public Consultation:**
 - Online surveys and questionnaires.
 - Engagement with local businesses.
- **Stakeholder Consultation:**
 - Consultation with relevant professional bodies (e.g., British Association of Skin Piercers).

- Engagement with local health professionals (e.g., Public Health England).
- Consultation with law enforcement agencies.

This RIA is for informational purposes only and does not constitute legal advice.

Date 31st January 2025