

Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

Before completing this EqIA please ensure you have read the guidance on the intranet.

Initial Information

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Date assessment started	January 2021
Data assessment completed	February 2021
Review:	After public consultation
Version No:	1

Part 1: Background

Is this (please tick or expand the box to explain)

Existing	
Changing, updating or revision	
New or proposed	X
Other	

Is this (please tick or expand the box to explain)

Internal (employee only)	
External (residents, communities, partners)	X
Both of the above	

What is the name of the policy, strategy, product or service being assessed?

Introduction of Byelaws for the regulation of businesses involved in acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing, and electrolysis, made under Part VIII of the Local Governments (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (as amended by the Local Government Act 2003)

What is the policy, strategy, project or service designed to do? (Include the aims, purpose and intended outcomes of the policy)

The protection of public health through the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis to reduce the risk of transmission of blood borne virus infections such as HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C and other infections.

What is the background or context to the proposal?

Part VIII of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 originally provided for the regulation only of tattooing, acupuncture, ear piercing and electrolysis. This was subsequently amended by the Local Government Act 2003 to substitute the more comprehensive term 'cosmetic body piercing' for 'ear piercing' to accommodate the growing practice of piercing other parts of the human body, and to regulate the relatively new practice of semi-permanent skin colouring which has grown up in the interim.

The model Bylaws were adopted within three of its previous five district councils' administrative areas: West Dorset District Council, Purbeck District Council and Weymouth & Portland Borough Council. However, in the East Dorset and North Dorset District Councils' administrative areas, the Council has previously undertaken only the regulation of the practices of acupuncture, tattooing, ear-piercing and electrolysis.

This means there is discrepancy in the enforcement action which could be taken based on where the premises were located.

Therefore, it is proposed to introduce Byelaws based on the Department of Healths model for the regulation of acupuncture, tattooing, semi-permanent skin-colouring, cosmetic piercing and electrolysis, for Dorset Council, revoking all the existing Byelaws.

Part 2: Gathering information

What sources of data, information, evidence and research was used to inform you about the people your proposal will have an impact on?

Data from the following sources:

- Idox information on registered skin piercers
- Officer intel from visits to registered skin piercers
- Information contained in the CIEH Tattooing and Body Piercing Toolkit

Consultation will also take place with:

- Registered skin piercers
- The public

Their responses will be considered once received and ahead of the adoption of the Byelaws and will also be contained in an updated EQIA.

What did this data, information, evidence and research tell you?

Data and service knowledge/information suggests that:

The adoption of the byelaws will unlikely have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics, the introduction will provide protection equally to all.

Is further information needed to help inform this proposal?

A public consultation will be carried out to provide further information to complete this assessment.

Part 3: Engagement and Consultation

What engagement or consultation has taken place as part of this proposal?

If agreed a public consultation will be undertaken for 12 weeks, the results will be utilised to complete this assessment.

How will the outcome of consultation be fed back to those who you consulted with?

A consultation report will be produced and will be published on the Council's website.

Please refer to the Equality Impact Assessment Guidance before completing this section.

Not every proposal will require an EQIA. If you decide that your proposal does not require an EQIA, it is important to show that you have given this adequate consideration. The data and research that you have used to inform you about the

people who will be affected by the policy should enable you to make this decision and whether you need to continue with the EqlA.

Please tick the appropriate option:

An EqlA is required (please continue to Part 4 of this document)	
An EqlA is not required (please complete box below)	X

This policy, strategy, project or service does not require an EqlA because:

The adoption of these Byelaws will ensure consistent standards across all skin piercing businesses within Dorset Council. The council is not responsible for who uses these services but for ensuring that any skin piercing activities are undertaken in a safe and hygienic manner. We do not anticipate any adverse impacts on businesses already registered as the standards will be applied consistently.

EqlA Sign Off

Officer completing this EqlA:	Marc Hortin/Laura Brewer	Date:	24/02/2021
Equality Lead:	Susan Ward-Rice	Date:	25 February 2021
Equality & Diversity Action Group Chair:	Dr David Bonner	Date:	26 February 2021

