

PERSONAL APPEARANCE SERVICES LICENSING

Public Health (Infection Control for Personal Appearance Services) Act 2003

The *Public Health (Infection Control for Personal Appearance Services) Act 2003* requires those who perform personal appearance services such as beauty therapy, hairdressing and/or skin penetration procedures to take all reasonable precautions and care to minimise the risk of infection to the public.

WHO NEEDS A LICENCE?

Personal appearance services are classed into two categories, higher risk and non-higher risk. Only those activities classed as higher risk personal appearance services are required to be licensed with council.

WHAT ARE HIGHER RISK PERSONAL SERVICES?

A higher risk personal appearance service is any skin penetration procedure in which the release of blood or other bodily fluid is an expected result. These include:

- » body piercing, other than closed ear or nose piercing
- » implanting natural or synthetic substances into a person's skin (e.g. hair or beads)
- » scarring or cutting a person's skin using a sharp instrument to make a permanent mark, pattern or design
- » tattooing (including cosmetic tattooing or semi-permanent make-up)
- » tattoo removal (other than laser) that involves injecting the skin.

HIGHER RISK PERSONAL SERVICES LICENSING

Higher risk personal appearance services (including mobile operations) are required to be licensed with Council. If you have two or more premises in the Townsville local government area, you will be required to submit an application for each premises.

When you submit an application for a licence you will be assessed on your suitability to hold a licence. Assessing officers will take into consideration matters such as previous licence suspension or cancellation, if you have been convicted of a relevant offence, and fit-out and construction suitability.

Licences are renewed yearly and Council's Environmental Health Officers make regular inspections of all licensed premises to ensure compliance with legislation and to provide advice.

LICENCE CONDITIONS

Once issued, a licence is subject to the following conditions:

- » The licence, or a copy, is displayed at each premise covered by the licence so that it is visible to a person as they enter the premises.
- » A copy of the [Queensland Infection Control Guidelines](#) is kept at each premises covered by the licence.
- » Each premise complies with Part 15 of the Queensland Development Code.
- » Fixtures, fittings and equipment in each premise are maintained in good repair and operation order.

Council can also place other reasonable conditions on the licence that it considers appropriate.

FIT-OUT AND CONSTRUCTION APPROVAL

The fit-out and construction of premises for higher risk personal appearance services must comply with Mandatory Part 5.2 of the Queensland Development Code and be approved by Council.

When applying for fit-out approval, your application must include floor and sectional elevation plans. In these plans, the following information should be provided.

- » location of fixtures and fittings
- » construction material of all surfaces
- » hand wash basin location(s)
- » preparation sink location
- » storage cupboards
- » waste containers (for soiled linen and other waste)
- » details of refuse facilities
- » cleaning and sanitation details for equipment and utensils.

NON-HIGHER RISK PERSONAL APPEARANCE SERVICES

Non-higher risk personal appearance services do not require a licence from Council to operate. These services include:

- » beauty and nail services
- » hairdressing services
- » closed ear and nose piercing.

Acupuncture is not considered a personal appearance service and will continue to be regulated under the *Public Health Act 2005*.