

EXECUTIVE NOTE

The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 (Licensing of Skin Piercing and Tattooing) Order 2006 SSI/2006/43

The above instrument was made in exercise of the powers conferred by section 44(1)(b) and (2) of the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982. The instrument is subject to affirmative resolution procedure.

Policy Objectives

The purpose of the instrument is to regulate tattooing and skin piercing by giving local authorities in Scotland powers to license and inspect businesses carrying out these activities, and to introduce consistent controls over such businesses (whether fixed or mobile) in order to manage and reduce the risks faced by potential clients, in relation to health and specifically the transmission of bloodborne viruses such as HIV and hepatitis B and C.

Consultation

The principles on the policy behind these regulations have been the subject of consultation with stakeholders including local authorities, tattooing, body and skin piercing businesses, professional bodies, NHS Scotland, industry bodies and consumer groups. All stakeholders contacted were supportive.

Financial Effects

A regulatory impact assessment has been undertaken and has shown that the clear impact of the Order will be on small independent businesses, which we believe constitute the major part of this industry sector. In the initial consultation process, the business community endorsed and welcomed the planned introduction of regulating businesses carrying on tattooing and cosmetic piercing. Subsequent regulatory impact assessment has shown that it is expected that reputable businesses will already have the minimum standards of hygiene and equipment as required by the Order.

Scottish Executive Health Department
2005