



Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982

1982 CHAPTER 30

PART VIII

ACUPUNCTURE, TATTOOING, EAR-PIERCING AND ELECTROLYSIS

13 Application of Part VIII

- (1) The provisions of this Part of this Act, except this section, shall come into force in accordance with the following provisions of this section.
- (2) A local authority may resolve that the provisions of this Part of this Act which are mentioned in paragraph (a), (b) or (c) of subsection (3) below are to apply to their area; and if a local authority do so resolve, the provisions specified in the resolution shall come into force in their area on the day specified in that behalf in the resolution (which must not be before the expiration of the period of one month beginning with the day on which the resolution is passed).
- (3) The provisions that may be specified in a resolution under subsection (2) above are—
 - (a) sections 14, 16 and 17 below ; or
 - (b) sections 15 to 17 below ; or
 - (c) sections 14 to 17 below.
- (4) A resolution which provides that section 15 below is to apply to the area of a local authority need not provide that it shall apply to all the descriptions of persons specified in subsection (1) of that section; and if such a resolution does not provide that section 15 below is to apply to persons of all of those descriptions, the reference in subsection (2) above to the coming into force of provisions specified in the resolution shall be construed, in its application to section 15 below, and to section 16 below so far as it has effect for the purposes of section 15 below, as a reference to the coming into force of those sections only in relation to persons of the description or descriptions specified in the resolution.

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- (5) If a resolution provides for the coming into force of section 15 below in relation to persons of more than one of the descriptions specified in subsection (1) of that section, it may provide that that section, and section 16 below so far as it has effect for the purposes of that section, shall come into force on different days in relation to persons of each of the descriptions specified in the resolution.
- (6) A local authority shall publish notice that they have passed a resolution under this section in two consecutive weeks in a local newspaper circulating in their area.
- (7) The first publication shall not be later than 28 days before the day specified in the resolution for the coming into force of the provisions specified in it in the local authority's area.
- (8) The notice shall state which provisions are to come into force in that area.
- (9) The notice shall also—
 - (a) if the resolution provides for the coming into force of section 14 below, explain that that section applies to persons carrying on the practice of acupuncture ; and
 - (b) if it provides for the coming into force of section 15 below, specify the descriptions of persons in relation to whom that section is to come into force.
- (10) Any such notice shall state the general effect, in relation to persons to whom the provisions specified in the resolution will apply, of the coming into force of those provisions.
- (11) In this Part of this Act " local authority " means—
 - (a) the council of a district;
 - (b) the council of a London borough ; and
 - (c) the Common Council of the City of London.

14 Acupuncture

- (1) A person shall not in any area in which this section is in force carry on the practice of acupuncture unless he is registered by the local authority for the area under this section.
- (2) A person shall only carry on the practice of acupuncture in any area in which this section is in force in premises registered by the local authority for the area under this section ; but a person who is registered under this section does not contravene this subsection merely because he sometimes visits people to give them treatment at their request.
- (3) Subject to section 16(8) (b) below, on application for registration under this section a local authority shall register the applicant and the premises where he desires to practise and shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration.
- (4) An application for registration under this section shall be accompanied by such particulars as the local authority may reasonably require.
- (5) The particulars that the local authority may require include, without prejudice to the generality of subsection (4) above.—
 - (a) particulars as to the premises where the applicant desires to practise; and
 - (b) particulars of any conviction of the applicant under section 16 below,

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but do not include information about individual people to whom the applicant has given treatment.

- (6) A local authority may charge such reasonable fees as they may determine for registration under this section.
- (7) A local authority may make byelaws for the purpose of securing—
 - (a) the cleanliness of premises registered under this section and fittings in such premises ;
 - (b) the cleanliness of persons so registered and persons assisting persons so registered in their practice ;
 - (c) the cleansing and, so far as is appropriate, the sterilisation of instruments, materials and equipment used in connection with the practice of acupuncture.
- (8) Nothing in this section shall extend to the practice of acupuncture by or under the supervision of a person who is registered as a medical practitioner or a dentist or to premises on which the practice of acupuncture is carried on by or under the supervision of such a person.

15 Tattooing, ear-piercing and electrolysis

- (1) A person shall not in any area in which this section is in force carry on the business—
 - (a) of tattooing;
 - (b) of ear-piercing ; or
 - (c) of electrolysis,unless he is registered by the local authority for the area under this section.
- (2) A person shall only carry on a business mentioned in subsection (1) above in any area in which this section is in force in premises registered under this section for the carrying on of that business ; but a person who carries on the business of tattooing, ear-piercing or electrolysis and is registered under this section as carrying on that business does not contravene this subsection merely because he sometimes visits people at their request to tattoo them or, as the case may be, to pierce their ears or give them electrolysis.
- (3) Subject to section 16 (8) (b) below, on application for registration under this section a local authority shall register the applicant and the premises where he desires to carry on his business and shall issue to the applicant a certificate of registration.
- (4) An application for registration under this section shall be accompanied by such particulars as the local authority may reasonably require.
- (5) The particulars that the local authority may require include, without prejudice to the generality of subsection (4) above.—
 - (a) particulars as to the premises where the applicant desires to carry on his business; and
 - (b) particulars of any conviction of the applicant under section 16 below,but do not include information about individual people whom the applicant has tattooed or given electrolysis or whose ears he has pierced.
- (6) A local authority may charge such reasonable fees as they may determine for registration under this section.
- (7) A local authority may make byelaws for the purposes of securing—

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- (a) the cleanliness of premises registered under this section and fittings in such premises ;
 - (b) the cleanliness of persons so registered and persons assisting persons so registered in the business in respect of which they are registered ;
 - (c) the cleansing and, so far as is appropriate, the sterilisation of instruments, materials and equipment used in connection with a business in respect of which a person is registered under this section.
- (8) Nothing in this section shall extend to the carrying on of a business such as is mentioned in subsection (1) above by or under the supervision of a person who is registered as a medical practitioner or to premises on which any such business is carried on by or under the supervision of such a person.

16 Provisions supplementary to ss. 14 and 15

- (1) Any person who contravenes—
- (a) section 14(1) or (2) above ; or
 - (b) section 15(1) or (2) above,
- shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £200.
- (2) Any person who contravenes a byelaw made—
- (a) under section 14(7) above ; or
 - (b) under section 15(7) above,
- shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £200.
- (3) If a person registered under section 14 above is found guilty of an offence under subsection (2)(a) above, the court, instead of or in addition to imposing a fine under subsection (2) above, may order the suspension or cancellation of his registration.
- (4) If a person registered under section 15 above is found guilty of an offence under subsection (2)(b) above, the court, instead of or in addition to imposing a fine under subsection (2) above, may order the suspension or cancellation of his registration.
- (5) A court which orders the suspension or cancellation of a registration by virtue of subsection (3) or (4) above may also order the suspension or cancellation of any registration under section 14 or, as the case may be, 15 above of the premises in which the offence was committed, if they are occupied by the person found guilty of the offence.
- (6) Subject to subsection (7) below, a court ordering the suspension or cancellation of registration by virtue of subsection (3) or (4) above may suspend the operation of the order until the expiration of the period prescribed by Crown Court Rules for giving notice of appeal to the Crown Court.
- (7) If notice of appeal is given within the period so prescribed, an order under subsection (3) or (4) above shall be suspended until the appeal is finally determined or abandoned.
- (8) Where the registration of any person under section 14 or 15 above is cancelled by order of the court under this section—

- (a) he shall within 7 days deliver up to the local authority the cancelled certificate of registration, and, if he fails to do so, he shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50 and thereafter to a daily fine not exceeding £5 ; and
 - (b) he shall not again be registered by the local authority under section 14 or, as the case may be, 15 above except with the consent of the magistrates' court which convicted him.
- (9) A person registered under this Part of this Act shall keep a copy—
- (a) of any certificate of registration issued to him under this Part of this Act; and
 - (b) of any byelaws under this Part of this Act relating to the practice or business in respect of which he is so registered,
- prominently displayed at the place where he carries on that practice or business.
- (10) A person who contravenes subsection (9) above shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50.
- (11) It shall be a defence for a person charged with an offence under subsection (1), (2), (8) or (10) above to prove that he took all reasonable precautions and exercised all due diligence to avoid commission of the offence.
- (12) Nothing in this Part of this Act applies to anything done to an animal.

17 Power to enter premises (acupuncture etc.)

- (1) Subject to subsection (2) below, an authorised officer of a local authority may enter any premises in the authority's area if he has reason to suspect that an offence under section 16 above is being committed there.
- (2) The power conferred by this section may be exercised by an authorised officer of a local authority only if he has been granted a warrant by a justice of the peace.
- (3) A justice may grant a warrant under this section only if he is satisfied—
- (a) that admission to any premises has been refused, or that refusal is apprehended, or that the case is one of urgency, or that an application for admission would defeat the object of the entry ; and
 - (b) that there is reasonable ground for entry under this section.
- (4) A warrant shall not be granted unless the justice is satisfied either that notice of the intention to apply for a warrant has been given to the occupier, or that the case is one of urgency, or that the giving of such notice would defeat the object of the entry.
- (5) A warrant shall continue in force—
- (a) for seven days ; or
 - (b) until the power conferred by this section has been exercised in accordance with the warrant,
- whichever period is the shorter.
- (6) Where an authorised officer of a local authority exercises the power conferred by this section, he shall produce his authority if required to do so by the occupier of the premises.
- (7) Any person who without reasonable excuse refuses to permit an authorised officer of a local authority to exercise the power conferred by this section shall be guilty of an

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offence and shall for every such refusal be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £200.