Who Needs a Special Treatment Licence

PART II OF THE LONDON LOCAL AUTHORITIES ACT 1991

Who needs a licence?
1. The London Borough of Bexley has adopted Part II of the London Local Authorities Act 1991, which means that any premises located in the Borough and used as an "establishment for special treatment" need to be licensed by the Council.

What is an "establishment for special treatment"?
2. An "establishment for special treatment" is any premises, which includes a residential premises, which are used to provide a treatment that falls into one or more of the following categories:

- Massage
- Manicure, includes false nails
- Acupuncture
- Tattooing, includes semi-permanent make-up
- Cosmetic Piercing
- Chiropody, includes pedicure
- Light, electric or other special treatment of a like kind
- Vapour, sauna or other baths.

The Council has produced a guidance entitled the ‘A-Z of Special Treatments’, which lists the different types of treatments that are caught by the Act. Also listed are some common treatments that can be provided without the need for a licence.

Are there any exceptions or exemptions?
3. Yes, a licence is not required for the provision of special treatment at:-

a) any premises which are not used for gain or reward.

b) any premises where the special treatment is carried out by or under the supervision of:-

- a medical practitioner registered by the General Medical Council;
- a bona fide member of a body of health practitioners, where the body has satisfied the Council that it meets the requirements of the Act;
- in the case of acupuncture, a dentist registered under the Dentists Act 1984;
- in the case of osteopathy, a fully or conditionally registered osteopath under the Osteopaths Act 1993;
- in the case of chiropractic, a fully or a conditionally registered chiropractor under the Chiropractors Act 1994.

c) any premises used by a person registered under the Health and Social Work Professions Order 2001:-

- solely for the practice of the profession in respect of which they are registered; or
- for the practice of the profession in respect of which they are registered and for the conduct by them of any business ancillary to such practice and no other purpose.

d) any hospital provided by the Secretary of State by any person in pursuance of arrangements made by the National Health Service Commissioning Board or by a clinical commissioning group under the National Health Service Act 2006.

e) any nursing home registered under Part II of the Registered Homes Act 1984 or exempted from registration under that Part of that Act.

The Council has a list, ‘Exempt Bodies of Health Practitioners’, which sets out the bodies that have been granted exemption by the Council from the need for a special treatments licence.