

Urgent call for action to contact local MPs to support an amendment to the Health and Care Act

Dear Colleagues,

Urgent Call to Action for MPs to support an Amendment to the Health and Care Bill to introduce a new system of Licensing for the Aesthetics Sector in England.

The JCCP has been working with other sector based organizations, national influencers and a cross party group of MPs to table an amendment to the Health and Care Bill, which would enable Secretary of State to introduce a licensing scheme for non-surgical aesthetic cosmetic procedures in England. The new system should help to better regulate cosmetic practitioners, to ensure that they have appropriate qualifications, competencies and skills to practice safely.

The amendment has been gaining increasing support from both parliamentarians and a range of stakeholders. Our latest parliamentary briefing is supported by 18 organisations, including public health bodies and aesthetic industry representatives and 14 MPs signed their name to the amendment at Committee Stage.

However, the coming weeks will be critical. All MPs will be able to debate and vote on this amendment to the Bill on 22 November. We are therefore getting in touch with all our members to ask whether you would be willing to help us raise awareness of this important amendment in parliament by writing to your MP on this issue and asking for their support. We have prepared a draft letter for you to use and edit as appropriate.

MPs need to hear from as many voices as possible to convince them of the scale of the problem and the level of support for change in this area.

Please read our briefing for more information on what we are proposing: <https://www.cieh.org/media/6275/cosmetics-briefing.pdf>

If you would like to support this campaign, you can do by emailing your MP in 3 easy steps:

1. **Find out who your MP is and click on ‘Send a message’ button by their photo.**
2. **Copy and paste the following draft letter into your email to the MP and edit it with your details and personal experience**
3. **Send the letter off and let us know, so we can keep track of which MPs have been contacted – policy@cieh.org**

Dear MP's name here (e.g David Smith),

Re: Amendment to regulate non-surgical aesthetic cosmetic procedures

I am emailing you as your constituent to ask for your help in improving the regulation of non-surgical aesthetic cosmetic procedures offered to members of the public. These can include a wide range of procedures aimed at enhancing or altering appearance, including lip fillers, Botulinum Toxin injectables, thread lifts, semi-permanent makeup, chemical peels laser treatments, piercings and tattoos. When performed badly, these procedures can cause infection, allergic reactions, disfigurement, blindness, psychological and emotional trauma and the need for hospitalisation and corrective treatment.

I have first hand experience of this...[please add your story or views as appropriate or delete]

We see almost daily reports in the media of these treatments going wrong and the devastating effects this has on patients. Existing legislative powers are not nearly enough to guarantee people's safety. This is because most regulators cannot currently enforce qualification, training standards and competencies of those performing procedures. Whilst there are a number of voluntary registers for cosmetic practitioners, there is no obligation to join these in order to practice.

The creation of a national licensing scheme for practitioners of aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic procedures would ensure that all those who practise are competent and safe for members of the public. The scheme would also strengthen the powers for local authorities to regulate this sector effectively.

Caroline Nokes MP has tabled an amendment to the Health and Care Bill (NC1), which was also supported by Justin Madders MP at Committee Stage. I'm writing to ask for your support for this cross-party amendment at Report Stage, which would introduce a licensing scheme for all non-surgical aesthetic procedures in England.

The amendment is also supported by a broad coalition of public health organisations and key beauty industry representatives campaigning for better regulation of aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic procedures.

Your sincerely,

XXX

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JCCP Registered Charity Number 1177540

-Ends-

Notes to Editors:

For general information and enquiries on the JCCP and a full version of the JCCP Guidelines on use of Social Media go to: www.jccp.org.uk

For further information on standards for non-surgical aesthetic treatments and hair restoration surgery please go to: www.cosmeticstandards.org.uk

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