



Department  
of Health &  
Social Care

# **Licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures in England**

***Professional Regulation, DHSC***

**6 February 2024**

# Increased oversight of non-surgical cosmetic procedures

- Procedures such as Botox and dermal fillers have surged in popularity in recent years
- The level of regulatory oversight varies depending on where procedures are performed, and who provides them
- We want to ensure public safety by ensuring that the regulatory framework allows consumers to make informed and safe choices when undergoing procedures which have the potential to cause serious injury or harm



## Recent relevant legislation:

- The Botulinum Toxin and Cosmetic Fillers (Children) Act 2021
- The Health and Care Act 2022

# Health and Care Act 2022 – powers and definitions

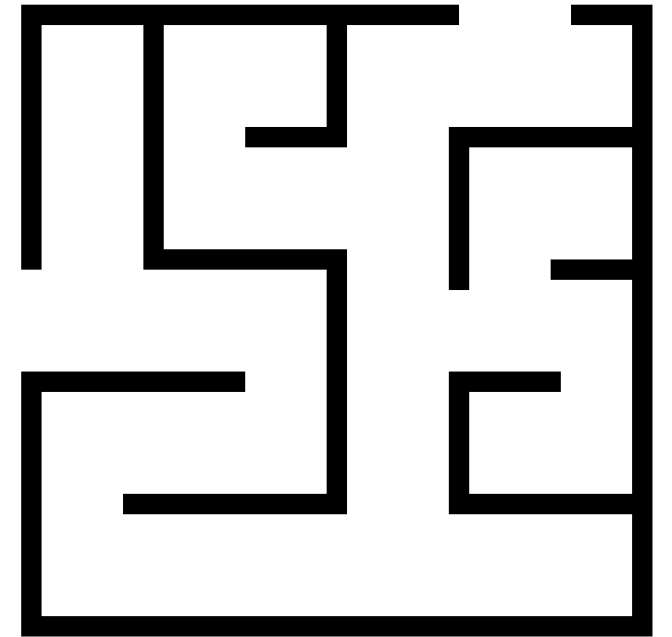
The Act includes powers for the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to introduce regulations for a cosmetics licensing scheme in England.

The regulations created under these powers will include two separate licences. The powers prohibit people in England from:

- Carrying out specified cosmetic procedures in the course of business unless they hold a **personal licence**, and;
- Using or allowing the use of a premises for the provision of these procedures unless they have a **premises licence**.
- The Act also specifies the high-level categories of cosmetic procedure which will be covered by the licensing scheme. For example: *‘the injection of a substance’*

# Issues

- Huge range of cosmetic, aesthetic, body-modification and well-being treatments being carried out
- Current legislation and the need for the associated licensing and regulatory regimes to fit together
- Mixed economy of practitioners – regulated healthcare professionals and aesthetic practitioners who are non-clinicians
- Fast moving sector – need to future-proof regulations to ensure new treatments are captured
- Funding and resources for enforcement



# Scoping and implementing a licensing scheme in England



# First consultation on the licensing scheme

The first consultation on the scope of the licensing scheme launched on 2 September 2023 and ran until 28 October.

The consultation sought views on:

- the procedures in scope of licensing
- restrictions on which practitioners should be permitted to perform procedures
- age restrictions for those undergoing such procedures

The consultation received nearly 12,000 responses, encompassing views from the public, practitioners from across the sector and a range of organisations including professional associations and regulatory and oversight bodies, including local government.

We are analysing the responses to the consultation and aim to publish the Government response by Spring 2024.



# Next steps

Analysis of consultation responses to agree procedures in scope

Stakeholder engagement on the development of other scheme details

Consultation on the regulations underpinning the scheme

Introduction of licensing scheme and transition period

# Any questions?

Share your views with us at

[Cosmetic.regulation@dhsc.gov.uk](mailto:Cosmetic.regulation@dhsc.gov.uk)

