

LONDON BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON  
GREATER LONDON COUNCIL (GENERAL POWERS) ACT 1981  
BYELAWS RELATING TO ACUPUNCTURISTS

Bye-laws made under Section 19 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1981 by the Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Islington acting by the Council with respect to acupuncturists.

1. Interpretation

- a) In these Bye-laws, unless the context otherwise requires - "The Act" means the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1981;  
"Activity" means the practice of acupuncture;  
"Client" means any person undergoing treatment;  
"The Council" means the Mayor and Burgesses of the London Borough of Islington acting by the Council;  
"Day" means a day on which the practice is carried on;  
"Premises" means any premises registered under Part V of the Act;  
"the Treatment Area" means any part of the premises where treatment is given to clients;  
"Treatment" means any activity in the practice of acupuncture.
- b) The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply for the interpretation of these Bye-laws as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament.

2. For the purpose of securing cleanliness of premises, a person carrying on the activity on these premises shall comply with the following provisions -

- a) The treatment area is used solely for giving treatment.
  - b) All internal walls, doors, windows, partitions, floors and floor coverings and ceilings are kept clean and in such good repair as to enable them to be cleaned effectively.
  - c) All waste material and other litter shall be placed in a suitable covered leak-proof receptacle which shall be emptied at least once a day or more frequently as necessary and kept clean.
  - d) All needles used in treatments are placed after use in separate covered and leak-proof re-useable boxes or disposable needle boxes designed for the purpose. Where re-useable boxes are used they shall be emptied at least once every working day or more frequently as necessary and the contents disposed of safely or sterilised for re-use as appropriate. The boxes shall then be sterilised. Where needle boxes are used they shall be disposed of safely at suitable intervals.
  - e) All furniture and fittings to the premises shall be kept clean and in such good repair as to enable them to be cleaned effectively.
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- f) All tables, couches and seats used by clients in the treatment area and any surface on which the items specified in Bye-law 3(b) below are placed immediately prior to treatment shall have a smooth, impervious surface which is wiped down with a suitable disinfectant as necessary but not less than once per day.
- g) Any tables or couches used by clients in the treatment area shall be covered with a disposable paper sheet which shall be changed after each client.
- h) A notice, or notices, reading "NO SMOKING" shall be prominently displayed within the treatment area.

3. For the purpose of securing so far as is appropriate the sterile condition of instruments, materials and equipment used in connection with the practice in the premises, the person carrying on the activity in those premises shall provide adequate facilities and equipment for the purpose of sterilising required in pursuance of these Bye-laws and otherwise shall comply with the following provisions -

- a) Immediately before use in connection with any client any gown, wrap or other protective clothing, paper or other covering, towel, cloth or other such article used in the treatment, shall be clean and in good repair, and, so far as is appropriate sterile and shall not previously have been used in connection with any other client unless it consists of a material which can be and has been adequately sterilised.

- b) Any needle, metal instrument or other item of equipment used in the treatment or for handling instruments and needles used in the treatment, shall be in a sterile condition and kept sterile until it is used.
- c) An adequate, constant supply of clean hot and cold water shall at all times be readily available on the premises.
- d) Adequate provision shall be made for the storage of all items included in Bye-law 3(a) and 3(b) above which shall be properly stored in a clean and suitable place so as to avoid any risk of contamination.

4. For the purpose of securing the cleanliness of any person carrying out acupuncture, both in regard to themselves and their clothing, such persons shall not attend to any client unless -

- a) their hands are clean,
- b) they are wearing clean and washable protective clothing, overalls or other suitable covering, or alternatively a disposable covering that has not previously been used in connection with any other client,
- c) they keep any open boil, sore, cut or other open wound effectively covered by an impermeable dressing
- d) they refrain from smoking or consuming food or drink

5. Any person carrying on an activity shall provide and maintain -

- a) Suitable and sufficient washing facilities for the sole use of persons engaged in the activity, such facilities to have hot and cold water, sanitising soap or detergents and a nail brush.
- b) Suitable and sufficient sanitary accommodation for the use of persons engaged in the activity.
6. Suitable and sufficient gas points and/or electrical socket outlets shall be provided to enable compliance with these Bye-laws.
7. a) Any person carrying on an activity shall provide an adequate supply of books, cards or forms for the purpose of recording thereon the following information in connection with the practice or activity in respect of which they are registered and shall enter after each treatment -
- (i) the full name and address of the client,
  - (ii) each date on which the activity took place,
  - (iii) the name of the person carrying out the treatment.
- b) All books, cards or forms used for the purpose of recording the information in Byelaw 7(a) above shall be retained on the premises for two years.

Dated the 29<sup>th</sup> day of June 1984

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE MAYOR )  
AND BURGESSES OF THE LONDON )  
BOROUGH OF ISLINGTON was )  
affixed hereto by Order )

C. Tapp.

Authorised Officer



The foregoing byelaws are hereby )  
confirmed by the Secretary )  
of State for Social Services on )  
and shall )  
come into operation on )

Assistant Secretary  
Department of Health  
and Social Security.



Notes not forming part of the Byelaws

Section 19 of the Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1981 includes the following provisions -

- A. The occupier of premises registered under this section shall keep prominently displayed in the premises a copy of these bye-laws and of the certificate of registration of the premises.
- B. Nothing in these bye-laws shall extend to the practice of acupuncture by or under the supervision of a registered medical practitioner or to the practice of acupuncture by a dentist registered under the Dentists Act 1957 or to premises on which the practice of acupuncture is carried on by or under the supervision of a registered medical practitioner or on which the practice of acupuncture is carried on by or under the supervision of a dentist registered as aforesaid.
- C. Any person who offends against any of these bye-laws shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £50. If the convicted person is registered under this section the Court may, instead of, or in addition to, imposing a fine, order the suspension or cancellation of his/her registration and of the registration of the premises in which the offence was committed if they are occupied by him/her.

