

By email

11<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Kieran Gordon Assistant Director of Health Leisure and Well Being Mid Ulster District Council Circular Road Dungannon BT71 6DT

Dear Mr Gordon,

## **RE: REGULATION OF COSMETIC TREATMENTS IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

The popularity of aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic treatments has grown rapidly in recent years, with new non-surgical cosmetic procedures continually emerging on the market. The existing legislation available to Environmental Health Officers in Northern Ireland to regulate this sector however is considered no longer fit for purpose.

The introduction of a national licensing scheme to govern the oversight of advanced aesthetic non-surgical cosmetic treatments was one of seventeen recommendations made by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Beauty, Aesthetics and Wellbeing following their Inquiry into advanced aesthetic nonsurgical cosmetic treatments.

The UK Government have recently agreed to amend the Health and Care Bill in England to introduce a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures to better regulate the cosmetic industry in England.

The Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG) is seeking the support of Mid Ulster District Council on this issue and is requesting consideration be given to writing to the Health Minster to request better regulation of cosmetic treatments in Northern Ireland, along with the introduction of a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures.

Yours sincerely

Shanon Mr Afee

## **Sharon McAfee**

Chair of Local Authority Health and Safety Liaison Group (HSLG)



Mr Robin Swann MLA Health Minister Department of Health Castle Buildings Stormont Belfast Northern Ireland BT4 3SQ

Dear Mr Swann,

## Re: The Regulation of Cosmetic Treatments in Northern Ireland

Due to the continuing popularity and rapid growth of new non-surgical cosmetic procedures that are emerging onto the market, Mid Ulster District Council wishes to highlight its concern regarding the increased risk to public health arising from these substantially unregulated procedures.

Elected Members are aware and concerned that the existing legislative framework available to environmental health departments across Northern Ireland is no longer fit for purpose and does not provide the necessary regulatory toolkit in which to address this area of public health concern.

It is notable that due to the significant rise in the number and type of non-surgical aesthetic procedures available, the UK Government have agreed to amend the Health and Care Bill in England to introduce a licensing scheme for non-surgical cosmetic procedures, to better regulate the cosmetic industry in England.

Whilst it is acknowledged that our environmental health officers currently engage with relevant businesses and utilise existing health and safety legislation and local bye-laws, Council would welcome better regulation of cosmetic treatments and the introduction of a licensing scheme as it is essential to adequately protecting the public's health.

Mid Ulster District Council therefore respectfully requests that your Department gives serious consideration to remedying this legislative shortfall within Northern Ireland.

Thank you in anticipation of your assistance in this matter

Yours sincerely

Ryan Black Strategic Director for Communities and Place, on behalf of Mid Ulster District Council

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