



The Rt Hon Kwasi Kwarteng MP
Minister of State
Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
1 Victoria Street
London
SW1H 0ET

15 June 2020

Dear Minister,

Guidance on aesthetics treatments in medical practices

Thank you for your recent correspondence about the need to support the hair, beauty, spa and wellness industry through the Covid-19 crisis and the reopening phase.

It is good to hear that the consultation process is ongoing to develop guidance on reopening the industry, and we appreciate your officials inviting those representatives of mobile workers and spa and wellness facilities we suggested to take part.

However, we remain extremely concerned about **reports of botox and other aesthetics treatments taking place during lockdown, particularly by medical practitioners exploiting a loophole in the guidance that medical services can reopen**, while the Government has made clear that the beauty industry should remain closed at this stage.

The guidance on [Closing certain businesses and venues in England](#) gives an exemption for “other medical or health services” and only states that “services which involve healthcare need to take into account any advice or guidance issued by... the relevant professional body”.

The loophole created by this lack of clarity has led some aesthetics practices to flout the rules and prematurely offer treatments, many of whom are acting on the misguided advice of professional bodies.

We were disappointed by your response to our previous letter that “This Department is not responsible for enforcing the closure of business, and I would suggest that concerned people contact local enforcement teams, such as Trading Standards”.

Carrying out aesthetics treatments in lockdown clearly goes against Government advice and this guidance must urgently be updated to end all ambiguity. This not only presents a serious public health and safety risk to practitioners and customers, but also undermines responsible operators who rightfully remain closed, and risks harming consumer confidence as the beauty industry looks to reopen.



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It is also crucial that the forthcoming Government guidance for industry reopening sets out clear and consistent rules that everyone must abide by, whether a practitioner operating in a salon, an aesthetics clinic, a medical practice, or as a mobile worker.

We would appreciate a meeting with you as a matter of urgency to discuss this issue further.

We look forward to receiving your response.

Best regards,

Carolyn Harris MP and Judith Cummins MP

Co-Chairs of the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Beauty, Aesthetics and Wellbeing