

Guidance on cleanliness - Hairdressers and Barbers

General

All hairdressing premises and barbers are required to be registered with Oldham Council under the *Greater Manchester Act 1981*. This is a free one off registration (see Guidance on Registration for more information on how to register).

The advice contained in this fact sheet provides 'best practice' guidance for hairdressers and barbers within the borough. When a health and safety inspector visits your business premises, he or she will expect to see that the following criteria with regards to **cleanliness** have been met.

Please note that this is not statutory guidance. It does not replace any legislation or any statutory guidance.

Cleanliness of the premises

In order to ensure cleanliness of premises:

- All internal walls, partitions and ceilings should be kept clean and in good repair, and should be capable of being easily cleaned
- The floor should be kept clean and in good repair and should be capable of being easily cleaned
- All hair clippings and other materials should be swept from the floor and placed in a covered bin which should be emptied at least on a daily basis
- The chairs or seats and any tables, shelves, cabinets and washbasins should be kept clean and in good repair

Cleanliness of equipment

In order to ensure the cleanliness of any equipment:

- Every hairbrush, comb or similar instrument or any metal instrument which is likely to come into contact with a customer and which is used on the premises should be sterilized or otherwise thoroughly cleansed at least once a day
- In addition these instruments should be cleaned before use on each customer
- A fresh supply of water is required for shampooing etc purposes
- Where shaving is carried on, a fresh supply of water should be provided and any razors, brushes, soap etc thoroughly rinsed and/or cleaned immediately before and after use
- Any overall or gown provided for customers should be kept clean
- Any covering placed on the back of chairs, or any towel or cloth, or any article which comes into contact with or is applied to the face, head or neck should be kept in a clean condition and

should not have been used for another customer unless it has been thoroughly cleaned or is of a disposable type

- Adequate facilities for cleaning or laundering should be available

Cleanliness of the operator

- Every person engaged in hairdressing must keep their hands and clothes in a clean condition.
- Sufficient washing facilities must be provided for staff.
- Overalls (if worn) should be kept clean.
- Any open sores, boils, etc on an exposed part of the body must be kept covered by an impermeable dressing whilst dealing with customers.

Further information

For further information on meeting your legal obligations with regards to health and safety please contact:

In person or in writing: Economy, Place and Skills Directorate
Environmental Health & Registrars
Chadderton Town Hall
Middleton Road
Chadderton
Oldham
OL9 6PP

By Phone: 0161 770 2244
By Fax: 0161 770 4500
Email: environmentalhealth@oldham.gov.uk