

THE STATES OF DELIBERATION
of the
ISLAND OF GUERNSEY

**THE TATTOOING, PIERCING, ACUPUNCTURE AND ELECTROLYSIS (GUERNSEY AND
ALDERNEY) (AMENDMENT) ORDINANCE, 2026**

The States are asked to decide:-

Whether they are of the opinion to approve the draft Ordinance entitled "The Tattooing, Piercing, Acupuncture and Electrolysis (Guernsey and Alderney) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026" and to direct that the same shall have effect as an Ordinance of the States.

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

This Ordinance amends the Tattooing, Piercing, Acupuncture and Electrolysis (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2000 to permit registered persons to carry out specified types of non-intimate body-piercing on 16 and 17 year olds with the written consent of the young person's parent or guardian, and confers power on Committee for Health & Social Care to vary by way of regulation those age-limits, those categories of piercings, and the conditions in which the piercings may be carried out.

The Tattooing, Piercing, Acupuncture and Electrolysis (Guernsey and Alderney) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026

THE STATES, in pursuance of their Resolution of the 27th February, 2026^a, and in exercise of the powers conferred on them by section 123 of the Children (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2008^b, and all other powers enabling them in that behalf, hereby order:-

Amendment of the Law.

1. (1) The Tattooing, Piercing, Acupuncture and Electrolysis (Guernsey and Alderney) Law, 2000^c is amended as follows.

(2) In section 1(3), insert the following definitions in the appropriate alphabetical order –

""**cartilage piercing**"" means piercing of cartilage tissue, including but not limited to helix, conch, daith, tragus, and septum,"

""**lip piercing**"" means piercing of the lip area, excluding wholly inner-mouth piercing,"

^a Article VI of Billet d'État No. III of 2026.

^b Order in Council No. XIV of 2009; this enactment has been amended.

^c Order in Council No. V of 2000; this enactment has been amended.

""**non-intimate piercing**" means body piercing performed other than in or around the genital area, nipples or inner-mouth (including tongue or cheek piercing),",

""**stretchers and flesh tunnels**" means body modification jewellery designed to expand or maintain an enlarged piercing hole, typically in the ear or other body part,",

""**surface piercing**" means body piercing performed on a flat area of skin using specialist jewellery including, but not limited to, surface bars or dermal anchors,".

(3) In section 8, for subsection (2) substitute the following subsection -

"(2) A person shall not carry out any operation of or involving body piercing on a person who is under the age of 18 years unless the person carrying out the operation is registered under this Law in respect of body piercing, and -

(a) the operation involves only non-intimate piercing, including cartilage piercing and lip piercing but excluding surface piercings, stretchers and flesh tunnels, on a person of 16 or 17 years of age, and

(b) the operation is carried out with the prior written consent of a parent or guardian of, or

other person who has parental responsibility in respect of, the young person concerned."

(4) At the end of section 8, insert -

"(4) The Committee may by regulation amend subsection (2) for the purpose of varying -

- (a) the age limits specified therein,
- (b) the categories of permitted piercings,
- (c) the conditions under which such piercings may be carried out."

Citation.

2. This Ordinance may be cited as the Tattooing, Piercing, Acupuncture and Electrolysis (Guernsey and Alderney) (Amendment) Ordinance, 2026.

Commencement.

3. This Ordinance shall come into force on the 1st December, 2026.