



The Tattoo Hygiene Rating Scheme (THRS)

Rules of the scheme

1. All operators of premises offering tattooing within Gloucester City Council's administrative area shall be eligible to apply to participate in the THRS. Application to join the scheme constitutes acceptance of the rules of the scheme.
2. Irrespective of any other services offered at the premises, the THRS shall apply to the tattooing procedure only.
3. Tattooing premises will be rated by the inspecting officer in accordance with the rating scheme following a programmed or initial inspection carried out under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 (hereinafter called 'the Act').
4. Where the inspecting officer requires remedial works or action to be taken in consequence of conditions found at the time of the initial inspection, at the request of the operator, the rating may be deferred to allow the works or action to be undertaken and the premises shall be rated upon the completion of the works.
5. Upon the THRS rating being awarded, Gloucester City Council shall give the operator of the premises a THRS Certificate indicating the date of the rating inspection and the rating awarded, and a THRS self clinging window sticker indicating the rating awarded. The operator of the premises may display the certificate within the premises to which it relates and may display the window sticker in a prominent position on a window, door or other entry to the premises to which it relates where it will be readily seen by potential purchasers.
6. The THRS certificate and THRS window sticker remain the property of Gloucester City Council and must be returned by the premises operator to Gloucester City Council on demand.
7. A list of all premises having a rating awarded under the THRS will be maintained on the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health Cymru Wales Region website www.cieh-cymruwales.org
8. Gloucester City Council may display the rating of tattoo premises within Gloucester City Council's area on its website and may, at their discretion, provide a link to the CIEH Cymru Wales website from their own website.
9. Operators of premises with a THRS rating may refer to or display their current rating on advertising material and websites should they wish to do so.

10. Where an operator of premises displays a THRS certificate or sticker that is no longer valid through its being superseded or claims in any advertising material display or manner to be the holder of a THRS rating that is incorrect or makes any claim with regard to the scheme that is misleading in any material particular, he shall be liable to prosecution under the Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008.
11. Operators of premises holding current THRS rating may apply to be re-rated but may not do so until three months after the most recent inspection under the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 inspection and THRS rating visit has elapsed.
12. Operators of premises may ask Gloucester City Council to re-rate their premises where they are of the view that the rating currently awarded to the premises no longer reflects the conditions existing there. Gloucester City Council may not re-rate a premises within three months of a rating visit carried out contemporaneously with a programmed (or initial) inspection carried out under the Act and may at its discretion decline to re-rate a premises where the request to re-rate is received within two months of a programmed inspection under the Act being due.
13. Where an operator of premises is aggrieved by the tattoo hygiene rating awarded to his premises, he may appeal to Gloucester City Council. The grounds under which an appeal may be made are:
 - a. That the rating allocated to the premises does not properly reflect conditions existing within it at the time of the rating visit, OR
 - b. That the rating criteria were incorrectly applied.
14. The appeal must be made in writing within 28 days of the notification of the THRS rating and must state the grounds upon which the appeal is founded. The appeal shall be determined in accordance with Gloucester City Council's appeal mechanism which will be communicated to the operator at the same time as the THRS rating is communicated, and the determination shall be binding on both parties.

Gloucester City Council's Appeal Mechanism:

Appeals must be made in writing within 28 days of notification of the THRS rating and must state the grounds upon which the appeal is founded. Appeals must be made to Edward Pomfret, Health, Partnerships and Engagement Manager, Public Protection, Gloucester City Council, Herbert Warehouse, The Docks, Gloucester, GL1 2EQ. The decision of the appeal will be binding on both parties. There is no mechanism for further appeal.

Fees and inspection frequencies:

Premises under the scheme will be inspected annually.

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| Application and initial inspection | £100 |
| Level 2 Health and Safety in the Workplace course | £50 per person |
| Request for a revisit to re-score | £50 |
| Annual inspection | £100 |

Withdrawal from the scheme:

Where an operator wishes to withdraw from the scheme they must write to Gloucester City Council advising of their intention to withdraw. On withdrawal from the scheme, the operator should return the certificate and window sticker and Gloucester City Council will remove the details from the database and website.