



Supporting the hair, beauty
and barbering industries

Fiona Hyslop MSP
Cabinet Secretary for Economy, Fair Work and Culture
scottish.ministers@gov.scot

17 June 2020

Dear Ms Hyslop

Further to my letter of 14 May, I am writing to stress the urgent need for the Scottish Government to publish formal guidance regarding close proximity services.

As you will know, the National Hair & Beauty Federation has been proactive in communicating the latest advice and information from Central Government and the devolved nations to our members and the wider industry.

We have liaised with officials within your department on Scotland's own guidance as well as being a significant contributor to England's draft guidelines on 'Working Safely Guidance - Close Contact Services including Hair and Beauty'. Despite a real sense of progress some weeks ago, the sector still awaits formal guidance.

There is growing frustration at the continued delay in publishing guidelines, preventing hair salons, beauty salons and barbershops from being able to fully prepare their businesses, staff and clients for reopening.

As previously mentioned, I have written to you previously about the urgent need for guidance on PPE in particular. Salons and barbershops have been unable to trade for months, so if they are to make a financial investment in PPE, they need to be confident that they are buying the right materials and they need sufficient time to source supplies.

We recognise that the next review regarding moving to the next stage of recovery in Scotland is not due until 9 July, however businesses need adequate time - ideally a minimum of two weeks - to redesign their premises, train staff, ensure they have suitable PPE, communicate with clients regarding operational changes, implement adequate hygiene standards, and come to terms with the changes necessary to ensure the safety of themselves and their clients.

We therefore urge you to publish the guidance without any further delay. We are available to provide any support necessary in order to ensure this outcome.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Victoria Brownlie', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Victoria Brownlie
Director of Policy and Public Affairs
National Hair & Beauty Federation