

10/03/2026

NN-ICB/26-1522

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 23 February 2026, regarding NHS funding criteria for bariatric surgery. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we do hold the information requested.

Please find below our response to your request:

1. Do you routinely fund, or provide criteria-based access to funding for, bariatric surgery for obesity?

Yes.

2. If you do provide criteria-based access, please provide details of the criteria (for example BMI thresholds, comorbidities, requirements for prior lifestyle interventions etc), or tell me where this information can be found.

Please see details required at the link, here: [Bariatric surgery \(weight loss\) | University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS](#). The ICB does not have a policy for bariatric surgery. All Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB patients requiring bariatric surgery are referred to University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust for their treatment, and as such, the ICB uses their criteria as set out below.

Criteria 1:

BMI > 40 (or appropriate ethnic adjustment — see note 1 below)

AND

b) Type 2 diabetes with

AND

c) either one of the following

- Inadequate Control (HBA1c >64mmol/mol) on maximal oral therapy
- Presence of nephropathy (eGFR <45 OR Albumin:Creatinine ratio >10mg/mmol)
- Metabolic dysfunction associated Steatohepatitis (MASH - aka as NASH)
- Onset of diabetes under the age of 40yrs old
- Insulin resistance (>2units/kg/day).

Criteria 2:

a) Patient with BMI >35 kg/m² (or appropriate ethnic adjustment — see note 1 below)
AND

b) Requiring time-sensitive surgery/procedure:

e.g. Organ transplant, arthroplasty because of immobility, spinal surgery, cardiac surgery, cancer surgery, limb or sight saving surgery, abdominal wall hernia repair, fertility treatment

(N.B. this list is not restrictive and subject to discretion of MDT team)

Please specify and supply supporting documentation.

Criteria 3:

a) BMI >40 kg/m² (or appropriate ethnic adjustment — see note 1 below)
AND

b) at least two of the following significant comorbidities:

- BMI >50 kg/m²
- Sleep apnoea requiring CPAP
- Systolic or diastolic cardiac dysfunction (i.e. Heart failure)
- Resistant hypertension (3 or more blood pressure tablets)
- Idiopathic intracranial hypertension
- Metabolic dysfunction associated Steatohepatitis (MASH - aka as NASH)
- Atrial fibrillation.

Criteria 4:

Any rare or monogenic condition where bariatric surgery or drug intervention has been shown to provide significant clinical benefit. NB. these will be assessed on an individual basis.

Please specify and provide supporting documentation.

Note 1:

People with a South Asian, Chinese, other Asian, Middle Eastern, Black African, or African-Caribbean family background please lower BMI thresholds by 2.5 kg/m².

3. If you provide either criteria-based access or routine funding, which bariatric procedures are funded (for example sleeve gastrectomy, gastric bypass, gastric banding, other procedures)?

The bariatric procedures funded are:

- Complex surgical procedures for obesity
- Major surgical procedures for obesity
- Sleeve gastrectomy for obesity
- Gastric band procedures for obesity
- Adjustment of gastric band for obesity.

4. If you provide criteria-based funding, is any form of prior approval or Individual Funding Request (IFR) required before listing the patient?

No.

5. How long has the current bariatric surgery policy been in place, and are there any planned or pending changes to this policy?

Please see response to Question 2.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Director of Corporate Governance and Assurance via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.