

02/04/2026

NN-ICB/26-1539

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 10 March 2026, regarding NHS funding criteria for weight-loss drugs. 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.

Details of your request:

Regarding NHS funding criteria for Weight-loss drugs (GLP-1 / dual agonists), for each of the questions below please provide any relevant policies and information, including how long the policy has been in place and/or if a policy is being planned, considered, or is potentially changing in the future:

1. Do you either routinely fund, or provide criteria-based access to funding for, weight-loss medications such as GLP-1 receptor agonists or dual GIP/GLP-1 agonists (for example semaglutide, tirzepatide) when used specifically for weight management/obesity?

Yes.

2. If you do provide criteria-based access, please provide details of the criteria (for example BMI thresholds, presence of weight-related comorbidities, requirement for participation in a structured weight-management programme), or tell me where this information can be found.

Primary Care Weight Management Services is based on the [NHSE commissioning guidance - PRN01879-interim-commissioning-guidance-implementation-of-the-nice-technology-appraisal-ta1026-and-the-NICE-fu.pdf](#).

Access to Specialist Weight Management Services –

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, is this only for patients with obesity and comorbidities, or is access provided more widely (for example overweight with high-risk features)?

Access is for obesity only.

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

No.

5. How long has the current policy on pharmacological weight-loss treatment been in place, and are there any planned or pending changes to this policy (for example in response to new national guidance on specific drugs such as tirzepatide)?

The current version of the Overweight, Obesity and Weight-Loss Services Policy has been in place since June 2025, and is scheduled to be reviewed by June 2026.

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.