



Obesity Health Alliance Secretariat
Wells Lawrence House
126 Back Church Lane
London
E1 1FH

The Rt Hon. Wes Streeting MP
Secretary of State for Health & Social Care
Department of Health and Social Care,
39 Victoria Street,
London
SW1H 0EU

16th October 2024

To the Secretary of State for Health & Social Care,

We are writing to you as healthcare professionals supporting people living with excess weight to ask for your support in improving the delivery of treatment services for overweight and obesity in England.

Treatments to support people to reach and maintain a healthy weight can be positively life-changing. There is huge potential for these services to improve people's health, prevent the development of serious health conditions, reduce devastating health inequalities and represent long-term savings to the health system. For many people, these treatments can radically improve people's quality of life and support people returning to or staying in the workforce.

However, these services have faced serious long-term issues. These include chronic funding and workforce challenges, unequal access to services across the country and a disjointed patient pathway that makes it difficult for people to get the patient-centred care that they vitally need.

New pharmaceutical treatments have resulted in unprecedented public demand for treatment services and added enormous pressure on already stretched commissioning structures. This has made action to address longstanding issues across the entire scope of treatment services an immediate priority.

Today, the Obesity Health Alliance (which represents 60 leading health charities, medical royal colleges and campaign groups) has launched a new position statement laying out tangible recommendations to begin to address these major challenges and improve the delivery of effective overweight and obesity management services in England.

Our vision is for a fully resourced system that delivers equitable access to appropriate, tailored and sustained support services to people living with overweight and obesity. This means guaranteeing a consistent, equitable and evidence-informed treatment pathway based on individual needs, providing appropriate person-centred support for all, in a non-stigmatising way.

These measures go hand-in-hand with the very welcome steps you have announced to prevent the development of obesity in the first place. By addressing the needs of people currently living with overweight and obesity, we can also maximise the impact of those upstream prevention measures. This is a crucial step in delivering a fundamental shift from ill-health to prevention.

We strongly urge you to take forward the recommendations made in this position statement¹.

Yours Sincerely,



Katharine Jenner RNutr, Director, Obesity Health Alliance

Prof Ketan Dhatariya, Chair, Association of British Clinical Diabetologists

Professor James Byrne, BOMSS, President

Professor Jonathan Pinkney, Professor of Endocrinology Peninsula Medical School University of Plymouth, Honorary Consultant in Endocrinology and Weight Management University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust

Professor JS Bamrah CBE

Dr A McGuinness MB BCH FRCEM EM consultant

Dr Abayomi Ajigini, Locum GP

Dr Adrian Park, Consultant Bariatric Physician, Addenbrooke's Hospital

Dr Akpevwoghene Orlu, Member of Society of lifestyle medicine of Nigeria

Dr Alan McCubbin, GP and Chair Newcastle and North Tyneside LMC

Dr Alexandros Bardis, Clinical Psychologist, Weight Management Team, North Bristol NHS Trust

Dr Amanda Stride, Consultant Physician (Diabetes and Weight Management), Torbay and South Devon NHS Foundation Trust.

Dr Anil Jain, Chair Asian Cancer Support Group and Consultant Radiologist

Dr Anirudh Kumar, ST5 Specialty Registrar, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Anja Steiner, Clinical Psychologist in Clinical Health Psychology Services, North Staffordshire Combined Healthcare and University Hospital North Midlands

Dr Anjali Zalin, Consultant Physician

Dr Annabelle Westwick-Paine, Paediatric Doctor

Dr Ashley Retchless, GP

Dr Benjamin Perry, Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry, University of Birmingham

Dr Biswa Mishra, Consultant Endocrinologist, Royal Oldham Hospital, NCA NHS Foundation Trust

Dr Brendan Davies, Consultant Neurologist & Clinical lead for Headache Services Midlands Regional headache clinic, University Hospital of North Midlands

Dr Carly Anna Hughes, Fakenham Medical Practice

Dr Chang-Sun Park, GP, Kings College Health Centre

Dr David Cummins, GP, Northumbria Primary Care

Dr Dolly Sud, Postdoctoral Clinical Academic Pharmacist

Dr Elizabeth Shackleton-Swain

Dr Emma Patten, Clinical Psychologist, East London Foundation Trust

Dr Gary Heron

¹ [Obesity Health Alliance Treatment of Overweight and Obesity Position Statement & Evidence Review](#)

Dr Ioana Pereni MD, PhD, FRCOphth, PGCert Med Sc
Dr Isabelle Douek, Consultant in Diabetes and Weight Management
Dr Jalini Joharatnam
Dr Janine Makaronidis, Consultant in Diabetes and Obesity, Barts Health NHS Trust
Dr Joyce Leeson, retired Medical Officer of Health
Dr Karen Coulman, Research Fellow and Obesity Specialist Dietitian, University of Bristol
Dr Karl Roberts, GP and North Central London ICB (Islington) 'Live Well' Clinical Lead
Dr Katie Coleman, GP The City Road medical centre
Dr Kim Pramanik MBChB (Hons), MRCPI, PGCert Ana Sci (Dis), MAcadMED, AMBCS, Histopathology
Resident doctor, Sheffield Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Laura Falvey - Executive Clinical Director (Reset Health & Roczen)
Dr Lesley Leeds, Principal Clinical Psychologist, BCUHB
Dr Lindsay Reyner
Dr L-J Evans
Dr Louisa Herring, Physical Activity, Research and Implementation Lead Research Associate, Leicester
Diabetes Centre
Dr Madhvi Joshi GP with special interest in weight management
Dr Mahesh Sathiavageeswaran
Dr Martha Ford-Adams , Consultant Paediatrician, Lead for Complications of Excess weight service
and Adolescent Bariatric Surgery
Dr Matilda Beckley, Consultant Gastroenterologist, GEH
Dr Mau-Don Phan, Consultant Clinical Oncologist, Swansea Bay UHB
Dr Mayank Patel, Consultant in Diabetes, University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Michael Mulholland, Honorary Secretary, Royal College of General Practitioners
Dr Pam Coipel Salaried GP Thornfield Medical Group
Dr Paul Evans
Dr Peter Barrie, Associate Specialist in Diabetes, Elsie Bertram Diabetic Centre, Norfolk and Norwich
Hospital
Dr R Aynsley
Dr Rajshekhar N Mudaliar, Consultant Endocrinologist, Northern Care Alliance SCO.
Dr Rhodri King, Endocrinology Consultant, Clinical Lead for weight management services, Somerset
NHS Foundation Trust
Dr Rob Andrews, Consultant at Somerset NHS Trust
Dr Ryan Prince
Dr Shan Hussain, GP, Notts
Dr Sukhpal S. Gill, General Practitioner
Dr Tal Ellenbogen, Trauma and Orthopaedics Core Surgical Trainee, Nottingham University Hospitals
NHS Trust
Dr Virginia Hill, Consultant Dermatologist, Oakwood Dermatology
Dr Yasmin Zaidy
Dr. Mark Burns, consultant paediatrician, South Tees Hospitals NHS foundation Trust
Duwarakan Satchithananda, consultant community cardiologist, midlands partnership foundation
Abdullah Alwanyan, Future Bariatric Surgery Fellow, Ministry of Education
Adam Hollens, Bariatric Dietitian, East Midlands Bariatric & Metabolic Institute
Ahmed R Ahmed, British Obesity and Metabolic Surgery Society
Alan Osborne, NHS Bariatric Surgeon
Alex Miras, Professor of Endocrinology, Ulster University
Alex Sandercock, Lead Bariatric Dietitian, Musgrove Park Hospital Taunton
Amina Khanam, Barts Health NHS Trust
Amy Dermody Specialist Bariatric Dietitian Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Amy Pearce, CBT Therapist, Tier 3 Weight Management programme facilitator. NHS
Ana Calvao Ramos, Highly Specialised Senior Paediatric Dietitian, The Evelina Children's Hospital part of Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London
Anastasia Patterson, Assistant Psychologist, Bucks Talking Therapies
Andrea Pucci Bariatric Physician at UCLH
Andrew Robertson, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, Clinical Department of Surgery, University of Edinburgh
Anne Wheeler RD. Bariatric dietitian.
Anneka Lewis-Smith Bariatric Surgery Dietitian
Arun Ariyathenam, Consultant Oesophago-gastric Surgeon, University Hospitals Plymouth
Babatunde Onafujabi, General practitioner
Beth Greenslade, Lead Dietitian, Verve Health Group
Blazej Rybinski, Specialty Registrar Upper GI and Bariatrics, Musgrove Park Hospital
Carmen Pinto, Consultant Child & Adolescent Psychiatrist, South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation TrustLAM
Caroline McLaurin, Senior Dietitian of people with learning disabilities, Surrey and Borders Partnership
Carrie Miller, Paediatric Complications of Excess Weight Dietitian, University Hospital Southampton NHS
Cathryn Ruddock GP and Associate Dean Norfolk & Waveney
Charlene Giovanelli-Nicolson, PCN Dietitian, UEA Medical Centre
Cheryl Fox, Community Connector - Support Staffordshire
Claire Birch, LD&A Dietitian, Coventry & Warwickshire Partnership Trust
Claire Paice Bariatric Clinical Nurse Specialist, University Hospital Plymouth NHS Trust
Nuala Davison
Covenant Femi-Ojelabi, Weight Management and Bariatric Surgery Dietitian, Somerset NHS Foundation Trust
Craig Dunlop, Dietetics student, Leeds Beckett University, Health coach, Liva Health
Cynthia-Michelle Borg, Upper GI and Bariatric Surgery Consultant, LGT, London
David Ashman, Cardiac Cath Lab Manager, NNUH
David Hewin BSc MD FRCS, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon
Debbie Holman, Primary Care Dietitian, Templer Care PCN
Devender Khurana - Consultant Trauma and Orthopaedics, James Paget Hospital NHS Trust
Dimitri Pournaras, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon.
Dimitris Papamargaritis, Associate Professor and Honorary Consultant in Diabetes and Endocrinology
Dorottya Norton, Joint Bariatric AHP Lead and City & Hackney Specialist Adult Weight Management Service Clinical and Service Lead
trust
Edie Russell, Bariatric Dietitian, Homerton University Hospital
Eirini Aritzi-Bariatric and Upper GI Nurse Practitioner-Whittington Health
Elaine Macaninch, Dietitian, NHS
Emma Banham, Specialist Dietitian, Norfolk Community Health & Care NHS Trust
Emma Baty, Highly Specialist Paediatric Dietitian - Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children NHS Foundation Trust
Emma Cooper, Dietitian and Chair of the Forensic Sub-Group of the BDA
Emmy West, Cardiac Dietitian
Esther Walden, Senior clinical adviser (RGN), Diabetes UK
Faye Chorlton, Paediatric Dietitian, University Hospitals of Derby and Burton
Faye Nelthorpe - Lead Cath Lab Physiologist - Norfolk and Norwich Hospital
Feyijimi Falemara MD MRCGP Dip SEM IBLM BSLM, Holderness Health Hedon

Flora Wilcox, Dietitian
Gabby Ramlan, Clinical Lead Dietitian, Bart's Health NHS Trust
Galya Dimitrova Bariatric Nurse Specialist Portsmouth University Hospital
Georgia Sinclair, Clinical Research Nurse, Norfolk & Norwich University Foundation Trust
Grace Taylor, CEW Paediatric Dietitian, Royal Manchester Children's Hospital
Hannah Bone, Registered Dietitian, Nottingham University Hospitals
Heather Browne, specialist bariatric Dietitian
Helen Dady, Highly Specialist Weight Management Dietitian, Croydon Tier 3 Specialist Weight Management Service
Helena Werthern, King's College London (KCL)
Iduna Heinrich, Specialist Mental Health Dietitian, East London Foundation Trust
Irem Deniz Specialist Dietitian, ELFT NHS Trust
Irena Cruickshank, Weight Management Nurse Specialist, Somerset Foundation Trust
Iskandar Idris, consultant bariatric Physician, Royal Derby Hospital
Jamie Kelly, Consultant Surgeon
Jacqueline Critchley, Health & Wellbeing Manager, Newcastle United Foundation
Jacqueline Gandy, Specialist Chronic Kidney Disease Dietitian, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust
Javier Gomez, Consultant Chemical Pathologist, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital
Jayne Burns Specialist Dietitian Eating Disorders
Jennifer Gore, Lead Bariatric Nurse
Jennifer Parkinson. Endocrine Nurse Specialist. Alder Hey Children's NHS Foundation Trust
Jenny Gore, Bariatric Nurse
Jeremy Gilbert, Consultant Nurse in Obesity, Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery, Royal Cornwall Hospital
Judi Earl, Weight Management Dietitian, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust
Julie Deane-Williams, Lead Specialist Dietitian, Berkshire All Age Eating Disorder Service
Kacey Jackson, Trainee Clinical Psychologist, Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust
Kalpana Devalia, Consultant Surgeon, Homerton Hospital
Kamal Mahawar, Bariatric Surgeon
Karen Thomas, British Dietetic Association
Kate Hilton, Specialist Registered Dietitian and Founder of Diets Debunked
Katherine James, anaesthetic registrar, London
Katherine Paterson, Specialist Dietitian, Norfolk & Norwich University, University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Laura Kyte, Primary Care Dietitian, Pinhoe Surgery
Lee Humphreys Consultant Bariatric Surgeon University Hospitals Plymouth
Lesley Rubery RD, Primary Care Network Dietitian. Dudley Group Foundation NHS Trust.
Libby Johnson
Lindes Callejas-Diaz, bariatric specialist pharmacist, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT
Lindsay Parry - Clinical Lead Bariatric Dietitian, University Hospitals Derby and Burton
Lindsey Patel, Specialist Weight Management Dietitian, Manchester University NHS Foundation Trust
Lorraine Hosey, Freelance Dietitian, Raine Marie Nutrition
Louise Clamp, Lead Bariatric & Dietetic Service Dietitian, Spire Southampton Hospital
Louise Jones, Senior Clinical Research Nurse, Norfolk & Norwich University Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
Louise Judd, Registered Dietitian, Essex Partnership University Foundation Trust
Louise Tee, Children's Weight Management Dietitian, Royal Cornwall Hospital NHS Trust
Lucy Kendrick. Advanced Specialist Dietitian, Humber NHS Foundation Trust

Lucy Marquis, Registered Dietitian. Transformation Lead Integrated Care Delivery. Midlands Partnership University NHS Foundation Trust
Lucy Perrow RD, MSc
M.Schofield, Anaesthesia ST7
Marcus Harbord, Consultant Gastroenterologist, Chelsea & Westminster Hospital
Maria Field, Psychological Therapist
Maria Semedo, Bariatric Specialist Nurse, Oaklands Hospital
Marianne Hollyman, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton
Marie-Clare Oliver, Clinical Services Manager. Oviva
Mary O'Kane, Honorary Consultant Dietitian, Leeds Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust
Matt Ryan
Meenakshi Sharma, Psychiatry, Health Education England
Mei-Mei Wright, Bariatric Dietitian, Oxford United Hospital NHS Trust
Michael Metcalfe, Consultant Psychiatrist
Michael Sweeney, Advanced PCN Dietitian, MPFT NHS
Mohammed Zourob, Bariatric fellow, Sunderland Royal Hospital
Mr Alexander Robinson Bariatric Fellow St George's Hospital Tooting
Mr Andrew Mitchell. Consultant Bariatric Surgeon. Darlington
Mr Aruna Munasinghe, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, Bedfordshire Hospitals
Mr Hamish Noble MS FRCS Consultant Surgeon Somerset NHS Trust
Mr Khaleel Fareed (Consultant Bariatric Surgeon). Royal Derby Hospital.
Mr Muhammad Ijlal Haider. Specialist in General and Upper GI Surgery. Wigan Infirmary.
Mr Numan Hamza, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Mr Will Hawkins, Consultant Bariatric & Upper GI surgeon, St Richard's Hospital, University Hospitals Sussex NHS Foundation Trust
Mr Yasser Abdul Aal, Clinical Lead of Bariatric and UGI Unit, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust.
Ms Hiba Shanti, Consultant UGI & Bariatric Surgeon, Kings college hospital
Muwaffaq Telfah, Senior Clinical Fellow, Musgrove Park Hospital - Taunton
Naiara Fernandez-Munoz / Bariatric Advanced Nurse Practitioner
Natalie Woodhead, NHS Obstetrics and Gynaecology Consultant, Birmingham Women's and Children's NHS Foundation Trust
Nicholas Carter, Specialist Laparoscopic Upper Gastrointestinal and Bariatric Surgeon
Nicola Williams, Diabetes Clinical Nurse Specialist, University Hospitals of North Midlands (Royal Stoke)
Nicole Barnes, Learning Disability Dietitian, CLCH
Noor Al-Refae, Senior Strategic Learning Disabilities Dietitian, Leicestershire Partnership Trust
Nunzia Altieri Cardiac Dietitian Imperial College Healthcare NHS Trust
Oliver Old, Consultant Surgeon
Patricia Askew Highly Specialist Dietitian (Oxleas NHS Trust)
Patrick Naughton-Doe, Speciality Doctor in Learning Disability Medicine, Humber Teaching NHS Foundation Trust
Rachael Warren, Senior Community Dietitian, Wiltshire Health and Care
Rachel Nandy, Inpatient Therapy Lead & Specialist Renal Dietitian, Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust
Rebecca Guerin - Specialist Mental Health Dietitian, LYPFT
Rebecca Lawton, Diabetes Specialist Dietitian
Richard Holt, Professor in Diabetes and Endocrinology, University of Southampton
Richard Thompson, Consultant Surgeon. Southern Health and Social Care Trust
Richard Welbourn, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, Musgrove Park Hospital, Taunton, Somerset

Rita Goldsmith Bariatric Dietitian Royal Derby Hospital
Rochelle Blacklock; Clinical Lead Dietitian; King's College Hospital
Rupesh Jha, Vice Clinical Lead; Birmingham and Solihull General Practice Staff and Allies EDI Network, Birmingham and Solihull Integrated Care System
Salman Bodla, ST8 Upper GI Surgery, University Hospitals of North Midlands
Sandra Isibor, GP and trustee at the Association for the Study of Obesity
Sophie Claessens, Primary Care Dietitian, East Trees Health Centre (Bristol GP surgery)
Spyros Panagiotopoulos, Consultant in General & Bariatric/Metabolic Surgery, King's College Hospital
Sushma Kamat, Specialist Mental Health Dietitian, Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust
Tanya Rumney, Professional Lead Dietitian, Countess of Chester Hospital
Theodora Papanikolaou Department of Paediatric Endocrinology, Birmingham Children's Hospital
Toni Russo, Specialist Nurse
Valentina Neroli, Consultant Anaesthetist EKHUFT
Vanessa Osborne, Senior Specialist Dietitian, South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust
Venus Madden CMgr FCMI, Associate Director of Allied Health Professionals, Hampshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Vilasini Bhaskaran, First Contact Dietitian for Obesity, Primary Care Dietitians UK
Vittal Rao, Consultant Bariatric Surgeon, UHNM
Vivienne Love. Specialist Dietitian, Telford and Shrewsbury NHS Trust.
Zainab Azeem, Student dietitian
Zoe Griffiths, Senior Director Behavioral Medicine, Allurion technologies