

Ref. No: 0660
Date: 06/02/24
Subject: Obesity and Weight Management

REQUEST

1. Do you have a Trust-wide obesity and weight management strategy?
 - a. If so, how is this implemented (for example, through delivery of Tier 3 obesity services of the NHS Tiered Care Weight Management Pathway)?
2. Details of staff training to deliver these strategies.
3. Details of any current training for clinical staff in the area of weight discrimination, weight stigma, weight bias and / or obesity awareness.
4. The number of complaints made to the Trust where weight discrimination, bias or stigma was mentioned in the period 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2023.
5. Any planned or current actions in response to the Health and Social Care Committee report on 'The Impact of Body Image of Mental and Physical Health'.

RESPONSE

St Helens and Knowsley Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust and Southport and Ormskirk Hospital NHS Trust became a single legal entity known as Mersey and West Lancashire Teaching Hospitals NHS Trust on 1st July 2023, as such parts of the response may be provided in two sections relating to the hospital sites of each of the legacy organisations.

1. Do you have a Trust-wide obesity and weight management strategy?
 - a. If so, how is this implemented (for example, through delivery of Tier 3 obesity services of the NHS Tiered Care Weight Management Pathway)?

We are commissioned to provide Tier 4 bariatric services to Cumbria, Lancashire, Cheshire and Merseyside. This comprises 4a (medical) & 4b (surgical) etc. We have no in-house Tier 3 service.

2. Details of staff training to deliver these strategies.

We have a full complement of trained bariatric surgeons, a clinical nurse specialist, bariatric dietician, therapist, two psychologists with a special interest in this area, and specialist anaesthetists.

3. Details of any current training for clinical staff in the area of weight discrimination, weight stigma, weight bias and / or obesity awareness.

At the commencement of our Tier 4 service in April 2023 our CNS carried out a comprehensive education programme on bariatric surgery which included addressing weight discrimination and stigmatisation. As a specialist centre we are acutely aware of our responsibility to be advocates for this patient group.

4. The number of complaints made to the Trust where weight discrimination, bias or stigma was mentioned in the period 1st January 2014 to 31st December 2023.

No complaints identified.

5. Any planned or current actions in response to the Health and Social Care Committee report on 'The Impact of Body Image of Mental and Physical Health'.

N/A