

## Leeds Local Medical Committee Ltd

Registered Office: 2 Farrar Lane, Leeds, West Yorkshire, LS16 7AA

Registered in England and Wales – Registered number 7287736

Tel: (0113) 295-1463

email: [mail@leedslmc.org](mailto:mail@leedslmc.org)

website: [www.leedslmc.org](http://www.leedslmc.org)

Twitter: @Leedslmc

---

28<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Sent by email

Dear MP

### **Weight Management Service in Leeds**

I am writing to you on behalf of GPs in Leeds. We are seriously concerned at the decision by Leeds City Council to end the Tier 2<sup>1</sup> Weight Management Service.

Unless patients have diabetes or hypertension, for which a national digital weight management system is an option, there is now no tier 2 weight management service for GPs to refer them to. Moreover, the decision has already had an impact on the Tier 3 Weight Management Service which has paused accepting any further referrals. This is an unacceptable situation for the people of Leeds who need these important services.

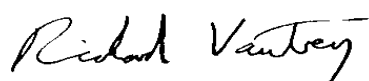
I have attached a copy of our letter to Leeds City Council, WY ICB and NHS England outlining our concerns and a reply we have received from Tom Riordan, Chief Executive of Leeds City Council.

Leeds has made a commitment as a “Marmot City”, central to which is to reduce health inequalities, and yet failing to provide a service to help people reduce their weight will only widen health inequalities further. It will be the poorest who cannot afford to pay for private weight management support who will be impacted the hardest.

We recognise the financial pressures impacting local government. However, obesity currently costs the NHS £6 billion annually, a figure which is expected to rise to over £9.7 billion each year by 2050 if action is not taken. To cut the weight management service in Leeds will not only impact the health of our patients but also increase cost pressures on the NHS in the future.

It is critical therefore that we do all we can now to help our patients who need to lose weight and we would welcome your support to reinstate this essential service.

Best wishes



**Dr Richard Vautrey**

**Assistant Medical Secretary – Leeds Local Medical Committee**

---

<sup>1</sup> Tier 1 covers universal services (such as health promotion or primary care); tier 2 covers lifestyle interventions; tier 3 covers specialist weight management services; and tier 4 covers bariatric surgery.