

Executive Corridor  
Darlington Memorial Hospital  
Hollyhurst Road  
Darlington  
DL3 6HX  
Switchboard Tel: 01325 38 0100  
Foundation Trust Office: 01325 74 3625  
Corporate Records Office: 01325 74 3700

Request for Information Reference: 11.23.86

FOI Direct line: 01325 743700  
Email: [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net)

Email only

18<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Dear

### **Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information**

Thank you for submitting a request for information which we received on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023 in relation to County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (the Trust). Your request has been processed under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and I am now able to provide you with a response.

Your request was in relation to Weight Management Service and I am providing the following information in response to your specific questions:

#### **1. Does your Trust offer a weight management service/support to patients with obesity?**

Yes

##### **a) If yes, please confirm the name and type of each service**

Tier 3 Community Specialist Weight Management Service – Weight and Wellbeing  
Tier 4 Bariatric Services

##### **b) What healthcare professionals are delivering these services and how many (FTE)?**

Tier 3 staffing	1 x 0.5 WTE Band 6 Programme Coordinator
	1 x 1 WTE Band 4 Patient Pathway Coordinator
	2 x 1 WTE Band 6 Adult Obesity Specialists
	1 x 0.6 WTE Band 7 Psychotherapist

1 x 0.5 WTE Band 6 Bariatric Dietician  
1 x 0.6 WTE Band 6 Bariatric Nurse  
6 PA's Consultant Endocrinologist

Tier 4 staffing      Bariatric surgeon x 3  
                            CNS B7 x 1  
                            Dietician B7 x 1  
                            B5 x 2,  
                            33% of band 8 psychologist & band 5 psychology  
                            assistant

**c) If not, which organisation commissions these services for your population?**

Not Applicable

**d) Please list the relevant services provided to your population.**

Non-surgical (Tier 3) and Surgical (Tier 4) interventions for weight management

**e) How many places were commissioned for each service for FY 2023/34?**

Tier 3 – Block contract based on seeing 650 patients per year  
Tier 4 – 200 per annum

**f) How many referrals have been received so far for each service in FY 2023/24?**

Tier 3 – approximately 1800  
Tier 4

The Trust does not centrally record this information and estimates that it would take a significant amount of time to gather the information requested. In order to gather this information it would require a member of staff to manually examine the sets of patient's notes after every Tier 3 MDT. Therefore, we are refusing this section of your request for information pursuant to section 12 of the Act on the grounds that we estimate that the cost of complying with the request would exceed the appropriate limit. The appropriate limit at the present time is £450.00 which equates to eighteen hours of work by a member of staff at the rate of £25 per hour.

**g) How many patients are currently waiting for their first appointment for each of these services?**

Tier 3 – approximately 2500 awaiting their 1<sup>st</sup> appointment with a wait time of approximately 14-16 months  
Tier 4 – approximately 3 months

**h) Which funding pot(s) is used to deliver the weight management services?**

CCG contract

**i) What was the value of the budget for each service in FY 23/24?**

This is not possible to say as it is mixed up with a far larger contract.

**j) Do you anticipate expanding, maintaining or decreasing the current service provision in the next financial year?**

Yes

**k) Are there currently staffing vacancies in these services, if so please provide the title, grade and FTE for each vacancy.**

Tier 3 – 0.4 WTE Band 7 Psychotherapist

**l) Who is the senior person in the Trust who is responsible for commissioning this service?**

Chief Executive

**m) Who is the senior person in the Trust who is responsible for the delivery of this service?**

Chief Executive

**n) If this service is outsourced, who is your provider, and what is the duration and end date of their contract?**

No

In line with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log on the Trust's website. However please be assured that we anonymise all responses prior to adding them to the disclosure log.

I hope that this response has provided you with the information you had requested. If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me by telephone or in writing. If however, you are dissatisfied with the way in which your request has been handled and would like an internal review, you will need to contact me in writing at the above address or via [cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs](mailto:cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs).

If you remain dissatisfied with our response following an internal review you have the right to appeal to The Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. More information is available on their website; [www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).

Yours sincerely

**Corporate Records and Freedom of Information Facilitator**