

16 April 2024

Dear

ATISN 19468 – Weight loss surgeries and approaches

Thank you for your request to the Welsh Government for information which was received on 11 April 2024 which has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act (2000). You requested the following:

1. *How many weight loss surgeries have taken place per year, over the last 5 financial years, broken down by health board.*
2. *What is the average waiting time for weight loss surgery? Split by health board if possible.*
3. *For Saxenda (or similar medication), is this made available by all health boards in Wales?*
 - *What's the average waiting times for first treatment by health board if possible please.*

Our Response

- 1-2 Welsh Government does not hold this Information. We suggest that you contact health boards who may be able to help you. Contact details can be found [here](#)
- 3 Saxenda® and Wegovy® are both routinely available across all health boards in Wales in accordance with NICE guidelines. Both must be prescribed by specialist weight management services.

Supplies of Glucagon-like peptide-1 receptor agonists (GLP1 RAs) have been in short supply across the UK but limited supplies are available to the NHS for prescribing in specialist weight management services.

The Welsh Government does not hold information on waiting times for first treatment. You might wish to seek responses from health boards directly.

Next Steps

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ
or Email: Freedom.ofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely,