

National Obesity Audit: Engaging People and Communities

Themed feedback from the User Panel

June 2022

<p>Access to services and service provision</p>	<p>User Panel (UP) members described access to treatment as a postcode lottery. As well as differing criteria for different services including weight threshold or severity category.</p> <p>Members also described long waiting lists and a lack of personal care plans according to individual needs.</p>
<p>Attitudes towards patients with obesity by health professionals</p>	<p>UP members described inconsistency when seeking healthcare in how their weight was discussed. Either the weight was the focus or it was ignored, meaning other issues were not treated until the weight was reduced, or the focus was on other symptoms.</p> <p>Lack of understanding of issues that people from minority backgrounds encounter was felt to contribute towards low uptake of services or seeking medical intervention.</p>
<p>Treatment offered</p>	<p>UP members described a focus on clinical intervention without psychological or emotional support.</p> <p>Conversely members described not receiving any support at all, not even being aware of weight management services.</p>
<p>Ongoing support</p>	<p>UP members described a lack of follow up support after surgery.</p>