Dear Editor,

Thank you for your consideration of our revised manuscript.

We thank the reviewer for their comments and we agree that long term sustainability of weight loss is an important issue for all behavioural and pharmacological treatments of obesity in order to reap the full health benefits. We have attempted in this revision to strengthen our commentary on this in both the Discussion (P9) and the Conclusion (P13) sections of this manuscript and to be more restrained in our discussion of the health benefits of this weight loss. These changes are highlighted in tracked changes in the attached manuscript.

We apologise for our oversight in not directly answering the reviewer’s earlier question about co-payments. We can confirm that there are no co-payments by patients. The total cost of treatment is covered by the NHS. We have now made this clearer in the MS (page 4).

We believe that the changes we have made answer the reviewer's concerns and that the revised manuscript is strengthened as a result. We look forward to hearing your decision.

Many thanks

Susan Jebb