

# Example letter to patients from GP practice Type 1

<Date>

Private and Confidential

<Patient Name>

<Patient Address>

Dear <Patient Name>

## **Prescribing of Gluten Free foods on prescription**

On 3 December 2025, following a 12-week engagement process, the NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB)\* made the decision to no longer fund Gluten Free bread and mixes prescribing (except for the most at risk of clinical harm by not adhering to a gluten free diet).

Gluten-free prescribing was one of several areas under review by the ICB who are assessing a range of services in relation to organisational priorities, the needs of citizens, clinical outcomes, cost-effectiveness, and the provision of essential services.

The ICB made the decision stating that “in a difficult financial climate we have a responsibility to balance the needs of all our communities and ensure that we are delivering the best possible value for money within the resources available.”

You are currently prescribed Gluten Free bread or flour mixes; these will no longer be available to you on an NHS prescription in line with the new local policy.

Gluten-free foods can be purchased from various sources, such as supermarkets, community pharmacies, or online retailers. Coeliac UK offers a wide range of helpful advice and guidance on their website: [Homepage - Coeliac UK](#)

More information on the decision of NHS South Yorkshire ICB to withdraw prescribing and the engagement process can be found on the ICB website: <https://southyorkshire.icb.nhs.uk/news/board-decision-gluten-free-prescribing>

A set of ‘frequently asked questions’ is available here: [Gluten Free FAQs](#)

If you have any queries or concerns regarding this change, please contact the SY ICB [syicb-sheffield.icbcomplaints@nhs.net](mailto:syicb-sheffield.icbcomplaints@nhs.net).

**Yours sincerely**

\*The NHS South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) is the statutory NHS body responsible for planning, commissioning, and funding NHS services in South Yorkshire