

Behavioural and Environmental Obesogenic Variables in the UK Biobank

We selected 12 measures that predominantly represented diet and activity based measures previously studied in gene x BMI variant publications¹⁻⁷. In addition we selected sun protection use as a negative control. The measures are described in more detail below:

Dietary information

Participants completed a generic diet questionnaire during recruitment and a subset of 46,526 individuals completed up to five 24-hour food frequency questionnaires (FFQ). The FFQ focussed on the consumption of approximately 200 commonly consumed food and drinks (<http://biobank.ctsu.ox.ac.uk/crystal/refer.cgi?id=118240>). For each participant completing the food frequency questionnaire nutrient intakes were estimated by multiplying the quantity consumed by the nutrient composition of the food or beverage, as taken from the UK food composition database⁸. The 46,526 participants with genetic data completing at least one standard (i.e. normal diet) FFQ were included in this study.

Fizzy drink and fried food intake

Fizzy drink consumption was determined from the FFQ and represented number of glasses of fizzy drink consumed on an average day. Fried food intake was determined from the FFQ and combined the reported intake of fried chicken and fried potato.

Percentage fat and protein

Fat and protein (in grams) consumed were taken from the UK Biobank derived nutrients information in the FFQ. The variables were then divided by total energy intake (in KJ).

Western diet

The generic diet questionnaire was used to calculate the average consumption of fruit, vegetables, fish (oily and non-oily), meat (processed, poultry, beef, lamb and pork), cheese, milk, bread, cereal, tea, coffee and water. To condense this information we performed a principal component factor analysis. Seven eigenvalues were greater than 1, factor 1 was considered to represent a “Westernised” diet (this was higher in calories and processed foods), factor 2 representing a prudent diet and factor 3 representing a healthy diet. Here, the “Westernised” diet was investigated further. This information was available for 94,040 individuals of white origin with genetic data available.

Self-reported physical activity

International Physical Activity Questionnaire

The UK Biobank asked a range of questions about physical activity questions to all participants. We derived the total metabolic equivalent of task (MET) minutes of exercise per week (based on the International Physical Activity Questionnaire (IPAQ)) using the IPAQ guidelines⁹.

Sedentary behaviour

The UK Biobank asked all participants about the hours per day they spent a) driving, b) using a computer and c) watching television. These three variables were summed to provide hours per day participants spent sat down. Values greater than 24 hours per day were excluded. Those reporting over 16 hours were recoded to 16 hours. Sedentary time was available for 119,688 individuals with genetic data available.

TV watching

Participants in the UK Biobank were asked to report how many hours they spent watching TV in a typical day.

Vigorous activity

Minutes spent undertaking vigorous activity each week was calculated. A dichotomous vigorous activity variable was also derived denoting participants who performed more than 1 hour of vigorous activity per week or not.

Measured physical activity with accelerometer data

Daily accelerometer data were available for 19,229 individuals of White British origin with genetic data available for a period of 6 days. A variable was derived from this data representing the mean levels of moderate physical activity per day for each individual.

Composite score of the obesogenic environment and behaviour

Physical activity (as measured by IPAQ), sedentary time, TV watching and westernised diet were available in 86,549 individuals with BMI genetic variants available. We did not use other variables as they were only available in smaller numbers. The obesogenic variables were combined using a principal components factor analysis in STATA. Only one factor had

an eigenvalue of greater than one and this was utilised as a composite score of the obesogenic environment.

Sun protection use

All participants in the UK Biobank were asked "Do you wear sun protection (e.g. sunscreen lotion, hat) when you spend time outdoors in the summer?" with the options: Never, Sometimes, Most of the time, Always, Don't go out in the sun, Don't know and Prefer not to answer. We derived a binary variable comparing those who always or usually use sun protection to those who never or occasionally use sun protection.

All the variables were dichotomised (at the median for continuous variables) to investigate the mean BMI in these groups (Supplementary table 8) and interaction was investigated in the same way as for TDI (using continuous variables where possible in the interaction model). Additionally, the correlation of each variable with TDI was determined.

Generating the simulated variable for TDI

In our analysis of gene x environment interactions for TDI the basic starting equation is as follows:

$$(y|C, g, e) = C.c + \alpha g + \beta e + \varepsilon \quad (1)$$

where y is BMI, e is the environmental variable (TDI), g is the BMI genetic risk score and C represents important covariates.

Since g is a genetic risk score for the trait y , α is non-zero but β can be zero. When statistical interaction is tested, the model is changed to

$$(y|C, g, e) = C.c + \alpha g + \beta e + \gamma(g * e) + \varepsilon \quad (2)$$

where $g * e$ refers to the element-wise product of two vectors.

One of the major problems with testing the γ parameter in this model is that if the environmental factor e is correlated with y and g the test may yield spurious or biased interaction coefficients for example due to collider bias or biases well-established in secondary trait analysis.

In our simulation analysis rather than running model (2) alone we also perform the following:

$$(y|C, g, f) = C.c + \alpha g + \beta f + \gamma(g * f) + \tau \quad (3)$$

where f relates to y , g and C marginally as does e and has the same conditional distribution. In other words we create an artificial environmental variable that behaves marginally exactly as the real environmental variable e .

In practice one can simulate f easily by regressing e on $[C, g, y]$ and add the fitted values to a random permutation of the residuals. This ensures that f and e have the same conditional expectations and same residual distributions.

Sensitivity analyses to explore additional factors that could affect gene x obesogenic environment interactions

Evidence of interaction when analysing BMI on the kgm^{-2} scale

Our primary analysis was based on forcing the outcome, BMI, into a normal distribution. We used an inverse normalised distribution because skewed distributions and different variances can inflate effect estimates due to heteroscedasticity. Previous studies have not necessarily accounted for heteroscedasticity. As expected, when analysed on the natural BMI scale (kgm^{-2}), the evidence of interaction was stronger than when using BMI values on the inverse normalised scale, but this increase is likely partly artefactual due to the increased variance in BMI in the group living in more deprived areas (Supplementary Figure 3, Supplementary Table 10).

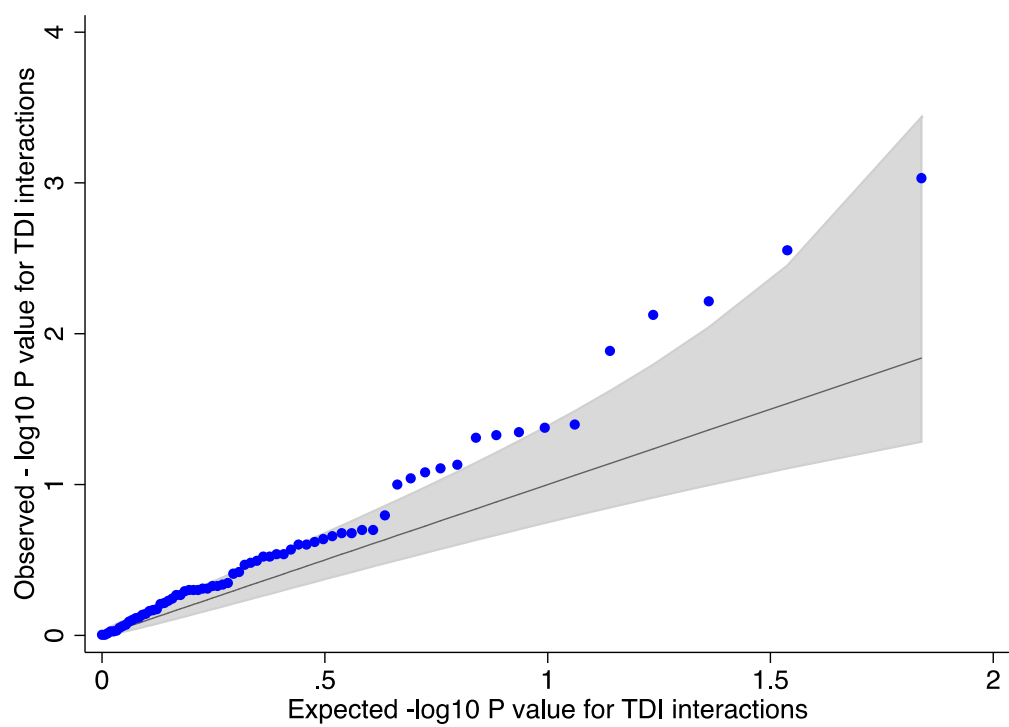
We next tested how the distribution of the environmental interaction term (here TDI) affected the evidence of interaction. Our primary results were based on Townsend deprivation index on its natural scale, which includes a slight right hand skew (Supplementary Figure 2). We therefore tested our results when TDI was inverse normalised. The evidence for interaction remained, with a larger effect of the BMI genetic risk score on BMI for individuals living in more deprived areas (0.025 standard deviations per allele [95%CI: 0.023-0.027]) compared to those in less deprived areas (0.022 [95%CI: 0.020-0.024]) (Table 2), although the statistical confidence was weaker $P_{\text{interaction}} 7 \times 10^{-4}$ ($P_{\text{interaction}} 8 \times 10^{-4}$, using robust standard errors).

We next tested how splitting the sample into two groups with different environmental variability can introduce spurious GxE association. Gene environment interaction studies often stratify the population using a high threshold for the environmental variable. This dichotomisation can artificially reduce the environmental variance in one of the groups and hence seemingly increases the observed genetic effect in that stratum. This problem can be reduced by splitting the sample such that the environmental variability is equal in the two groups. We largely avoided this problem

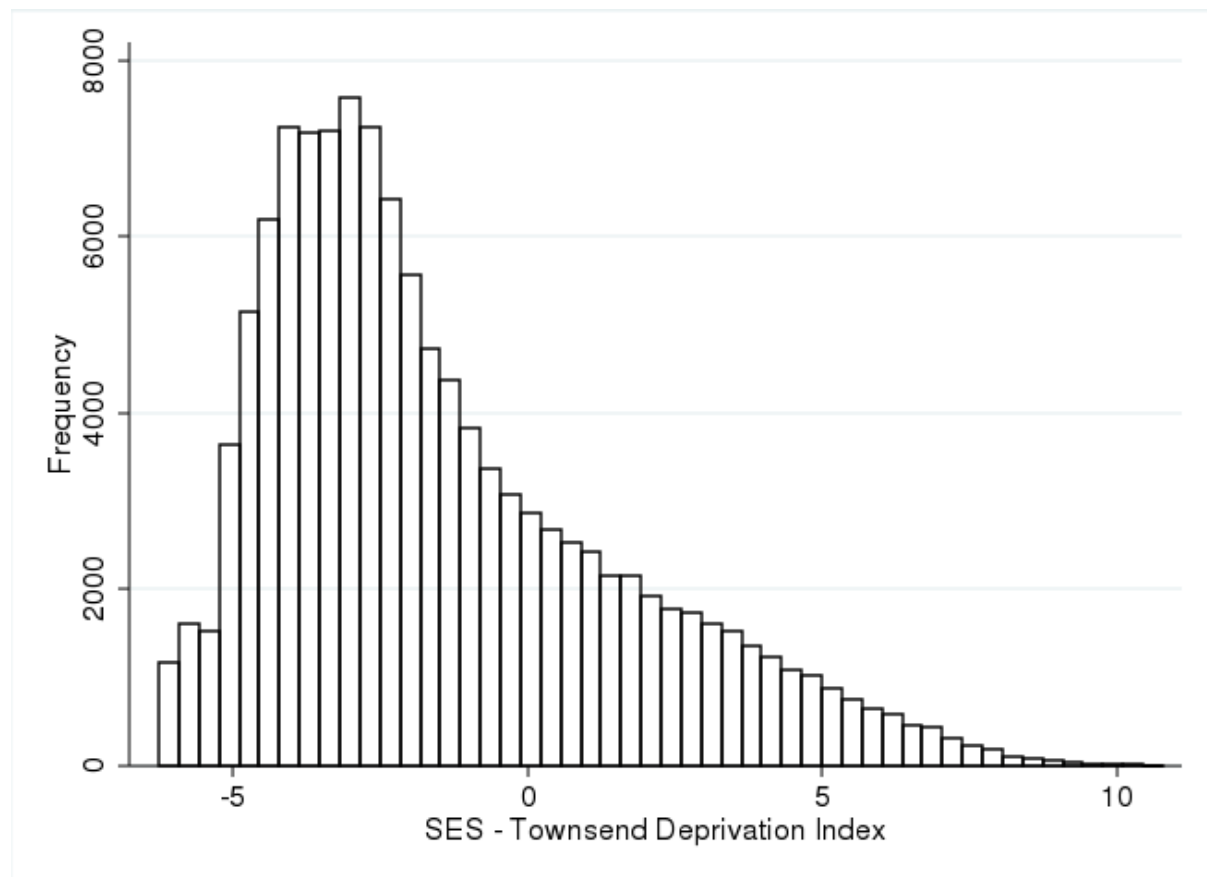
by using a continuous variable as the interaction term but we also tested BMI genetic risk score – BMI associations by dichotomising TDI at different points. We observed similar levels of evidence of interaction when splitting people into a groups based on the 75% most deprived areas and 25% least deprived areas, and vice versa and when splitting 50:50 (Supplementary Table 11).

Finally, we confirmed that the evidence for interaction was similar in both sexes (Supplementary table 12). This analysis was important because the variance in BMI is wider in women, and our previous studies¹⁰ show that BMI is likely to causally influence TDI in women to a greater extent than men.

Supplementary Figure 1: QQ plot showing the observed TDI-BMI genetic interaction p-values from the 69 SNPs against the expected p-values

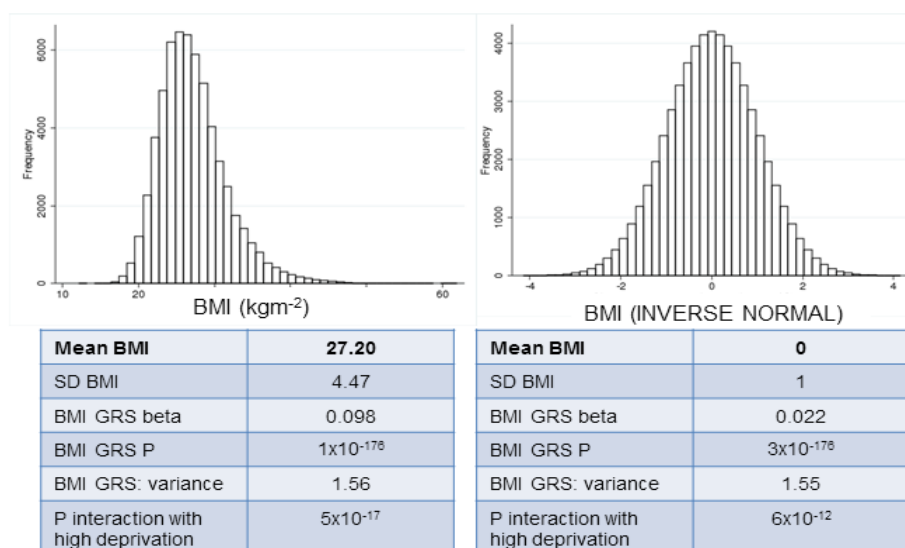


Supplementary Figure 2: Histogram showing the distribution of the Townsend Deprivation Index for the 119,464 individuals in the UK Biobank

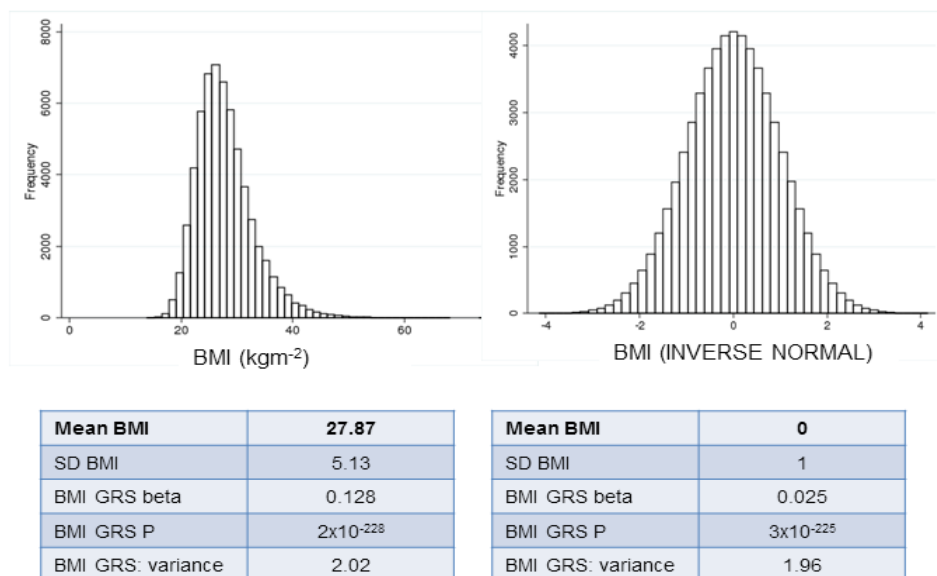


Supplementary Figure 3: Histograms representing the distribution of BMI in high SES and low SES groups. BMI represents raw BMI but effect sizes and p values are based on BMI adjusted for age, sex, ancestry principal components, assessment centre location and genotyping chip. BMI (INVERSE NORMAL) transforms the BMI residual variable to the inverse normal scale with a mean of zero and standard deviation of 1. The BMI GRS variance refers to the variance in BMI explained by the BMI genetic risk score of 69 variants weighted by their effects on BMI.

LOW RISK OBESOGENIC ENVIRONMENT – LOW DEPRIVATION



HIGH RISK OBESOGENIC ENVIRONMENT – HIGH DEPRIVATION



Supplementary table 1: Demographics of the 472,279 individuals in the UK Biobank of white origin with Townsend deprivation index available.

	Most deprived	Least deprived	P*
N	236,036	236,243	
Mean age at recruitment (SD)	56.3 (8.2)	57.3 (7.9)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$
Male, N (%)	107,650 (45.6)	107,408 (45.5)	0.33
Mean Townsend deprivation index (SD)	0.88 (2.52)	-3.76 (0.94)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$
Mean BMI (SD)	27.7 (5.1)	27.1 (4.4)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$
Obese, N (%)	57,643 (24.4)	47,576 (20.1)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$
Current smoker, N (%)	30,276 (12.8)	14,434 (6.1)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$
Type 2 diabetes, N (%)	8,491 (3.6)	6,032 (2.6)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$
Coronary artery disease, N (%)	12,370 (5.2)	8,934 (3.8)	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$

Supplementary Table 2: Differences in BMI by BMI genetic risk score decile (kgm^2) and by allele (inverse normalised scale) for a) Townsend deprivation index split at the median and b) Townsend deprivation index split at the UK average deprivation value. Interaction p-values are calculated using the binary TDI variable for both to enable comparison.

Trait	Obesogenic category	N	BMI (SD)	BMI difference in 10% lowest genetic risk	BMI difference in 10% highest genetic risk	Per-allele Beta	SE	P association	P interaction*	P Interaction Robust**
Townsend Deprivation Index (natural scale)	High SES TDI \leq -2.294	59,872	27.20 (4.47)			0.022	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	4×10^{-6}	5×10^{-6}
	Low SES TDI $>$ -2.294	59,861	27.87 (5.13)	+0.35 kgm^{-2}	+0.92 kgm^{-2}	0.025	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$		
Townsend Deprivation Index (natural scale)	High SES	84,526	27.30 (4.56)			0.022	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	9×10^{-9}	6×10^{-8}
	Low SES	35,357	28.11 (5.37)	+0.42 kgm^{-2}	+1.06 kgm^{-2}	0.027	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$		

Supplementary Table 3: BMI genetic risk score association with BMI for different age groups in the UK Biobank. The interaction effect was then investigated for TDI in the three age groups and the P values for normal and robust models are presented.

Age group	N	Beta for BMI GRS against BMI	SE	P	Variance explained (%)	TDI Pinteraction	TDI Pinteraction robust
40-49	25658	0.028	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	2	9.00E-05	3.00E-04
50-59	40131	0.025	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	1.7	3.00E-05	1.00E-04
60-73	53944	0.020	0.0008	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	1.2	6.00E-04	1.00E-03

Supplementary table 4: Individual SNP associations with BMI in high and low Townsend deprivation index groups

SNP	Obesogenic category	Beta	SE	P association	P interaction	P interaction robust
rs1000940	Low SES	0.001	0.006	0.90	0.10	0.13
	High SES	0.020	0.006	0.002		
rs10132280	Low SES	0.020	0.006	0.002	0.30	0.33
	High SES	0.021	0.006	8×10^{-4}		
rs1016287	Low SES	0.007	0.006	0.30	9×10^{-4}	0.002
	High SES	0.031	0.006	1×10^{-6}		
rs10182181	Low SES	0.035	0.006	2×10^{-9}	0.50	0.53
	High SES	0.032	0.006	3×10^{-8}		
rs10733682	Low SES	0.021	0.006	4×10^{-4}	0.99	0.99
	High SES	0.017	0.006	0.004		
rs10938397	Low SES	0.024	0.006	4×10^{-5}	0.013	0.02
	High SES	0.037	0.006	4×10^{-10}		
rs10968576	Low SES	0.024	0.006	1×10^{-4}	0.49	0.51
	High SES	0.024	0.006	1×10^{-4}		
rs11057405	Low SES	0.031	0.009	8×10^{-4}	0.61	0.63
	High SES	0.030	0.009	0.001		
rs11126666	Low SES	0.001	0.007	0.93	0.89	0.90
	High SES	0.004	0.007	0.53		
rs11165643	Low SES	0.017	0.006	0.003	0.47	0.49
	High SES	0.014	0.006	0.014		
rs11191560	Low SES	0.037	0.011	6×10^{-4}	0.49	0.71
	High SES	0.019	0.011	0.08		
rs11583200	Low SES	0.020	0.006	0.001	0.54	0.56
	High SES	0.017	0.006	0.005		
rs1167827	Low SES	0.019	0.006	0.001	0.93	0.94
	High SES	0.019	0.006	9×10^{-4}		
rs11688816	Low SES	0.019	0.006	0.001	0.59	0.61
	High SES	0.009	0.006	0.13		
rs11727676	Low SES	0.001	0.010	0.95	0.50	0.52
	High SES	-0.008	0.010	0.41		
rs11847697	Low SES	0.007	0.014	0.61	0.25	0.28
	High SES	0.019	0.014	0.17		
rs12286929	Low SES	0.011	0.006	0.07	0.94	0.95
	High SES	0.010	0.006	0.10		
rs12401738	Low SES	0.008	0.006	0.15	0.46	0.49
	High SES	0.015	0.006	0.011		
rs12429545	Low SES	0.029	0.009	9×10^{-4}	0.27	0.30
	High SES	0.028	0.009	0.001		
rs12446632	Low SES	0.029	0.008	5×10^{-4}	0.45	0.48
	High SES	0.027	0.008	0.001		
rs12566985	Low SES	0.012	0.006	0.044	0.21	0.24
	High SES	0.010	0.006	0.08		
rs12885454	Low SES	0.017	0.006	0.004	0.33	0.35

	High SES	0.014	0.006	0.017		
	Low SES	0.021	0.006	3×10^{-4}		
rs12940622	High SES	0.013	0.006	0.024	0.72	0.74
	Low SES	0.049	0.008	1×10^{-10}		
rs13021737	High SES	0.067	0.008	6×10^{-18}	0.20	0.23
	Low SES	0.025	0.007	4×10^{-4}		
rs13078960	High SES	0.024	0.007	0.001	0.99	0.99
	Low SES	0.026	0.009	0.003		
rs13191362	High SES	0.023	0.009	0.008	0.39	0.43
	Low SES	0.034	0.008	5×10^{-5}		
rs1516725	High SES	0.029	0.008	7×10^{-4}	0.67	0.69
	Low SES	0.014	0.006	0.023		
rs1528435	High SES	0.014	0.006	0.015	0.29	0.32
	Low SES	0.072	0.006	5×10^{-34}		
rs1558902	High SES	0.081	0.006	3×10^{-43}	0.006	0.010
	Low SES	0.010	0.012	0.38		
rs16851483	High SES	0.045	0.012	1×10^{-4}	0.22	0.26
	Low SES	0.036	0.007	1×10^{-7}		
rs16951275	High SES	0.028	0.007	6×10^{-5}	0.23	0.26
	Low SES	0.055	0.018	0.003		
rs17024393	High SES	0.091	0.018	6×10^{-7}	0.091	0.11
	Low SES	0.012	0.007	0.09		
rs17094222	High SES	0.014	0.007	0.05	0.25	0.29
	Low SES	0.013	0.006	0.046		
rs17405819	High SES	0.018	0.006	0.05	0.47	0.50
	Low SES	0.017	0.007	0.011		
rs17724992	High SES	0.027	0.007	5×10^{-5}	0.68	0.70
	Low SES	0.019	0.006	9×10^{-4}		
rs1808579	High SES	0.023	0.006	9×10^{-5}	0.21	0.24
	Low SES	0.001	0.006	0.83		
rs1928295	High SES	0.018	0.006	0.002	0.24	0.27
	Low SES	0.011	0.007	0.11		
rs2033732	High SES	-0.006	0.007	0.33	0.07	0.09
	Low SES	0.031	0.007	3×10^{-6}		
rs205262	High SES	0.025	0.007	1×10^{-4}	0.76	0.77
	Low SES	0.029	0.006	2×10^{-6}		
rs2112347	High SES	0.024	0.006	7×10^{-5}	0.54	0.57
	Low SES	0.009	0.009	0.33		
rs2121279	High SES	0.004	0.009	0.67	0.50	0.53
	Low SES	0.016	0.007	0.018		
rs2176598	High SES	0.028	0.007	2×10^{-5}	0.30	0.33
	Low SES	0.037	0.008	2×10^{-6}		
rs2207139	High SES	0.042	0.008	5×10^{-8}	0.38	0.41
	Low SES	0.028	0.008	3×10^{-4}		
rs2245368	High SES	0.016	0.008	0.046	0.57	0.60
	Low SES	0.028	0.008	2×10^{-4}		
rs2287019	High SES	0.041	0.008	5×10^{-8}	0.29	0.32
	Low SES	0.035	0.006	2×10^{-9}		
rs2365389	Low SES				0.94	0.95

	High SES	0.024	0.006	4×10^{-5}		
	Low SES	0.020	0.006	0.002		
rs2650492	High SES	0.019	0.006	0.004	0.97	0.97
	Low SES	0.021	0.006	4×10^{-4}		
rs2820292	High SES	0.019	0.006	0.001	0.73	0.75
	Low SES	0.007	0.006	0.22		
rs29941	High SES	0.026	0.006	2×10^{-5}	0.049	0.06
	Low SES	0.023	0.006	1×10^{-4}		
rs3101336	High SES	0.031	0.006	1×10^{-7}	0.045	0.06
	Low SES	0.014	0.006	0.014		
rs3736485	High SES	0.008	0.006	0.18	0.08	0.10
	Low SES	0.026	0.006	3×10^{-5}		
rs3810291	High SES	0.029	0.006	2×10^{-6}	0.047	0.06
	Low SES	0.027	0.006	3×10^{-6}		
rs3817334	High SES	0.034	0.006	8×10^{-9}	0.040	0.06
	Low SES	0.004	0.006	0.50		
rs3849570	High SES	0.016	0.006	0.009	0.32	0.35
	Low SES	0.017	0.006	0.006		
rs4256980	High SES	0.024	0.006	6×10^{-5}	0.20	0.23
	Low SES	0.016	0.006	0.007		
rs4740619	High SES	0.016	0.006	0.007	0.81	0.82
	Low SES	0.040	0.007	2×10^{-8}		
rs543874	High SES	0.056	0.007	4×10^{-15}	0.008	0.013
	Low SES	0.000	0.006	0.99		
rs6477694	High SES	0.014	0.006	0.023	0.042	0.06
	Low SES	0.046	0.007	2×10^{-11}		
rs6567160	High SES	0.060	0.007	1×10^{-18}	0.003	0.005
	Low SES	0.017	0.006	0.005		
rs657452	High SES	0.012	0.006	0.048	0.79	0.80
	Low SES	0.008	0.006	0.16		
rs6804842	High SES	0.010	0.006	0.08	0.77	0.78
	Low SES	0.037	0.006	5×10^{-10}		
rs7138803	High SES	0.030	0.006	4×10^{-7}	0.85	0.86
	Low SES	0.023	0.006	9×10^{-5}		
rs7141420	High SES	0.014	0.006	0.019	0.34	0.37
	Low SES	0.023	0.008	0.002		
rs7243357	High SES	0.004	0.008	0.59	0.16	0.19
	Low SES	0.007	0.007	0.27		
rs758747	High SES	0.021	0.007	0.001	0.62	0.64
	Low SES	0.015	0.007	0.025		
rs7599312	High SES	0.024	0.007	3×10^{-4}	0.49	0.52
	Low SES	0.033	0.013	0.014		
rs7899106	High SES	0.015	0.013	0.27	0.87	0.88
	Low SES	0.015	0.006	0.020		
rs9400239	High SES	0.019	0.006	0.003	0.51	0.53
	Low SES	0.012	0.007	0.10		
rs9581854	High SES	0.016	0.008	0.029	0.08	0.10

Supplementary table 5: Differences in BMI by allele (inverse normalised scale) for TDI in the CoLaus Study, occupational status in the 1958 Birth Cohort and the UK Biobank and educational years in the UK Biobank

Study	Obesogenic category	N	BMI (SD)	Per-allele Beta	SE	P association	P interaction*	P Interaction Robust**
CoLaus	High SES based on TDI	2,623	25.53 (4.33)	0.030	0.004	6×10^{-15}	0.35	0.34
	Low SES based on TDI	2,614	26.18 (4.78)	0.022	0.004	1×10^{-8}		
UK Biobank	High job class	38,942	27.15 (4.57)	0.025	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	0.78	0.79
	Low job class	37,374	27.68 (4.89)	0.024	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$		
1958 Birth Cohort	High job class	2,873	27.17 (4.55)	0.026	0.003	2×10^{-14}	0.62	0.62
	Low job class	3,298	27.55 (5.10)	0.024	0.003	1×10^{-12}		
UK Biobank	High educational years (19-20)	55,203	27.15 (4.67)	0.024	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$	0.76	0.76
	Low educational years (≤ 15)	63,572	27.86 (4.93)	0.023	0.001	$<1 \times 10^{-15}$		

BMI adjusted for age, sex, ancestral principal components and assessment centre location. Models additionally adjusted for genotyping platform

* Interaction p-value

** Interaction p-value accounting for heteroscedasticity using robust standard errors

Supplementary Table 6: Interaction p-values for the 10 self-reported obesogenic variables, measured physical activity and sun protection use.

Trait	Obesogenic category	P interaction*	Adjusted P interaction **
Fizzy drink	None daily	0.86	0.95
	≥1 glass daily		
Fried food consumption	None daily	0.94	0.98
	≥1 meal daily		
Percentage fat^	Low risk	0.59	0.63
	High risk		
Percentage protein^	Low risk	0.79	0.98
	High risk		
Western diet^	Low risk	0.07	0.032
	High risk		
IPAQ	>1845 MET minutes per week	5E-6	3E-5
	≤1845 MET minutes per week		
Measured physical activity^	High activity	0.11	0.15
	Low activity		
Sedentary time	<5 hours daily	0.030	0.08
	≥5 hours daily		
TV watching	<4 hours daily	7E-5	2E-5
	≥4 hours daily		
Vigorous activity	>1 hour weekly	0.10	0.16
	≤1 hour weekly		
Composite score^	Low risk	2E-4	6E-4
	High risk		
Sun protection use	Usually or always use	1E-4	3E-4
	Never or sometimes use		

*Robust standard errors utilised to calculate the interaction p-value

**Model includes adjustment for the TDI interaction and robust standard errors

Supplementary table 7: Association of Townsend deprivation index with a range of obesogenic variables. Negative values represent less deprivation.

Obesogenic environment variable	Beta (95% CI) representing SD change in Townsend deprivation index per unit change in the obesogenic environment variable	P
Dietary factors		
Fat in diet	0.16 (0.11, 0.21)	2×10^{-11}
Fizzy drinks	0.036 (0.019, 0.054)	7×10^{-5}
Fried food	0.021 (0.006, 0.036)	0.007
Protein in diet	-0.15 (-0.19, -0.11)	1×10^{-13}
Westernised diet*	-0.033 (-0.040, -0.027)	$< 1 \times 10^{-15}$
Activity measures		
Measured activity*	-0.065 (-0.078, -0.051)	$< 1 \times 10^{-15}$
Physical activity (IPAQ)*	0.006 (0.000, 0.012)	0.043
Sedentary time per day (hours)*	0.028 (0.022, 0.034)	$< 1 \times 10^{-15}$
TV per day (hours)*	0.119 (0.113, 0.125)	$< 1 \times 10^{-15}$
Less than one hour vigorous activity per week	0.077 (0.064, 0.089)	$< 1 \times 10^{-15}$
Other factors		
Composite score*	0.020 (0.014, 0.026)	6×10^{-11}
More frequent sun protection use	-0.080 (-0.087, -0.074)	$< 1 \times 10^{-15}$

*Continuous obesogenic variables single inverse normalised

Supplementary Table 8: Comparison of the high and low risk categories for a range of self-reported obesogenic environmental/behavioural measures, measured physical activity, sun protection use and the composite score.

Environmental factor	Obesogenic category	N	Male, N (%)	Mean BMI	SD BMI	Effect size (95%CI) representing change in BMI (kg/m ²) for people in high risk group compared to the low risk group ^a	P
Fizzy drink	None daily	39,975	18,327 (45.9)	26.93	4.62	Reference	<1E-15
	≥1 glass daily	6,393	3,537 (55.3)	27.69	4.91	0.71 (0.58, 0.83)	
Fried food intake	None daily	31,821	14,485 (45.5)	26.96	4.66	Reference	0.00002
	≥1 meal daily	14,547	7,379 (50.7)	27.20	4.68	0.20 (0.10, 0.29)	
Percentage fat*	Low risk	23,194	11,080 (47.8)	26.91	4.46	Reference	1E-10
	High risk	23,174	10,784 (46.5)	27.16	4.86	0.28 (0.19, 0.36)	
Percentage protein*	Low risk	23,188	12,137 (52.3)	26.70	4.54	Reference	<1E-15
	High risk	23,180	9,727 (42.0)	27.37	4.77	0.77 (0.68, 0.85)	
Western diet*	Low risk	47,027	19,783 (42.1)	27.06	4.71	Reference	<1E-15
	High risk	47,013	24,853 (52.9)	28.00	4.79	0.86 (0.80, 0.92)	
IPAQ	>1845 MET minutes per week	54,573	27,217 (49.9)	26.86	4.31	Reference	<1E-15
	≤1845 MET minutes per week	54,569	25,111 (46.0)	27.93	4.99	1.11 (1.06, 1.17)	
Measured physical activity*	High activity	9,636	4,038 (41.9)	25.79	3.92	Reference	<1E-15
	Low activity	9,636	4,777 (49.6)	27.79	4.92	1.95 (1.83, 2.09)	
Sedentary time	<5 hours daily	63,343	25,281 (39.9)	26.61	4.47	Reference	<1E-15
	≥5 hours daily	56,345	31,387 (55.7)	28.56	4.99	1.84 (1.78, 1.89)	
TV	<4 hours daily	82,022	38,866 (47.4)	26.98	4.54	Reference	<1E-15
	≥4 hours daily	36,814	17,496 (47.5)	28.70	5.16	1.69 (1.63, 1.75)	
Vigorous activity	>1 hour weekly	35,183	18,637 (53.0)	26.80	4.24	Reference	<1E-15
	≤1 hour weekly	74,004	33,710 (45.6)	27.68	4.87	0.92 (0.86, 0.98)	
Sun protection use	Usually or always use	68,507	25,641 (37.4)	27.32	4.75	Reference	<1E-15
	Never or sometimes use	50,561	30,743 (60.8)	27.81	4.89	0.31 (0.25, 0.37)	

Composite score*	Low risk	43,275	19,768 (45.7)	26.33	4.13	Reference	
	High risk	43,274	21,933 (50.7)	28.46	4.87	2.08 (2.02, 2.14)	<1E-15

^ Adjusted for age, sex and ancestry principal components; * high and low risk taken from median values

Supplementary table 9: Summary of the body mass index (BMI) variants previously identified as associated with those traits at genome wide significance

Trait	Genetic variant	Locus	Exclude from score	Reason for exclusion	Trait raising allele	Trait lowering allele	Directly genotyped or Imputed	Imputation quality	Beta representing SD change in BMI or height for each SNP in UK Biobank data	P value
BMI	rs 1000940	<i>RABEP1</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.99624	0.011 (0.004)	1.60E-02
BMI	rs 10132280	<i>STXBP6</i>	No	NA	C	A	Imputed	0.97496	0.020 (0.005)	1.10E-05
BMI	rs 1016287	<i>FLJ30838</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99411	0.019 (0.004)	2.00E-05
BMI	rs 10182181	<i>ADCY3</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.99521	0.033 (0.004)	1.40E-15
BMI	rs 10733682	<i>LMX1B</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.9576	0.019 (0.004)	5.90E-06
BMI	rs 10938397	<i>GNPDA2</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	1	0.030 (0.004)	5.80E-13
BMI	rs 10968576	<i>LINGO2</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	1	0.024 (0.004)	6.90E-08
BMI	rs 11030104	<i>BDNF</i>	Yes	BMI-raising allele also associated with regular smoking (which itself has a causal effect on BMI in opposite direction)	A	G	Imputed	0.99931	NA	NA

BMI	rs11057405	<i>CLIP1</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	1	0.030 (0.007)	4.70E-06
BMI	rs11126666	<i>KCNK3</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.99485	0.002 (0.005)	7.10E-01
BMI	rs11165643	<i>PTBP2</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99575	0.016 (0.004)	9.50E-05
BMI	rs11191560	<i>NT5C2</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99989	0.026 (0.008)	6.50E-04
BMI	rs11583200	<i>ELAVL4</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.98728	0.019 (0.004)	7.70E-06
BMI	rs1167827	<i>HIP1</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	1	0.020 (0.004)	1.80E-06
BMI	rs11688816	<i>EHBP1</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.98096	0.014 (0.004)	9.40E-04
BMI	rs11727676	<i>HHIP</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	1	-0.003 (0.007)	6.60E-01
BMI	rs11847697	<i>PRKD1</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	1	0.014 (0.010)	1.70E-01
BMI	rs12286929	<i>CADM1</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.99124	0.010 (0.004)	1.20E-02
BMI	rs12401738	<i>FUBP1</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.99528	0.012 (0.004)	3.30E-03
BMI	rs12429545	<i>OLFM4</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.97759	0.027 (0.006)	8.00E-06
BMI	rs12446632	<i>GPRC5B</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.99978	0.028 (0.006)	2.40E-06

BMI	rs 12566985	<i>FPGT-TNNI3K</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.9947	0.011 (0.004)	6.10E-03
BMI	rs 12885454	<i>PRKDI</i>	No	NA	C	A	Imputed	0.99569	0.015 (0.004)	4.60E-04
BMI	rs 12940622	<i>RPTOR</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.99796	0.017 (0.004)	5.90E-05
BMI	rs 13021737	<i>TMEM18</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.99072	0.059 (0.005)	9.10E-27
BMI	rs 13078960	<i>CADM2</i>	No	NA	G	T	Imputed	0.9915	0.024 (0.005)	2.50E-06
BMI	rs 13107325	<i>SLC39A8</i>	Yes	Missense Ala/Thr polymorphism located in exon 7 of SLC39A8, which encodes a zinc transporter that also transports cadmium and manganese. It is also associated with BP and HDL levels, and presumably these and the BMI effect are secondary to the metal ion transport variation.	T	C	Imputed	1	NA	NA
BMI	rs 13191362	<i>PARK2</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.98973	0.026 (0.006)	3.10E-05
BMI	rs 1516725	<i>ETV5</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99495	0.032 (0.006)	1.00E-07
BMI	rs 1528435	<i>UBE2E3</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99738	0.014 (0.004)	6.60E-04

BMI	rs 1558902	<i>FTO</i>	No	NA	A	T	Imputed	0.99914	0.077 (0.004)	1.50E-75
BMI	rs 16851483	<i>RASA2</i>	No	NA	T	G	Imputed	0.99906	0.028 (0.008)	6.80E-04
BMI	rs 16951275	<i>MAP2K5</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99819	0.032 (0.005)	4.40E-11
BMI	rs 17001654	<i>SCARB2</i>	Yes	SNP not in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium	G	C	Imputed	0.9483	NA	NA
BMI	rs 17024393	<i>GNAT2</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.98934	0.074 (0.013)	1.20E-08
BMI	rs 17094222	<i>HIF1AN</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.96874	0.013 (0.005)	8.50E-03
BMI	rs 17405819	<i>HNFB4G</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99793	0.014 (0.004)	1.30E-03
BMI	rs 17724992	<i>PGPEP1</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.98342	0.023 (0.005)	1.10E-06
BMI	rs 1808579	<i>C18orf8</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99797	0.022 (0.004)	1.50E-07
BMI	rs 1928295	<i>TLR4</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99998	0.010 (0.004)	1.60E-02
BMI	rs 2033529	<i>TDRG1</i>	Yes	SNP not available	G	A	NA	NA	NA	NA
BMI	rs 2033732	<i>RALYL</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	1	0.002 (0.005)	6.70E-01
BMI	rs 205262	<i>C6orf106</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.9968	0.028 (0.005)	1.10E-09
BMI	rs 2075650	<i>TOMM40</i>	Yes	SNP not in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium	A	G	Imputed	0.9865	NA	NA

BMI	rs2112347	<i>POC5</i>	No	NA	T	G	Imputed	1	0.026 (0.004)	6.30E-10
BMI	rs2121279	<i>LRP1B</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.98723	0.006 (0.006)	3.70E-01
BMI	rs2176598	<i>HSD17B12</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	1	0.023 (0.005)	1.30E-06
BMI	rs2207139	<i>TFAP2B</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.9989	0.038 (0.005)	1.80E-12
BMI	rs2245368	<i>PMS2L11</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	1	0.022 (0.005)	8.00E-05
BMI	rs2287019	<i>QPCTL</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.97852	0.035 (0.005)	1.00E-10
BMI	rs2365389	<i>FHIT</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99305	0.029 (0.004)	2.70E-12
BMI	rs2650492	<i>SBK1</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.98144	0.019 (0.005)	3.60E-05
BMI	rs2820292	<i>NAV1</i>	No	NA	C	A	Imputed	1	0.019 (0.004)	3.60E-06
BMI	rs29941	<i>KCTD15</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	1	0.018 (0.004)	5.00E-05
BMI	rs3101336	<i>NEGR1</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	1	0.027 (0.004)	9.50E-11
BMI	rs3736485	<i>DMXL2</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.98728	0.011 (0.004)	6.40E-03
BMI	rs3810291	<i>ZC3H4</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	1	0.028 (0.004)	1.80E-10

BMI	rs3817334	<i>MTCH2</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	1	0.031 (0.004)	1.40E-13
BMI	rs3849570	<i>GBE1</i>	No	NA	A	C	Imputed	0.99509	0.011 (0.004)	7.80E-03
BMI	rs3888190	<i>ATP2A1</i>	Yes	Associated with lots of other traits and is a big haplotype	A	C	Imputed	0.99808	NA	NA
BMI	rs4256980	<i>TRIM66</i>	No	NA	G	C	Imputed	0.99283	0.021 (0.004)	1.70E-06
BMI	rs4740619	<i>C9orf93</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.99762	0.017 (0.004)	5.70E-05
BMI	rs543874	<i>SEC16B</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	1	0.049 (0.005)	3.40E-22
BMI	rs6477694	<i>EPB41LAB</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99022	0.008 (0.004)	6.70E-02
BMI	rs6567160	<i>MC4R</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99663	0.054 (0.005)	9.50E-29
BMI	rs657452	<i>AGBL4</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	0.98709	0.014 (0.004)	8.40E-04
BMI	rs6804842	<i>RARB</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.98778	0.009 (0.004)	3.20E-02
BMI	rs7138803	<i>BCDIN3D</i>	No	NA	A	G	Imputed	1	0.034 (0.004)	1.30E-15
BMI	rs7141420	<i>NRXN3</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.98379	0.019 (0.004)	6.70E-06
BMI	rs7243357	<i>GRP</i>	No	NA	T	G	Imputed	0.98998	0.012 (0.005)	2.10E-02

BMI	rs758747	<i>NLRC3</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.97187	0.014 (0.005)	2.00E-03
BMI	rs7599312	<i>ERBB4</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.97294	0.019 (0.005)	3.60E-05
BMI	rs7899106	<i>GRID1</i>	No	NA	G	A	Imputed	0.98612	0.023 (0.009)	1.40E-02
BMI	rs9400239	<i>FOXO3</i>	No	NA	C	T	Imputed	0.99206	0.017 (0.005)	2.30E-04
BMI	rs9581854	<i>MTIF3</i>	No	NA	T	C	Imputed	0.98643	0.015 (0.005)	6.20E-03
BMI	rs9925964	<i>KAT8</i>	Yes	SNP not in Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium	A	G	Imputed	1	NA	NA

Supplementary Table 10: Change in BMI per allele increase in the BMI genetic risk score when BMI analysed on its natural (kgm⁻²) scale

Trait	Obesogenic category	N	Beta	SE	P association	P interaction*	P Interaction Robust**
Townsend Derivation Index	High SES TDI \leq -2.295	59,872	0.097	0.003	4x10 ⁻¹⁷⁶	5x10⁻¹⁷	7x10⁻¹⁴
	Low SES TDI $>$ -2.295	59,861	0.128	0.004	7x10 ⁻²²⁹		

BMI adjusted for age, sex, ancestral principal components and assessment centre location. Models additionally adjusted for genotyping platform

* Interaction p-value

** Interaction p-value accounting for heteroscedasticity using robust standard errors

Supplementary table 11: Change in BMI (single inverse normal scale) per allele increase in the BMI GRS when Townsend deprivation index was dichotomised at approximately 25% low risk, 75% high risk or 75% low risk and 25% high risk.

Townsend Group	Obesogenic category	N	Beta	SE	P association	P interaction*
50% versus 50%	Low risk	59,928	0.022	0.001	3x10 ⁻¹⁷⁶	6x10 ⁻⁶
	High risk	59,805	0.025	0.001	3x10 ⁻²²⁵	
25% low risk versus 75% high risk	Low risk	29,946	0.022	0.001	2x10 ⁻⁸⁶	4x10 ⁻⁴
	High risk	89,787	0.024	0.001	<1x10 ⁻¹⁵	
75% low risk versus 25% high risk	Low risk	89,804	0.022	0.001	5x10 ⁻²⁶⁸	1x10 ⁻⁸
	High risk	29,929	0.027	0.001	7x10 ⁻¹³³	

* Interaction P-value calculated using the BMI GRS * dichotomous variable. Presented p-values were calculated with robust standard errors

Supplementary table 12: Change in BMI (single inverse normal scale) per allele increase in the BMI GRS when Townsend deprivation index was dichotomised at the median in males and females separately.

Townsend Group	Obesogenic category	N	Beta	SE	P association	P interaction*
Males only	Low risk	28,358	0.023	0.001	7×10^{-91}	3×10^{-5}
	High risk	28,331	0.025	0.001	2×10^{-110}	
Females only	Low risk	31,531	0.021	0.001	2×10^{-87}	2×10^{-6}
	High risk	31,513	0.025	0.001	1×10^{-118}	

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