



## Sending diagnostic samples to Biobest by Legal Post

Over the past few months some practices have experienced problems when trying to send routine diagnostic samples to us by Royal Mail. Royal Mail have recently confirmed that our guidance on sending samples is correct and there is no 50ml limit on samples where the vet does not suspect infectious disease. Samples where this applies must be labelled as 'Exempt animal specimen - non-hazardous' rather than 'UN3373 Category B Infectious Material'.

We would like to advise practices in Scotland that they can also send us routine samples by Legal Post. We believe this is a useful alternative and offers a secure, efficient and cost effective way of sending samples.

### Legal Post

Legal post offer a secure overnight delivery service at rates substantially below Royal Mail. Practices need to register to use the service and there is a small charge for this (£10 + VAT). Please contact Alan MacDonald on 01383 826726 or email [legalpost@firstscottish.com](mailto:legalpost@firstscottish.com) to register. A number of practices are already using this service and drop samples off at a local exchange (often a nearby solicitor's office). Packages must be marked with sender's name and Legal Post address in the top left hand corner and addressed to our legal post address:

Biobest Laboratories,  
LP10  
Penicuik.

While we establish this service we would greatly appreciate it if practices let us know if they send samples using this service. The Legal Post service can operate as reply paid to Biobest if preferred by the practice. Please let us know if you would like to operate Legal Post as a reply paid service.

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Further guidance on the safe packaging of diagnostic samples is available on the Biobest website. It is the responsibility of the sender to safely package samples whichever method they choose to use.

Biobest also offer a daily courier pick up service through Central Scotland, please contact us for details. Prices include courier pick up or reply paid postage for companion animal samples or mixed packages of both farm and companion animal samples. A standard charge of £2 is applied for any size package of farm animal only samples sent using Royal Mail or Legal Post reply paid service.