



Birmingham Quality

UK NEQAS
International Quality Expertise

Birmingham Quality
PO Box 3909
Birmingham
B15 2UE

T +44 (0)121 414 7300
<https://birminghamquality.org.uk>
birminghamquality@uhb.nhs.uk

Wednesday, 02 December 2020

Delayed Post

Dear Valued Participant,

Several Participants have commented to us that their post, including post of EQA samples from ourselves, is taking longer than usual. I can confirm that there is nothing in particular happening in the Birmingham area, rather it would appear that the Christmas rush has started early this year. Anecdotal tales include post office delivery vans now being crammed to the rafters.

We are intending to make our final dispatch of the year on Tuesday 8 December 2020. We always give ourselves leeway over the festive period and this year it would suggest that our choice of an early date was prudent.

The bottlenecks appear to be across the whole country. Because the problem is a 'bottleneck' and not a 'loss of envelope' one, we are resisting sending out replacement sets of specimens as they are likely to get stuck in the same jam.

The first set of specimens in 2021 is due for dispatch on Monday 4 January 2021.

Merry Christmas and I hope there are no more Tiers before bedtime.

Best Wishes,

Finlay MacKenzie

Finlay MacKenzie,
Director, Birmingham Quality



UK NEQAS



Birmingham Quality provides primarily UK NEQAS services and is a UKAS accredited proficiency testing provider No. 7860.

Please see the schedule for full details of the accreditation status of our schemes.

Birmingham Quality is part of the NHS. It is based at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital and is part of University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust.