



Animal &
Plant Health
Agency

APHA Briefing Note 21/21

Introduction of a watermark to APHA Laboratory Testing reports

Date issued: 02 June 2021

Purpose

1. To inform Official Veterinarians that APHA will be phasing in a watermark on all laboratory test reports for Laboratory Testing (LT) and Rabies (RAB) submissions to Weybridge.

Background

2. Further to APHA briefing note 06/21 regarding the validation of test reports, APHA have introduced a watermark onto laboratory test reports for LT and RAB submissions to help combat the risk of fraudulent reports.
3. As the new report template is rolled out to our teams you will now start to see reports with the watermark. For a short time, you will still see reports without this as well as those with it.
4. Example 'dummy' reports are attached to show you how the watermark will look on the reports. The placement has been designed to cover the areas that are most often changed in altered reports.
5. APHA will confirm once the watermark has been fully introduced from which time it will be applied to all LT and RAB result reports from Weybridge.

Action

6. The watermark is being introduced as an additional tool to help prevent fraudulent activity and OVs are still required to validate test reports as set out in the briefing note 06/21.

7. OVs are encouraged to report back to APHA on any issues or concerns regarding the new watermark.

Further Information

- Briefing Note - <http://apha.defra.gov.uk/documents/ov/Briefing-Note-0621.pdf>
- Example Reports:
 - [Report 1](#)
 - [Report 2](#)
- Contact Details for feedback - APHA OV Team - CSCOneHealthOVTeam@apha.gov.uk