

No.078/25

16<sup>th</sup> April 2025

Dear Colleague

## **ROYAL MAIL: DRUGS & ALCOHOL - FOR-CAUSE TESTING PILOT – FURTHER EXTENSION**

Further to LTB's 001/25 dated 2<sup>nd</sup> January and 035/25 dated 19<sup>th</sup> February.

The Drugs & Alcohol For-Cause Testing Pilot originally commenced in Wales on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> January, then was extended to include Anglia and the South West, along with the English units in the Wales ROD area from Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March and was due to finish on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> May. As it currently stands, there has only been one For-Cause Test initiated and this was a negative result.

**The Postal Executive has now agreed to extend the duration of the For-Cause testing Pilot (for drivers only) until Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September** and has also agreed to extend the geographical boundaries so that the Terms of Reference (ToR) previously agreed will be extended to include South Central, South East and Northern Ireland ROD areas from the following dates:

- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June – South East
- Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June – South Central
- Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Northern Ireland

The ToR in full is applicable into the extended Pilot, and this includes the safeguards surrounding the Support and Rehabilitation programme rather than Conduct. There are two caveats to this - a positive drug/alcohol test on the roadside following an accident/incident where the police are involved, or an individual being found in the possession of illegal drugs in the workplace.

It should also be noted that the extended Pilot does not include Parcelforce.

## **Briefings for South Central, South East and Northern Ireland Representatives**

We will be holding three briefings for our Divisional Reps, Branch Secretaries, Area Reps and Area Safety Reps in the South Central, South East and Northern Ireland ROD Areas as follows:

## South East ROD Area

**Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> May – 11.30am – 2.30pm**

CWU Headquarters  
150 The Broadway, Wimbledon, SW19 1RX

## South Central ROD Area

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> May – 11.30am – 2.30pm**

CWU Headquarters  
150 The Broadway, Wimbledon, SW19 1RX

## Northern Ireland

**Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> May – 11.00am – 2.00pm**

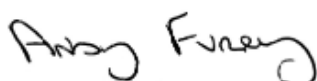
TBC (Provisionally The Innovation Centre, Queens Road, Belfast BT3 9DT)

We will be presenting the full details of the ToR for the extended Pilot and the protections and safeguards we have secured for our members in both the ToR and the Colleague Framework document. Obviously, there will be an opportunity for a Q&A session at the Briefings. In this regard, Royal Mail and Abbotts Laboratories have been invited to attend a session of the Briefings to demonstrate the equipment and to answer any technical questions. This is in keeping with the arrangements we undertook for the Wales and Anglia Briefings.

Andy Furey, Assistant Secretary, continues to lead on this matter on behalf of the Postal Executive, supported by Rob Wotherspoon, PE member.

The Postal Executive will be closely monitoring the Pilot and all Branches will be kept informed of any key developments as the extended Pilot progresses.

Yours sincerely,



Andy Furey  
**Assistant Secretary**



Davie Robertson  
**Assistant Secretary**



Tony Bouch  
**Assistant Secretary**