Date

Our ref: HPZ

**Private and confidential**

Patient address

Dear,

**Re: Recent laboratory result on your stool sample**

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) health protection team for insert name of HPT has been informed by the local laboratory that the results on a stool (faeces, poo) sample that you or your child submitted may be positive for bacteria called Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* (STEC).

STEC is a notifiable disease. Clinicians and laboratories are required to report any illness where the suspected cause is STEC to UKHSA. Our role is to try and identify the source if possible and give advice to help prevent the spread of infection to other people.

The sample may have been sent to the UKHSA reference laboratory in London for further testing. If this was done the results should be available in several weeks and will be sent to the doctor who requested the sample.

In the meantime, please telephone us on Insert HPT name and contact number if:

* your symptoms included bloody diarrhoea

or:

* you attended hospital for your acute diarrhoeal illness

or:

* any other member of your household has experienced similar symptoms either 7 days before or 7 days after yours started

This will help us to gather more information on your illness and provide any relevant further advice.

Please read the accompanying leaflet which provides information about STEC and what actions you should now take, including information on how to prevent the spread of infection.

Kind regards,

Copy: Doctor