

Information Update from Department of Health

Swine Flu – Thursday 28 May 3pm

Seventeen patients in England have today been confirmed with swine flu.

The newly confirmed cases are thirteen children and one adult from the West Midlands region, linked to the ongoing investigation of a school outbreak. The additional newly confirmed cases are two adults in London – one returning traveller and one linked to a previously confirmed case – and one child in the East of England region whose source of infection remains under investigation.

This brings the total confirmed cases in the UK to 203 (including one patient confirmed by the Scottish Executive yesterday).

A Department of Health spokesperson said:

"The localised cases of swine flu found in the UK have so far been mild, and we have not seen evidence of widespread community transmission.

"Our strategy to slow the spread of the disease appears to have been effective, and the UK's arrangements continue to ensure that we are well-placed to deal with this new infection.

"But we must not be complacent — it is right to prepare for the possibility of a global pandemic."