

# Health agency confirms community spread of monkeypox in England

LONDON — Monkeypox appears to be spreading from person to person in England, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) said on Wednesday.

The usually mild viral disease, which is endemic in west and central Africa, is understood to spread through close contact. Until early May, cases rarely cropped up outside Africa and were typically linked to travel to there.

“The current outbreak is the first time that the virus has been passed from person to person in England where travel links to an endemic country have not been identified,” the agency said.

According to the UKHSA, the majority of cases in the United Kingdom — 132

— are in London, while 111 cases are known to be in gay, bisexual, or other men who have sex with men (GBMSM). Only two cases are in women.

Recent foreign travel to a number of different countries in Europe within 21 days of symptom onset has been reported by 34 confirmed cases, or about 18% of the 190 cases of the disease that have been confirmed by the United Kingdom as of May 31.

So far, the UKHSA has identified links to gay bars, saunas and the use of dating apps in Britain and abroad.

“Investigations continue but currently no single factor or exposure that links the cases has been identified,” the agency cautioned.

Monkeypox can affect anyone, but many of the most recent diagnoses are the GBMSM community — many of whom live in, or have links to London, said Kevin Fenton, London’s regional director for public health.

“As with any new disease outbreak, the risk of stigma and uncertainty is great,” he said.

The UKHSA is working with groups including the British Association of Sexual Health and HIV and the dating App Grindr to communicate with sexual health services and the GBMSM community. It is also encouraging the LGBT Consortium and Pride event organizers to help with messaging in the coming weeks.

Monkeypox typically causes flu-like symptoms and pus-filled skin lesions that usually resolve on their own within weeks, but can kill a small fraction of those infected.

UK health authorities are offering Bavarian Nordic’s vaccine, Imvanex, to contacts of confirmed or suspected cases.

Cases of monkeypox continue to rise outside Africa, mostly in Europe, and scientists are trying to pin down the reasons behind the spread.

On Wednesday, the World Health Organization said it had so far received reports of more than 550 confirmed cases of the viral disease from 30 countries outside of Africa. — *Reuters*

## No more bambinos? Italian companies tackle birth crisis

CARTIGLIANO — Businesses in the sleepy Italian town of Cartigliano are so worried about its declining birth rate and lack of workers that they have begun paying families’ nursery school fees and childcare costs to spur them to have more babies.

Cartigliano, a town of 3,800 inhabitants and scores of small businesses in the northeastern Veneto region, is not unique. Similar schemes have sprung up around Italy’s industrial north as exasperated firms of all sizes take matters into their own hands to try to arrest an acute demographic crisis.

Italy is far from alone. Its fertility rate of around 1.2 children per woman is among the lowest in the world, but the trend of declining births and ageing populations is common to many advanced countries.

Veneto is known for its multitude of family-run businesses that form the backbone of the country’s industrial fabric.

It is a model that is threatened not only by globalization and cheap competition from Asia, but also by a lack of young people to work in its factories and workshops.

“When I was a girl there were always kids running around here, now hardly any are born and only the old people stay,” says Ilenia Cappeller, indicating a deserted square under the shade of Cartigliano’s imposing bell tower.

Ms. Cappeller, 44, whose eponymous company makes industrial springs, hinges and other precision mechanical instruments, is leading a drive by around 40 of the

town’s businesses to raise cash for schemes intended to boost the birth rate.

They call the initiative the Janus Project, named after the two-headed Roman god of gateways, or new beginnings. In Cartigliano’s case, they hope it will mark the transition from a barren present to a more fertile future.

In the 12 months after the scheme was launched in April 2021 they raised 48,000 euros which was spent on five projects funding families, schools and child-care provision. Ms. Cappeller aims to garner another 100,000 euros over the next year.

“We’re very attached to Cartigliano but this is also about self-interest because we can’t find workers anymore,” she says.

**‘NO PEOPLE’**  
The demographic crunch is not just a problem for firms. Economists warn that unless Italy turns the tide its already weak economic growth will decline and it will become impossible to finance adequate welfare and state pensions.

Italy saw just 399,431 births in 2021, the 13<sup>th</sup> straight annual decline and the fewest since its unification in 1861, according to national statistics bureau ISTAT. The population fell by 253,000 to 59 million. ISTAT warned the country is heading for 5 million fewer inhabitants by 2050.

Even Tesla founder Elon Musk, the world’s richest man, commented last week on the dire outlook. “Italy will have no people if these trends continue,” he tweeted.

One reason often cited for the birth dearth is a lack of job security and affordable child care. Pensions absorb most of Italy’s welfare spending and the majority of new jobs are on temporary contracts that offer no financial stability.

Businesses are co-opting themselves into family policy to try to fill the gaps, and local politicians seem happy to pass them the baton.

“When they came to me saying they wanted to put money into local kindergartens and schools I thought ‘where’s the trick?’,” laughs Cartigliano’s mayor Germano Raccella. “I felt like when someone tells you you’ve just won a car.”

Just 30 km (20 miles) from Cartigliano in the town of Zane, Roberto Brazzale is spearheading a similar initiative called “Welcome Stork” involving around 10 local firms.

“Some offer a bonus to employees who have babies, others fund schools, increase parental leave or offer flexible work-time, so it’s anything that helps with procreation,” he says.

His own dairy company Brazzale SpA, which employs 500 people locally, gives an extra month’s pay to every worker who has a new baby.

It also offers the option of an extra year at home after their statutory maternity or paternity leave expires, on 30% of their normal salary, at a cost to the company of 10,000 euros per person who takes up the offer. — *Reuters*

### FULL STORY



Read the full story by scanning the QR code with your smartphone or by typing the link <bit.ly/Italy060322>

### Debt, from SI/1

especially since most of the new debt acquired from March to April 2022 were domestic,” she said in a Viber message. “At most, the increased oil prices and overall uncertainty played a role in driving up the need for cash... It’s more plausible that the government is really just cash-strapped to fund the rest of the year’s programs.”

Ms. Suzara said debt is expected to further increase since the government can’t generate enough revenues.

“To plug the budget deficit, the total financing requirement from both domestic and external sources is projected to reach P2.2 trillion. So far,

the Treasury’s cash operations report shows that as of end April 2022, it already amounts to around P1.2 trillion,” she said. “If the next administration will not tweak the current fiscal program, then we can expect around P1 trillion more in addition to the current outstanding debt until the end of the fiscal year.”

Bank of the Philippine Islands Lead Economist Emilio S. Neri said debt would be a major challenge for the incoming Marcos administration.

“The new set of economic managers are highly competent and if they can sway our politicians to swallow bitter pills to help us carry out a

sound fiscal consolidation plan, we may be able to reverse the deteriorating debt metrics,” he said in a Viber message.

President-elect Ferdinand “Bongbong” R. Marcos, Jr. has tapped Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) Governor Benjamin E. Diokno to head the Finance department.

Mr. Diokno has said he is not in favor of raising taxes even with the record debt pile.

“To me, grow the economy, focus on tax administration first, improve the collection,” he earlier told ABS-CBN News Channel. — *Bernadette Therese M. Gadon*

### RCEP, from SI/1

(FTA), the country’s membership in RCEP would be a consideration for foreign investors in able to access other RCEP member countries’ export markets at zero or reduced tariffs,” he said.

Makati Business Club Executive Director Francisco “Coco” Alcuaz, Jr. said in a Viber message the incoming Marcos administration should push for the country’s participation in the RCEP to boost trade and investments and create more jobs.

“This is one policy President-elect Marcos should consider leveraging his election win to get and send an open for business signal to the region. The sooner we ratify RCEP, the faster we can compete more fully for trade, investment and jobs. All businesses in all countries are racing to recover. No one is waiting for us,” he said.

European Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines (ECCP) President Lars Wittig said in a Viber message the group continues to support RCEP.

“RCEP membership will yield significant economic benefits for the Philippines and will help accel-



TRUCKS transporting containers leave a port in Manila, Philippines, May 25, 2016. REUTERS

erate recovery from the mounting debt as well as the adverse economic impacts inflicted by the ongoing COVID pandemic. As such, we urge the incoming legislators to approve the RCEP agreement upon its return to session later this year,” he said.

Meanwhile, Federation of Free Farmers (FFF) National Manager Raul Q. Montemayor said in a statement the Marcos administration should consult with agriculture stakeholders on how they can prepare for the RCEP and take advantage of export opportunities.

“Our sector’s opposition to RCEP is largely due to the mishandling of the issue by the Department of Agriculture (DA)... The DA never

acknowledged RCEP’s threats to the sector, despite data showing that our farmers were unprepared and our trade deficits were increasing by billions of dollars every year,” he said.

“Our farmers and fishers do not wish to remain poor and unproductive and merely rely on government protection to survive,” he said. “They want to increase their yields and lower their production costs so that they can be profitable and competitive, even under trade agreements like RCEP. But they expect the government to be firmly behind them and not just stand idly by, or worse, work against them.” — *with inputs from Alyssa Nicole O. Tan*

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
Chinese Speaking Customer Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Business Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Admin Financial Officer

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at grandpremiumcrestholding@gmail.com

**COMPANY: GRAND PREMIUM CREST HOLDING INC.**  
ADDRESS: 16/F TOWER 6789, 6789 AYALA AVE., MAKATI CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
Chinese Speaking Customer Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Business Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Admin Financial Officer

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at grandeverestholdings@gmail.com

**COMPANY: GRAND EVEREST HOLDINGS INC.**  
ADDRESS: 16/F TOWER 6789, 6789 AYALA AVE., MAKATI CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
Chinese Speaking Customer Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Business Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Admin Financial Officer

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at sunrisehorizonprimeholding@gmail.com

**COMPANY: SUNRISE HORIZON PRIME HOLDING INC.**  
ADDRESS: 16/F TOWER 6789, 6789 AYALA AVE., MAKATI CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
Chinese Speaking Customer Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Business Financial Officer  
Chinese Speaking Admin Financial Officer

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at daprosperitasholding@gmail.com

**COMPANY: DA PROSPERITAS HOLDING INC.**  
ADDRESS: 16/F TOWER 6789, 6789 AYALA AVE., MAKATI CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING TECHNICAL CONSULTANT  
CHINESE SPEAKING SOLUTIONS CONSULTANT  
CHINESE SPEAKING MARKETING CONSULTANT  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS CONSULTANT

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at macroexcelconsultancy@gmail.com

**COMPANY: MACRO EXCEL CONSULTANCY INC.**  
ADDRESS: 37/F LKG Tower, 6801 Ayala Avenue, Bel-Air, Makati City

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
Chinese Speaking Sales Marketing Specialist  
Chinese Speaking Digital Marketing Specialist  
Chinese Speaking Brand Marketing Specialist  
Chinese Speaking Trade Marketing Specialist

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at spritzertradingcorp2021@gmail.com

**COMPANY: SPRITZER TRADING CORP.**  
ADDRESS: 37F LKG Tower, 6801 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

www.bworldonline.com

### JOB VACANCY

**300 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING ADMIN ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING PROGRAM DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING DATA ENTRY CLERK

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 21 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at 2021cronyxinc@gmail.com

**COMPANY: CRONYX INC.**  
ADDRESS: Yin Hope Bldg., Atang Dela Rama Cor Zoilo Hilario St. Seaspac Village Barangay 76, 1300 Pasay City, NCR, Fourth District Philippines

### JOB VACANCY

**300 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING ADMIN ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING PROGRAM DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING DATA ENTRY CLERK

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 21 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at hrcompliance.infovine@gmail.com or infovine.legal@gmail.com

**COMPANY: INFOVINE INC.**  
ADDRESS: 9/F Y TOWER MOA COMPLEX BLDG., CORAL WAY DRIVE COR. MACAPAGAL AVE. ST., BARANGAY 76, PASAY CITY, METRO MANILA  
ADDRESS: 8TH-10TH FLOOR ASPIRE CORPORATE PLAZA BLDG., PASAY CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**300 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING ADMIN ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING PROGRAM DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING DATA ENTRY CLERK

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 21 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at technologydynamic.studio@gmail.com

**COMPANY: DYNAMIC STUDIO TECHNOLOGY INC.**  
ADDRESS: 5TH-10TH FLOOR PLATINUM TOWER BLDG., ASEANA AVENUE COR., FUENTES ST., BACLARAN, PARAÑAQUE CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**300 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING ADMIN ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING PROGRAM DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING DATA ENTRY CLERK

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 21 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at 2021neomatix.inc@gmail.com

**COMPANY: NEO INCORPORATED**  
ADDRESS: North Tower Centrum Bldg., Aseana Avenue, Entertainment City, Bacларan, Parañaque City

### JOB VACANCY

**300 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING ADMIN ASSOCIATE  
CHINESE SPEAKING GRAPHIC DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING PROGRAM DESIGNER  
CHINESE SPEAKING DATA ENTRY CLERK

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 21 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at 2022zxprotechnologycorporation@gmail.com

**COMPANY: ZX-PRO TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION**  
ADDRESS: 16TH FLOOR ROBINSONS CYBERGATE 3 PIONEER, BRGY. BARANGKA ILAYA, MANDALUYONG CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
CHINESE SPEAKING TECHNICAL CONSULTANT  
CHINESE SPEAKING SOLUTIONS CONSULTANT  
CHINESE SPEAKING MARKETING CONSULTANT  
CHINESE SPEAKING BUSINESS CONSULTANT

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at 2021speedwellinc@gmail.com

**COMPANY: SPEEDWELL INC.**  
ADDRESS: 5/F KING’S COURT 2 BUILDING, 2129 CHINO ROCES AVENUE, MAKATI CITY

### JOB VACANCY

**60 Vacant Positions**  
Chinese Speaking Sales Marketing Specialist  
Chinese Speaking Digital Marketing Specialist  
Chinese Speaking Brand Marketing Specialist  
Chinese Speaking Trade Marketing Specialist

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
1. At least 18 years old  
2. Proficiency in Handling customer questions about services and products  
3. Excellent Mandarin verbal Communication Skills  
4. Knowledgeable in computer  
5. Knows how to recommend potential products or services by collecting customer information and analyzing customer needs

Interested applicants may submit their application thru email at incmarketclub@gmail.com

**COMPANY: MARKETCLUB INC.**  
ADDRESS: 41F 6T TOWER INTERNATIONAL, AYALA AVENUE, MAKATI CITY