

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES — COMPUTERS LOST OR STOLEN

1536. Mr E.S. Ripper to the Deputy Premier; Minister for Health; Indigenous Affairs

- (1) How many laptop, notebook and palm computers from each department and agency within the Deputy Premier's portfolios have been reported lost or stolen for the six months to 30 June 2009?
- (2) What was the total value of the computers that were lost or stolen?
- (3) Did any of these computers contain information that could be regarded as sensitive?
- (4) What steps have been taken to ensure that any commercial or sensitive information was not compromised?
- (5) Was the loss or theft of any of these computers reported to the police?
- (6) If yes to (5), when were these reports made?
- (7) Of those reported, what has been the outcome?
- (8) If any were not reported to the police, why not?
- (9) What steps, if any, have been put into place with a view to eliminating, or at least reducing, these losses?
- (10) When were these steps put into place?

Dr K.D. HAMES replied:

Department of Health

- (1) Equipment Stolen: 4 units stolen

Equipment Lost: 1 unit lost

- (2) Laptops stolen: 4 with a total depreciated value of \$2230.00 Palm Computers lost: 1 PDA with a replacement value of \$820.66 ex GST  
Palm Computers stolen: 1 PDA with a replacement value of \$569.42 ex GST
- (3) Yes.
- (4) Laptops are set up with the expectation that they will be connected to the Department of Health or Health Service computer networks. When a laptop is not connected to the network, the computer cannot be accessed without knowledge of the logon and password used whilst the laptop was connected to the network. The majority of main files and data are stored on the networks. PDAs are password protected, one password for the phone and one for online access.
- (5) Yes.
- (6) The stolen PDA was reported on 2 February 2009 and the stolen laptops were reported on 15 and 17 April and 8 June 2009.
- (7) An arrest was made in connection with the stolen PDA, however no outcomes for the three laptops reported have been communicated by the police.
- (8) One PDA which was lost, not stolen, while the holder was in transit to the Melbourne airport has not been reported to the police.
- (9)-(10) The protocols and procedures for new users are outlined for all Department of Health staff who are allocated the use of a laptop, notebook or palm computer and have been in place for a number of years. Reminders regarding the care of government property are issued when equipment has been lost or stolen as an ongoing risk management process.

In the case of one laptop stolen from a Clinic Department, staff were immediately advised to ensure that the door is locked when not attended and that access only be given by a designated senior nurse.

Office of Health Review

- (1) Nil
- (2)-(10) Not applicable.

Nurses and Midwives Board

- (1) Nil

(2)-(10) Not applicable.

Department of Indigenous Affairs

(1) Nil.

(2)-(10) Not applicable.