

GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES, COMPUTERS AND MOBILE PHONES, LOST OR STOLEN

2295. Mrs C.L. Edwardes to the Attorney General; Minister for Health; Electoral Affairs

I refer to the answers to questions on notice Nos 2132 to 2147 inclusive, relating to the loss or theft of laptop computers, notebooks and palm computers and mobile phones and ask -

- (a) how many of these losses or thefts were reported to the police;
- (b) when were they reported;
- (c) of those reported, what has been the outcome; and
- (d) if any were not reported to the police, why not?

Mr J.A. McGINTY replied:

CROWN SOLICITOR'S OFFICE

- (a)-(d) Not applicable

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

- (a) All thefts of laptop computers, notebooks and palm computers were reported to the Police. Mobile phone thefts have been reported to Police with the exception of two areas. Unless it is part of a larger loss, South Metropolitan Health Service and North Metropolitan Health Service do not report the loss or theft of a mobile phone to the Police unless it is associated with the loss or theft of other items of value, for example car theft.
- (b) When discovered stolen.
- (c) One laptop was recovered when the person presented it to Cash Converters. The laptop was identified as government property, the Police were involved, the laptop was recovered and the employee was dismissed.

One laptop and five palm devices were recovered by Police. A former staff member faces criminal charges for stealing.

No other items have been recovered.
- (d) Some mobile phone thefts or losses are not reported where the monetary value is low or they are below the insurance excess limit; except in circumstances where the theft is associated with the theft of other items of value, for example car theft.

Phones that are lost are not reported to the Police.

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

- (a) One has been reported to the police.
One is being investigated to determine if it was lost or stolen;
- (b) the same day the theft occurred;
- (c) no outcome from police, DPP reimbursed through insurance;
- (d) it has not yet been determined if a theft occurred.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION

- (a) There were no thefts or losses reported to the police.
- (b) Not applicable
- (c) Not applicable
- (d) The stolen mobile phone was not reported to police due to the age of the item and its low financial value.

LEGAL AID WA

- (a) Only one of the two lost items was reported to the Police .
- (b) December 2002.
- (c) No outcome from the Police, Legal Aid reimbursed through insurance for both items.
- (d) One theft was not reported due to an oversight.

OFFICE OF THE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

(a)-(d) Not applicable

OFFICE OF HEALTH REVIEW

(a)-(d) Not applicable

W.A. ELECTORAL COMMISSION

- (a) 1
- (b) April 2001
- (c) No outcome
- (d) Not applicable.