

MINISTERIAL OFFICES, GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES - COMPUTERS -
LOST OR STOLEN

2532. Mr T.R. Buswell to the Minister representing the Minister for Child Protection; Communities; Women's Interests; Seniors and Volunteering

For each Department and Agency under the Minister's control, including the Ministerial office:

- (a) how many laptop, notebook and palm computers have been reported lost or stolen for the six months to 30 June 2007;
- (b) what was the total value of the computers that were lost or stolen;
- (c) did any of these computers contain information that could be regarded as sensitive;
- (d) what steps have been taken to ensure that any commercial or sensitive information was not compromised;
- (e) was the loss or theft of any of these computers reported to the police;
- (f) if yes to (e), when were these reports made;
- (g) of those reported, what has been the outcome;
- (h) if any computers that were lost or stolen were not reported to the police, why not;
- (i) what steps, if any, have been put into place with a view to eliminating, or at least reducing, these losses; and
- (j) when were these steps put into place?

Mr D.A. TEMPLEMAN replied:

Ministerial Office

The Ministerial Office comes under the jurisdiction of Department of the Premier and Cabinet, therefore please refer to Premier's response to question on notice 2518.

Department for Child Protection and the Department for Communities

Note: information excludes the Office for Children and Youth and Office of Multicultural Interests

- (a) 3
- (b) \$5012
- (c) No. It is relevant to note that departmental computing systems are meant to be used such that files are saved centrally, not to the computers themselves. It is not possible to be certain that in all cases this always occurred.
- (d) Laptops are password protected and files are meant to be saved centrally rather than to individual computers.
- (e) Yes
- (f) As soon as practicable following the discovery of the theft or loss
- (g) None recovered
- (h) Not Applicable
- (i) Step taken are as follows:
 - Policy statements that emphasise staff responsibility for security are published on the intranet.
 - The Department has implemented a new "Portable & Attractive Items Register System (PAIRS)".
 - PDAs that may contain data are remotely wiped upon receiving notification of loss or theft.
- (j) Steps were introduced as follows:
 - Intranet security messages introduced January 2006.
 - PAIRS implemented 1 July 2007.

- Procedure for remotely removing data from PDAs introduced July 2006.