

Friday 1 February 2008
Press statement

Loss of Trust Equipment

Two laptop computers belonging to Brent PCT were stolen from an office in Central Middlesex Hospital on 14 January 2008.

The laptops contained information including the name and hospital number of approximately 389 patients living in the borough of Brent.

All patients concerned have been informed about this incident in writing. We take patient confidentiality seriously and apologise for any distress this incident may cause. All staff have been reminded of the importance of not storing any personal data on laptops or other remote devices such as memory sticks.

We have started an internal investigation into what happened and will act on its findings.

Following the theft, we informed the Police and they are actively pursuing lines of inquiry. We have also spoken to the Information Commissioner's office, the independent authority set up to promote access to official information and to protect personal information.

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[Chair: Marcia Saunders](#)

[Chief Executive: Mark Easton](#)

For more information on helping people to STOP SMOKING or to STOP SMOKING yourself call 020 8795 6669. We offer free support, free information and free NRT (conditions apply).