

# Lost equipment

■ Gareth Parker

Nearly half a million dollars worth of taxpayer-owned computers and mobile phones were lost or stolen last financial year.

Seven-hundred laptops and mobile phones with a value of \$484,000 went missing.

The Department of Education lost 280 computers and 29 mobile phones worth a total of \$242,900. WA Police lost \$61,212 and the Health Department lost \$34,581.

Opposition Leader Mark McGowan said it was “extraordinary waste” and the Government had promised to reduce losses last year. In fact, they had jumped \$40,000 from the year before.

Premier Colin Barnett said the losses represented a “small portion of devices issued to government departments” but were nonetheless “of significant concern”.

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