

Data Protection Ireland

Volume 4, Issue 2

March / April 2011

Headlines:

- Organisations need to focus on DP awareness, p.13
- Recruitment data compromised in website breach, p.13
- Working Party approves RFID Framework, p.14

Inside this issue:

Editorial	2
Cloud computing and data protection	3
Guidance from the Article 29 Working Party on the complex issue of applicable law	6
The right to be forgotten: can legislation put the data genie back in the bottle?	9
Book Review	12
News & Views	13

Billy Hawkes warns of personal data scams

Data Protection Commissioner, Billy Hawkes took the opportunity on European Data Protection Day (28th January 2011), to remind organisations of their data protection responsibilities and to keep individuals aware of protecting their personal data.

The Commissioner advised that all organisations need to respect the confidence that members of the public place in them when handing over their personal data, and cautioned members of the public to be on guard to protect their personal

data from criminal gangs and other organisations that purposefully set out to engage in fraud or misuse.

Specifically the Commissioner and Microsoft Ireland warned people of an active scam in Ireland, where consumers have been receiving telephone calls from individuals claiming to be from Microsoft informing them that they have a virus on their computer. As part of the scam, they manage to glean personal data including their credit card details, and can also infect the consumer's computer with viruses and spyware.

Deputy Data Protection Commissioner, Gary Davis said: "Our Office has received ongoing complaints and queries from unsuspecting members of the public who have received these calls. This would appear to be a major scam targeting Ireland and people need to be aware of the issue."

Speaking on the issue Paul Rellis, General Manager at Microsoft Ireland said, "Microsoft takes the privacy and security of all our customers and partners' personal information very seriously. We are

(Continued on page 13)

Thieves get hands on Revenue laptops

After the theft of 10 laptops from the Office of the Revenue Commissioners, a high-security facility, the data of several business people were stolen.

The Revenue investigates tax evasion and fraud and works closely with the Criminal Assets Bureau.

Both the Garda and the Data Protection Commissioner's Office

have commenced investigations into the incident.

The organisation acted quickly and issued a statement on its website (www.revenue.ie/en/press/2011/pr-280111-laptops.html) the morning after the incident.

Diarmuid Hallinan, Assistant Commissioner at the Data Protection Commissioner's Office told

Data Protection Ireland: "We are satisfied that the laptops in question were encrypted to a high standard, no other data appears to have been compromised and the laptops have been recovered by An Garda Síochána.

"Accordingly, our view is that no breach of the DP Acts took place as a result of the theft of the

(Continued on page 13)