



information
and privacy
commission
new south wales

Samantha Gavel, Privacy Commissioner NSW

Supplementary Questions

Committee on the Ombudsman, the Law Enforcement Conduct Commission, and the Crime Commission

2021 Review of Annual and Other Reports of Oversighted Bodies

Friday, 28 May 2021

QUESTION:

When were you notified of the cyber-attack and possible compromise of privacy on Accellion's file transfer appliance, or FTA as I understand the abbreviation is, by NSW Health and Transport for NSW?

ANSWER:

Transport for NSW notified the Privacy Commissioner of the cyber-attack on 12 February 2021. Health notified the Privacy Commissioner of the cyber-attack on 23 February 2021.

QUESTION:

Do you know when it was that those agencies first found out about the breach?

ANSWER:

Correspondence provided to the Privacy Commissioner from the Agency indicates that Health became aware of the cyber-attack on 12 January 2021 and Transport for NSW became aware of the cyber-attack on 21 January 2021.

QUESTION:

Are those the only two agencies that have notified you of an attack?

ANSWER:

In my evidence before the Committee, I referred to two agencies which I believed were also affected. At that time, I indicated that I believed they may have also included icare and the Crown Solicitors Office (CSO) but that I would need to *double check*. I have, in providing the responses to the Questions on Notice, undertaken that check.

As a result, I can advise that I am only aware of one other Agency that notified me as having been affected by the Accellion breach. However, while that Agency notified me, its systems were not directly compromised, but some of its information was captured within the compromise affecting an external organisation engaged by icare. The CSO was not an agency that notified me as being affected by the Accellion breach. The notification in relation to the CSO pertained to a different set of circumstances.

QUESTION:

Which were the other two agencies?

ANSWER:

See answer above.