

22 November 2007

HMRC - Child Benefit Helpline on 0845 302 1444

The Information Commissioner is aware of a security breach at HM Revenue and Customs, where confidential details of 25 million child benefit recipients stored on computer discs have been lost. The Commissioner considers this to be a very serious situation and has released a statement voicing his concerns.

The HMRC has set up a Child Benefit Helpline on 0845 302 1444 for customers who want advice and more details of the incident.

The Chancellor has announced an independent review. It has been agreed that the full report will be made available to the Information Commissioner and he will decide what further action may be appropriate, following its publication. We would ask you not to make individual complaints to the Commissioner at this stage. We will release further advice and provide details of any action we take having considered the findings of the independent review.