

Written statement of a non-key decision
Cabinet

Title	Children's Services Statutory Direction
Decision maker	Cabinet Information about cabinet, including the names and contact details of the cabinet members, can be found here: http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=251
Date of decision	30 July 2026
Report exemption class	Open
Purpose	The purpose of this report is to present Cabinet with the outcome of the Inspection of Local Authority Children Services (ILACS) which took place 10-21 November 2025 and published 12 January 2026 and provide the DfE update on the statutory direction to Herefordshire LA (appendix A).
Decision	That a) Cabinet note the improvement made in Children's Services and the positive report completed by the DfE appointed commissioner; and b) Cabinet note the formal lifting of the statutory direction placed on Children's Services.
Reason for the decision	As set out in the report. Documents relating to this decision are available at http://councillors.herefordshire.gov.uk/mgIssueHistoryHome.aspx?Id=50055259
Options considered	None.
Declarations of interest (see below)	
Call-in expiry date (decisions are not subject to call-in where special urgency provisions apply)	5 August 2026

Councillor:

Date 30 July 2026

Leader of the Council (Councillor Jonathan

Lester)

- a record of any conflict of interest declared by any executive member who is consulted by the member which relates to the decision;

and

- in respect of any declared conflict of interest, a note of dispensation granted.