

Record of officer decision

Decision title:	Decision to prosecute
Date of decision:	18/1/2019
Decision maker:	Acting Assistant Director for Regulatory, Environment and Waste Services
Authority for delegated decision:	The chief executive's scheme of delegation
Ward:	Holmer
Consultation:	Legal Services: In accordance with S222 of the Local Government Act 1972 we consider a prosecution is both appropriate and reasonable in this matter for the promotion or protection of the interests of the people of the County of Herefordshire which is also in accordance with the Herefordshire Council's Enforcement and Prosecution Policy.
Decision made:	To prosecute 1 defendant for failing to secure the attendance of one compulsory school age registered child between 6 th and 20 th July 2018 contrary to S444(1) of the Education Act 1996 using the Single Justice Procedure
Reasons for decision:	<p>The defendant's child was absent from school on 6th July. School made contact with parent who stated they were in Poland and would return on 16th July. The child did not return before end of term. The school followed its attendance policy and stated it would be unauthorized and referred to Herefordshire Council. The child was absent from school. Attendance was 90.6%.</p> <p>A fixed penalty notice was issued for a previous holiday in 2017 a letter was sent to the defendant asking for the reasons for the absence the defendant did not reply.</p> <p>Evidence test is met via the statements, and the school attendance register It is in the Public Interest to prosecute because</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If this matter is not prosecuted there are grounds for believing that the alleged offence is likely to continue 2. A prosecution would have a significant positive impact on maintaining community confidence. 3. There are no known extenuating circumstances in respect of this matter such as illness, transportation issues or absence for religious observance etc.
Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:	none
Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:	none
Details of any declarations of interest made:	none

Signed. 

..... Date:

18/1/2019