

### Record of officer decision

<b>Decision title:</b>	Decision to prosecute
<b>Date of decision:</b>	
<b>Decision maker:</b>	Acting Assistant Directorate for Regulatory, Environment and Waste Services
<b>Authority for delegated decision:</b>	The chief executive's scheme of delegation
<b>Ward:</b>	Ledbury south
<b>Consultation:</b>	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.
<b>Decision made:</b>	To prosecute 2 defendants for failing to secure the attendance of their compulsory school age registered child between 22nd and 26th October 2018 contrary to S444(1) of the Education Act 1996 using the Single Justice Procedure
<b>Reasons for decision:</b>	<p>The defendant's child was absent <sup>from</sup> school on 22nd October. School activated their absence process. Defendants contacted school on 22nd October to say on holiday that week. School unauthorized absence. Child was absent from school for 10 sessions from 22nd to 26th October 2018. The child's attendance rate as of 13th March 2019 was 94.30%. Penalty notices were issued but not paid</p> <p>Officers wrote to the defendants regarding the absence but did not receive a reply. Evidence test is met via the statements, and the school attendance register</p> <p>It is in the Public Interest to prosecute because</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If this matter is not prosecuted there are grounds for believing that the alleged offence is likely to continue</li> <li>2. A prosecution would have a significant positive impact on maintaining community confidence.</li> <li>3. There are no known extenuating circumstances in respect of this matter such as illness, transportation issues or absence for religious observance etc.</li> </ol>
<b>Highlight any associated risks/finance/legal/equality considerations:</b>	None
<b>Details of any alternative options considered and rejected:</b>	None
<b>Details of any declarations of interest made:</b>	None

Signed:

23 APRIL 2019

Date: