Prosecutions in Great Britain (2013/14p)

Enforcement action taken by HSE, local authorities and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (2013/14p)

Contents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Summary</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutions taken by HSE* at a case level</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutions taken by HSE* at an offence level</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutions taken by local authorities* at a case level</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosecutions taken by local authorities* at an offence level</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This document is available from www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/index.htm
Summary
The information in this document relates to Health and safety statistic for 2013/14. The document can be found at: URL e.g. [www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/prosecutions.htm](http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/prosecutions.htm)

Over the last five years, the number of cases prosecuted by HSE, local authorities and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service* has remained fairly constant.

Offences prosecuted count individual offences of separate health and safety legislation. A duty holder may be prosecuted for more than one offence within the same case.

In the latest year HSE*:
- prosecuted 582 cases, with at least one conviction achieved in 547 cases, a conviction rate of 94%;
- prosecuted 988 offences, resulting in 881 convictions, a conviction rate of 89%;
- prosecutions led to fines totalling £16.7 million, an average penalty of £18 944 per offence.

In the latest year local authorities*:
- prosecuted 92 cases, with a conviction secured in 89 cases, a conviction rate of 97%;
- prosecuted 199 offences, resulting in 192 convictions, a conviction rate of 96%;
- prosecutions led to fines totalling £1.6 million, an average penalty of £8 225 per offence.

Figure 1: Number of prosecution cases resulting in at least one conviction instituted by HSE, local authorities and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service* (2009/10 – 2013/14)

Notes
Enforcement statistics are presented separately for HSE and local authorities. For HSE, data include enforcement activity taken by all divisions of HSE. These figures exclude enforcement action taken by the Office for Rail Regulation (ORR).

* In Scotland HSE and local authorities investigate potential offences but cannot institute legal proceedings. HSE and local authorities send a report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). COPFS makes the final decision whether to institute legal proceedings and which offences are taken. For more information, please see [www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm#enforcement](http://www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm#enforcement).
Prosecutions taken by HSE* at a case level

Offences prosecuted count individual offences of separate health and safety legislation. A duty holder may be prosecuted for more than one offence within the same case. The latest information for health and safety cases shows:

- in 2013/14p, HSE* prosecuted 582 cases, a decrease of 4% from the previous year;
- of these 582 cases, a conviction was secured against at least one offence in 547 cases (a conviction rate of 94%);
- duty holders found guilty of health and safety offences received fines totalling £16.7 million, giving average penalties on conviction of £30 511 per case;

the above figures exclude prosecutions taken by ORR.

Figure 2: Prosecutions instituted by HSE and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service* at a case level (2009/10 – 2013/14p)

* In Scotland HSE and local authorities investigate potential offences but cannot institute legal proceedings. HSE and local authorities send a report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). COPFS makes the final decision whether to institute legal proceedings and which offences are taken. For more information, please see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm#enforcement.

This document is available from www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/index.htm
Prosecutions taken by HSE* at an offence level

The latest information for health and safety prosecutions at an offence level shows:
- there were 988 offences prosecuted in Great Britain by HSE*;
- of these, 881 offences resulted in a conviction, a rate of 89%;
- duty holders found guilty of health and safety offences received fines totalling £16.7 million, giving average penalties on conviction of £18 944 per offence;

The above figures exclude prosecutions taken by ORR.

Figure 3: Prosecutions instituted by HSE and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service* at an offence level (2009/10 – 2013/14p)

* In Scotland HSE and local authorities investigate potential offences but cannot institute legal proceedings. HSE and local authorities send a report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). COPFS makes the final decision whether to institute legal proceedings and which offences are taken. For more information, please see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm#enforcement.
Prosecutions taken by local authorities* at a case level

Offences prosecuted count individual offences of separate health and safety legislation. A duty holder may be prosecuted for more than one offence within the same case. The latest information for health and safety cases shows:

- in 2013/14, local authorities* prosecuted 92 cases, a decrease of 16% from the previous year;
- of these 92 cases, a conviction was secured against at least one offence in 89 cases (97% of all cases proposed);
- duty holders found guilty of health and safety offences received fines totalling £1.6 million, giving average penalties on conviction of £17 743 per case.

Figure 4: Prosecutions instituted by local authorities and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service* at a case level (2009/10 – 2013/14p)

* In Scotland HSE and local authorities investigate potential offences but cannot institute legal proceedings. HSE and local authorities send a report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). COPFS makes the final decision whether to institute legal proceedings and which offences are taken. For more information, please see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm#enforcement.
Prosecutions taken by local authorities* at an offence level

The latest information for health and safety offences shows:

- local authorities* prosecuted a total of 199 offences, a decrease of 18% from the previous year.
- these 199 prosecutions resulted in 192 convictions (96%).
- duty holders found guilty of health and safety offences received fines totalling £1.6 million, an average penalty of £8 225 per offence.

Figure 5: Prosecutions instituted by local authorities and, in Scotland, the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service* at an offence level (2009/10 – 2013/14p)

* In Scotland HSE and local authorities investigate potential offences but cannot institute legal proceedings. HSE and local authorities send a report to the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service (COPFS). COPFS makes the final decision whether to institute legal proceedings and which offences are taken. For more information, please see www.hse.gov.uk/statistics/sources.htm#enforcement.
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HSE Enforcement
Statistician: Stephen Wright
Contact: stephen.cosas.wright@hse.gsi.gov.uk

LA Enforcement
Statistician: Simon Webster
Contact: simon.webster@hse.gsi.gov.uk

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