

**16 September 2013****Agenda Item: 6****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE  
END OF YEAR REPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER  
SERVICE****Purpose of the Report**

1. To update members of the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee about the activities within the Independent Reviewing Officer Service from April 2012 to March 2013. The report, attached as **Appendix 1**, focuses on the activities undertaken in the Independent Chair service throughout 2012/2013 and how this has impacted on the Looked After Children of Nottinghamshire. The report also comments on the actions taken to strengthen the quality assurance role of the Independent Reviewing Officers.

**Information and Advice**

2. The report (**Appendix 1**) informs the Sub-Committee about how the service has expanded in response to the growing numbers of the Looked After Children population in Nottinghamshire. The report details the work undertaken to develop the service and also identifies the key areas for development for 2013-2014.
3. During 2013 the Children's Social Care new operating model was introduced and as part of this three dedicated Looked After Teams were created to focus solely on the needs of all Looked After Children in Nottinghamshire. The links between the Independent Reviewing Officers and the three teams is being developed and we continue to raise the profile of the Independent Chair service along with the consistency and quality of the service itself.
4. The recommendations at the end of **Appendix 1** highlight the activities the service will be focussing on in the coming year, 2013-2014. The service is constantly looking at how it can develop and different ways in which it can seek the views of children/young people and their carers.

**Other Options Considered**

5. The report is for noting only.

**Reason/s for Recommendation/s**

6. The report is for noting only.

## **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

## **RECOMMENDATION/S**

- 1) That the activities of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service from April 2012 to March 2013 be noted.

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## **Constitutional Comments**

8. As this report is for noting only no Constitutional Comments are required.

## **Financial Comments (KLA 29/08/13)**

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

None.

## **Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

All.

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