

8 June 2015

Agenda Item: 11

## **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 the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee about the activities within the Independent Reviewing Officer Service from April 2014 to March 2015.

#### **Information and Advice**

2. The annual report, which is attached as **Appendix 1**, informs the Sub-Committee about the activities undertaken by the Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) in ensuring good outcomes for the children and young people in Nottinghamshire. It also takes into consideration how well the Service is doing and identifies areas for development in the coming year 2015-16. **Appendix A** to the annual report identifies the progress made from the last annual report for 2013-2014.
3. The report focusses on the key functions of the Independent Reviewing Officers and highlights the challenge and ongoing robustness of the IRO's role when working with looked after children and young people. Over the past year, due to the looked after population stabilising, this has enabled the IROs to increasingly fulfil the wider expectations of their role and increase their contact with children and young people in order to advocate on their behalf.
4. During 2014-15 service user feedback was sought by use of questionnaires provided to children and young people over the age of nine years, professionals involved and their carers. The outcome of the questionnaires has been very encouraging and the feedback provided will assist in developing the service further.

#### **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 crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working 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 2014 to March 2015 be noted.

**Steve Edwards**  
**Service Director, Children's Social Care**

**For any enquiries about this report please contact:**

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## **Constitutional Comments**

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

## **Financial Comments (SS 15/05/15)**

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

## **Background Papers and Published Documents**

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

End of year report for the independent reviewing Officer Service – report to Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee on 22 September 2014

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

All.

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