

13 June 2016

Agenda Item: 7

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE

END OF YEAR REPORT FOR THE INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER (IRO) SERVICE

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Corporate Parenting Sub-Committee about the activities and performance of the Independent Reviewing Officer Service from April 2015 to March 2016, and to inform the Sub-Committee of the areas of focus in the coming year.

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 focus in the coming year 2016-17.
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, the looked after population has remained stable and 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. Indeed IROs are continuing to find creative ways to ensure that children and young people are able to contribute to or attend their looked after reviews.

Other Options Considered

4. The report is for noting only

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

5. The report is for noting only.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. 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 services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, 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 and performance of the Independent Reviewing Officer service from April 2015 to March 2016, and the areas of focus in the coming year, be noted.

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Constitutional Comments

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

Financial Comments (SS 09/05/16)

8. 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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