



Independent Reviewing Service - Annual Report 2015/16

SUMMARY

- 1.1 The IRO Handbook 2010 provides the statutory guidance for Independent Reviewing Officers and Local Authorities on their statutory functions in relation to case management and review of looked after children. As part of this statutory guidance there is a requirement for the manager of the IRO Service to produce an annual report for the scrutiny of the members of the Corporate Parenting Committee.
- 1.2 The IRO service completed 1,170 statutory reviews in 2015/16
- 1.3 90.4% of statutory reviews held have been within required timescales. This is just under 5% of our target of 95%
- 1.4 The IRO service has continued to work very hard to ensure children and young people participate in their review. In 2015/16, 97.1% of all reviews had children and young people participating in them. This is above our target of 96%.
- 1.5 The IRO service has expanded and developed its QA notification process. This is now embedded in LCS. An informal QA process has also been introduced.
- 1.6 Feedback forms of the review process for children and parents have also been introduced. Feedback so far has been overwhelmingly positive.

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To receive the report

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

- 3.1 As part of IRO Handbook 2010 statutory guidance there is a requirement for the manager of the IRO Service to produce an annual report for the scrutiny of the members of the Corporate Parenting Committee.
- 3.2 It is essential that the Corporate Parenting Committee are aware of the performance of the IRO service, issues that may be impacting on this and children in care population that the IRO service is providing a service to.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4.1 The Independent Reviewing Service Annual Report 2015/16 can be found at Appendix 2.

OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 5.1 None

This report has been approved by the following officers:

Legal officer Financial officer Human Resources officer Estates/Property officer Service Director(s) Other(s)	Andy Smith Strategic Director of People Services
For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Pervez Akhtar Corporate Parenting Lead 01332 641120 Pervez.Akhtar@derby.gov.uk Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 – Independent Reviewing Service Annual Report 2015/16

IMPLICATIONS

Financial and Value for Money

1.1 None

Legal

2.1 Statutory obligations for the IRO service and Independent Reviewing Officers will be contained within the report

Personnel

3.1 None

IT

4.1 None

Equalities Impact

5.1 None

Health and Safety

6.1 None

Environmental Sustainability

7.1 None

Property and Asset Management

8.1 None

Risk Management

9.1 None

Corporate objectives and priorities for change

10.1 The content of this report underpins the priority commitment, Protecting vulnerable children, young people, adults and older people. Making sure that we take action to safeguard vulnerable adults and children that require higher levels of support including; our looked after children and vulnerable adults with learning disabilities. This will involve early intervention and prevention wherever possible.