

Report of the Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services

Independent Reviewing Service - Annual Report 2014/15

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 team completed 1,235 statutory reviews. The IRO for short breaks undertook an additional 94 reviews. In total the IRO service undertook 1,329 reviews in 2014/15.
- 1.3 94.4% of statutory reviews held have been within required timescales. This is just under 0.6 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 2014/15, 96.3% of all reviews had children and young people participating in them. This is above our target of 96%.

Pervez Akhtar, Corporate Parenting Lead will attend the meeting to present the report

RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 To receive the report
- 2.2 To receive the presentation of 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 None

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)	Andrew Bunyan, Hazel Lymbery and Andy Smith
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Background papers: List of appendices:	None Appendix 1 – Implications Appendix 2 - Annual Report of the Independent Reviewing Service 2014 –
	2015

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 commitments of 'Enforcement and compliance and Safeguarding vulnerable children and young people and adults' under the Council pledge of 'safe'.

Enforcement and compliance – focusing on making sure that we are meeting our statutory duties for keeping people of all ages appropriately safe and working with local businesses and the police to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour.

Safeguarding children, young people and adults – making sure that we take action when vulnerable adults and children require higher levels of support including; our looked after children and vulnerable adults with learning disabilities.