REPORT FOR: CORPORATE PARENTING PANEL

Date of Meeting: 10 January 2017

Subject: INFORMATION REPORT – Independent Review Officers’ Annual Report 2015/16

Key Decision: NO - INFORMATION ONLY

Responsible Officer: Chris Spencer, Corporate Director, Peoples Services

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Children’s Services

Exempt: No

Decision subject to Call-in: No

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: ‘Harrow Council – Children’s Services, IRO Annual Report 2015/16’

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report details information about the children looked after activity in Harrow during the period 1 April 2015 through to 31st March 2016 and is an evaluation of the work of the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO).
Recommendations:
Panel is requested to consider and note the content of the report.

Reason: The local authority has a statutory responsibility to ensure that there are Independent Reviewing Officers reviewing the Care Plans for Looked After children and young people (see attached Appendix).

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

The appointment of Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO) is a statutory requirement and their role is integral in ensuring that the local authority provides a quality service to its Looked After population which is in line with the Council’s vision and corporate priorities.

Current situation

See report attached.

Legal Implications


Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as a result of this report.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

The looked after population comprises of children and young people from a wide background of cultures, ethnicities, languages and religions and part of the role of the IRO is to check that a child’s needs are being met in all these areas.
Council Priorities

The Council’s vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

Please identify how the report incorporates the administration’s priorities.

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities
- Making a difference for families

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Information report only

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ward Councillors notified:</th>
<th>NO, as it impacts on all Wards</th>
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<td>EqIA carried out:</td>
<td>NO</td>
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Barbara Houston, Quality Assurance Manager.
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Background Papers: None.