

Independent Chairperson's Report 2015-2016

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1. Summary

The Annual Independent Chairperson's Report provides quantitative and qualitative evidence relating to the effectiveness of the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO's) and Independent Conference Chairs (ICC's) in Shropshire as required by statutory guidance. The report is attached at Appendix A.

2. Recommendations

The report contains recommendations to improve the service offered by the Independent Reviewing Unit and to improve outcomes for children subject to a child protection plan and to our looked after children. The purpose of presenting this report is to provide scrutiny with these recommendations.

REPORT

3. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

There are no risks associated with this report but there is opportunity to improve the quality of our service delivery by ensuring that our IRO's and ICC's act in the best interests of looked after children and children subject to a child protection plan and where practice is not at an acceptable level escalate this to the most appropriate manager with the seniority to address the areas of concern identified.

4. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

5. Background

In line with statutory guidance an annual report on the effectiveness of our IRO Service must be produced.

6. Additional Information

None.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)
The National Children's Bureau (NCB) research 'The Role of the Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO's) in England (March 2014)
'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (March 2015)
The Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 (LASPO)
Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
David Minnery
Local Member
All
Appendices
Appendix A: Independent Annual Chairpersons Report 2015-2016