

Item No. 7.	Classification: Open	Date: 29 April 2013	Meeting Name: Corporate Parenting Committee
Report title:		Independent Reviewing Officer Annual Report	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Strategic Director of Children's and Adults' Services	

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. That the Corporate Parenting Committee notes the Independent Reviewing Officer Annual report.
2. That an action plan be drawn up for implementation of recommendations.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

3. An annual report of the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) service for looked after children is required in guidance arising from The Adoption and Children Act 2002.
4. This report must be presented to the Director of Children's Services, the lead member for Children and the Corporate Parenting Panel. The report contains a summary of work completed by Southwark IRO Service for the period 2011-2012.
5. The IRO service continues to be well integrated within Children's services, has good levels of participation in reviews and strong links to the Speakerbox children in care council.

SUPPLEMENTARY ADVICE FROM OTHER OFFICERS

Director of Legal Services

6. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

Strategic Director of Finance & Corporate Services

7. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

Community impact statement

8. The decision to note this report has been judged to have no or a very small impact on local people and communities.

Equalities impact

9. The work of the IRO is intended to improve the outcome for looked after children.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
IRO Handbook	160 Tooley Street, London SE1 2QH	Jackie Cook 0207 525 50387

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix A	Independent Reviewing Officers Annual Report

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Rory Patterson, Director, Children's Social Care		
Report Author	Jackie Cook, Head Of Social Work Improvement And Quality Assurance		
Version	Final		
Dated	16 April 2013		
Key Decision?	No		
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER			
	Officer Title	Comments sought	Comments included
	Director of Legal Services	No	No
	Strategic Director of Finance and Corporate Services	No	No
	Cabinet Member	Yes	No
	Date final report sent to Constitutional Officer	16 April 2013	