Date of Meeting: 27 March 2018

Subject: Children’s Services, IRO Annual Report 2016/17

Key Decision: No

Responsible Officer: Paul Hewitt, Interim Corporate Director of People

Portfolio Holder: Councillor Christine Robson, Portfolio Holder for Children, Young People and Schools

Exempt: No

Decision subject to Call-in: No, as the recommendation if noting only

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: Harrow Council – Children’s Services, IRO Annual Report 2016/17

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report details information about the children looked after activity in Harrow during the period 1 April 2016 through to 31st March 2017 and is an evaluation of the work of the Independent Reviewing Officers.
Recommendation:
Panel is requested to consider and note the content of the report.

Reason for Recommendation: 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 report attached).

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph
The Independent Reviewing Officer 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.

Options considered
None.

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

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>on behalf of the</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jo Frost</td>
<td>Chief Financial Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Date: 9 March 2018</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Helen Ottino</td>
<td>Monitoring Officer</td>
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<td>Date: 13 March 2018</td>
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Ward Councillors notified: NO, as it impacts on all Wards

EqIA carried out: NO

EqIA cleared by: N/A - No decision is required

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Barbara Houston, Quality Assurance Manager  
Telephone: 020 8736 6934  
Email: barbara.houston@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None.