

CORPORATE PARENTING BOARD

7 April 2014

Independent Reviewing Officer Annual Report – April 2012 – March 2013

Report of the Executive Director of People Services

1 Purpose of the Report

This annual report of the Independent Reviewing Officer service is required by statute to enable senior officers and members to scrutinise the work of the service in relation to their statutory functions for looked after children.

2 Background

The report outlines the exercise of the functions of Independent Reviewing Officers in Sunderland in 2012-2013, highlighting the challenges arising from legislative changes since 2002, and from changes in regulations and section 7 guidance from 1st April 2011.

The annual report for April 2013 to March 2014 will be presented to the next meeting of the Corporate Parenting Board.

3 Conclusion

The report once considered by managers and members should be scrutinised and, once agreed, made available as a public document to evidence the scrutiny of the service.

