

Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs)

Your Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) is:

Email address:

@leeds.gov.uk

Mobile number:

Office address:

Children Leeds

What is an IRO?

IRO stands for Independent Reviewing Officer. They are very experienced social workers who are employed by Leeds City Council.

They have a clear role to:

- o talk to you
- o listen to you
- o chair your review meetings
- o make sure plans happen for you

When do I get one?

Shortly after you become looked after, your IRO will get in touch to talk to you about your first review meeting. They will help you to understand more about reviews and why we have them.

What do they do?

They chair your review meetings and will arrange to speak with you before each one, ideally 15 days before each meeting happens. They will talk to you about who should come to your review, where it will happen and whether you want to come along.

They get everybody at your review meeting to agree what needs to happen next for you. They will make sure that you get a written copy of the actions agreed there no later than four weeks after the meeting happens. They will

follow up to make sure that everyone does what they agreed to do, and try to sort out any problems when things don't happen as agreed.

How can they help me?

They will make sure your views and thoughts are heard and included in your care plan. They will make sure that your review meeting talks about things that matter to you. If you think your views are not being listened to, you might want to involve an advocate. The most important thing is that you have your say.

The Leeds Children's Rights Service can explain what an advocate does, and help you find one. They can also help to make sure your voice is heard. Phone them for free on: **0800 6527212**

Keeping in touch

You might want to speak to your IRO by phone, or send them an email or text. Their contact details are on the front of this leaflet.