

IRO LAC Focus Team Annual Report

1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

On 31st March 2023 there were 681 children in the care of Leicestershire County Council, this was 13 less than in 2021.

This year the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) Service chaired 1847 Review of Arrangement Meetings (ROA's) for our children and young people in our care.

125 children - Early Years (Age 0-4)
369 children of School Age (5 – 15)
197 children aged 16 – 17

62% boys
38% girls

We are really proud of the work that IROs do to have oversight of quality of the service you have. This year IROs did 185 alerts for worries to bring improvement and recognised 94 examples of good practice

We are pleased that 99.1% of your ROA meetings took place within timescale. This is a higher than last year, where 96.2% took place in time.



In early 2023, our Children in Care Council created a survey 'Language of Care' which they asked to be completed across Leicestershire's Children in Care. Feedback showed positive and your IROs are part of the team to use this to make our language in meetings and records clear and easy to understand

209

During 2022-23, 90.84% of children took part in their review meeting either in person or by sharing their views. This is important to keep your views at the centre of everything we do

On 31st March 2023
92.41% of our children have a permanence plan agreed within 4 months which means they have a sense of belonging.

What can we do better?

1. Our online consultation form to be used more so your are even more involved
2. Better oversight of how your health is managed
3. More use of our Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire
4. Make sure our data is up to date and drives improvement for children
5. Continue to explore Equality & Diversity needs and understanding of trauma for children in care

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