

Independent Reviewing Officer - IRO

Hello, my name is Ria Lane, and I am the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) at the City of London



What does an IRO do?

Because you are not able to live with your parent(s), you are being cared for by the City of London Corporation, the Corporation has the same role as a London Council.

You are living in a foster home or in a residential home with adults who can support and look after you.

Your social worker must make sure there is a plan for you, it is called a **care plan**. This plan records things like:

- Where you live
- Your education
- Your health
- Activities you like to do
- Time with your family
- How your culture and religious needs are met

If you are 16 or 17 years old, your care plan will be called the '**pathway plan**' after 3 months of you being in care or turning 16. This records all of the things that a care plan does. It also makes plans for **your future**, for when you become an adult at 18 years old.

It is my job (the IRO) to make sure that your plan is the right one for you and to make sure your feelings and wishes are listened to.

I will hold a meeting called a **Your Review** within 20 days of you coming into our care. You will be invited to this meeting; with your social worker and the adults who are looking after you. At your first meeting I will give you my contact details and information about other services that can help you.

I hold this meeting to make sure there is a clear plan for you and that you understand it. I will always talk to you on your own before your meeting to find out what you are thinking and if there is anything you want to talk about in the meeting.

At the end of the meeting, I make a list of things the social worker and adults in your life need to do. I will check that these actions have been completed before your next meeting.

I will hold these meetings for you **every 6 months**, throughout the time you are in our care.

I look forward to meeting you soon.