

Roles of Children's Commissioner New Zealand (February 2010)

Jurisdiction	New Zealand
Name	Children's Commissioner
Legislative base	<i>Children's Commissioner's Act 2003</i>
Independence	Independent crown entity reporting to the responsible Minister
Reporting to Parliament	Required to table an annual report to Parliament. Can table special reports to Parliament.
Appointment	The Commissioner is an independent crown entity appointed by the Governor General.
Grounds for dismissal and who can dismiss	The Commissioner may be removed from office by the Governor General on advice of the Minister for just cause.
Advisory Committees	May establish advisory committees Young People's Reference Group established
Role	Role to advocate for the interests, rights and welfare of children aged 0-18 in New Zealand. Monitor and assess care and protection and youth justice services provided under the Children, Young People and Their Families Act
Functions: Advocacy	Broad advocacy functions through research, policy, community education and public awareness, special inquiries, releasing public reports and making recommendations to Parliament, Executive Government, non government organizations and business corporations.

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Functions: Complaints	Promote establishment of accessible effective review and complaints mechanisms for children Investigate and make recommendations on individual complaints.
Functions: Employment Screening	No
Functions: Accreditation	No
Functions: Child Death Review mechanisms	Advisory role in child death review mechanisms
Functions: Other	
Children:	
○ Age	0-17 years inclusive
○ Target Group	All children and young people
○ Population	4,354,776
Year established	1989
Commissioner/ Guardian	John Angus
Website	http://www.occ.org.nz