



Coversheet

Appointment of Children's Commissioner

Hon Louise Upston, Minister for Social Development and Employment

These documents have been proactively released.

12 November 2025, Report – REP-25/11/887 – Appointment process for the role of Children's Commissioner, Ministry of Social Development.

21 November 2025, Report – REP/25/11/917 – Detailed Children's Commissioner appointment process, Commissioner, Ministry of Social Development.

11 February 2026, Report – REP/26/2/083 – Proposed shortlist for the role of Children's Commissioner, Ministry of Social Development.

21 April 2026, Report – REP/26/3/244 – Children's Commissioner – Nomination panel advice and selection of preferred candidate, Ministry of Social Development.

10 June 2026, Aide memoire – REP/26/6/428 – Children's Commissioner: Appointment, Ministry of Social Development.

16 June 2026, Cabinet paper – Children's Commissioner: Appointment, Minister for Social Development and Employment.

16 June 2026, Cabinet Appointment and Honours Committee Minute APH-26-MIN-0110, Cabinet Office.

6 July 2026, Appointment instrument and cover letter, Minister for Social Development and Employment.

An appointment process (undertaken in line with the Children's Commissioner Act 2022 and the Crown Entities Act 2004) was required to address the expiry of the Children's Commissioner's term on 31 July 2026. The documents involved in the appointment process are listed above.

It should be noted that since being appointed, the Children's Commissioner has resigned from all boards listed in the candidate CV form that is part of the 16 June 2026 Cabinet paper, *Children's Commissioner: Appointment*.

Some parts of this information release would not be appropriate to release and, if requested, would be withheld under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). Where this is the case, the relevant sections of the Act that would apply have been identified. Where information has been withheld, no public interest has been identified that would outweigh the reasons for withholding it. This is the key to the redaction codes used for this release:

- Section 9(2)(a) – to protect the privacy of natural persons
- Section 9(2)(g)(i) – to maintain the effective conduct of public affairs through the free and frank expression of opinions to the Minister

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