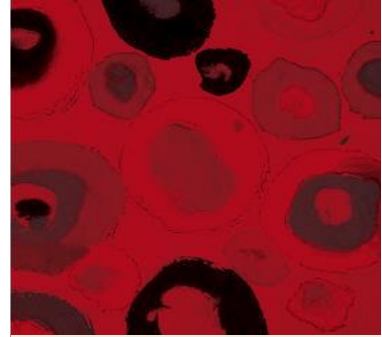




MANAAKITIA A TĀTOU TAMARIKI

**Children's  
Commissioner**



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## **Children's Commissioner commends cross party support for Child Poverty Reduction Bill**

The Children's Commissioner is delighted by the announcement this afternoon that the Child Poverty Reduction Bill will receive cross party support.

"I think this is fantastic news" Commissioner Becroft says. "It is a giant step forward in addressing child poverty and all parties concerned deserve credit and congratulation.

"It is truly gratifying to see our leaders working together and rising above political differences to advance such a critically important piece of legislation."

The broad based support the bill will now enjoy means the issue of child poverty will come out of any narrow party political agenda, the Commissioner believes. It is something most people in the sector had been hoping for and will mean parliament can quickly move to make genuine progress that focusses on all children especially, those in most need.

"The real beneficiaries of this act of genuine bipartisan leadership will be New Zealand's 1.12 million children and young people, and especially those 80,000 who are doing it really tough", the Commissioner says.

### **About the Office of the Children's Commissioner**

The Children's Commissioner is an Independent Crown Entity, appointed by the Governor-General, carrying out responsibilities and functions set out in the Children's Commissioner Act 2003. The Children's Commissioner has a range of statutory powers to promote the rights, health, welfare, and wellbeing of children and young people from 0 to 18 years. These functions are undertaken through advocacy, public awareness, consultation, research, and investigations and monitoring. The role includes specific functions in respect of monitoring activities completed under the Children, Young Persons and Their Families Act 1989. The Children's Commissioner also undertakes systemic advocacy functions and investigates particular issues with potential to threaten the health, safety, or wellbeing of children and young people. The Children's Commissioner has a particular responsibility to raise awareness and understanding of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Children's Commissioner's activities must comply with the relevant provisions of the Public Finance Act 1989, Crown Entities Act 2004 and any other relevant legislation.