



Media Release
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Catholic Social Services Australia Welcomes Establishment of National Children's Commissioner

Catholic Social Services Australia welcomes the Federal Government's decision to establish a National Children's Commissioner.

"This national office will enable a much needed high level focus on the wellbeing of children and young people," said Executive Director of Catholic Social Services Australia, Mr Paul O'Callaghan. "This is a welcome concrete step toward ensuring that children's rights are taken seriously in policy and legislation at the national level."

"We would expect the National Children's Commissioner to not only complement but to strengthen the important work of existing state and territory children's commissioners and guardians. Its establishment under the Australian Human Rights Commission provides an authoritative springboard for achieving that", said Mr O'Callaghan.

"The next step is to ensure the accompanying legislation enshrines the Commissioner's independence to advocate as a champion for children's issues and concerns, and equips the Commissioner to ensure that the voices of children and young people are heard," said Mr O'Callaghan.

Catholic Social Services Australia, along with its 69 agencies providing direct care for children, young people and their families, looks forward to working closely with the new Commissioner to fulfil a shared vision for the wellbeing of all Australian children and young people," Mr O'Callaghan said.

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