



MEDIA RELEASE 21/04/09

Children in Scotland welcomes nomination of new Children's Commissioner

Children in Scotland welcomes the nomination this morning of Tam Baillie, currently Director of Policy for the children's charity Barnardo's Scotland, as the new Commissioner for Children and Young People in Scotland.

Mr Baillie is set to replace Kathleen Marshall, who became the first Children's Commissioner when the Commissioner's Office was set up in 2004 to promote and safeguard the rights of young people and ensure children's interests are represented and their voices heard. Parliament will be asked to agree the nomination tomorrow (22 April) and Mr Baillie is expected to take up the post in mid-May.

Dr Bronwen Cohen, Chief Executive for Children in Scotland, said:

"Tam Baillie has extensive experience of working with and on behalf of children and young people and we welcome his nomination. Kathleen has set the standard for Scotland's Commissioner for Children and Young People: combining shrewd analysis with an ability to engage with children and young people and a willingness to stick to her guns when required. We will miss her in this vital role but we are sure that Kathleen will continue for many more years to find ways of advancing the well-being of children."

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Notes to Editors

1. For further information, please contact Tracey Francis on 0131 222 2419, or by email at tfrancis@childreninscotland.org.uk

Children in Scotland is the national agency for voluntary, statutory and professional organisations and individuals working with children and their families in Scotland. It exists to identify and promote the interests of children and their families and to ensure that relevant policies, services and provision are of the best possible quality and able to meet the demands of a diverse society. For further information visit: www.childreninscotland.org.uk