

14. OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSPERSON FOR CHILDREN

- 14.1 The Office of the Ombudsperson for Children was established in 2003 with the objective to: ensure the rights, needs and interests of children are given full consideration by public bodies, private authorities, individuals and associations of individuals; promote child rights and best interest of children; and promote compliance with the Convention of the Rights of the Child.
- 14.2 Among its core functions, the Office is required to: investigate into cases of violations of the rights of the child; make proposals on legislation, policies and practices regarding services to, or the rights of, children; ensure that children under the care or supervision of a public body are treated fairly, properly and adequately and that their legal rights are protected; and carry out regular awareness and sensitisation activities on child related issues.
- 14.3 The overall accountability of the Office rests with the Ombudsperson for Children who is required to represent and defend the rights of children in Mauritius, Rodrigues and Agalega; children of Mauritian origin who are abroad; and children of any other nationality who are in the Republic of Mauritius. The Secretary, Ombudsperson for Children's Office is responsible for the day-to-day administration and is supported in his duties by Investigators and officers in the General Services grades.
- 14.4 For this review exercise, we have not received any representation from the staff side. Management's main submissions were to: review the mode of recruitment to the grade of Secretary, Ombudsperson for Children's Office; amend the qualifications requirement of the grade of Investigator and review eligibility for 70% duty remission facilities. During the consultative meeting, parties were apprised of the philosophy behind upgrading of qualifications requirement. As regards the grant of duty remission facilities, they were requested to participate in the Survey on Travelling and Car Benefits. The Bureau has examined the requests in light of the scheme of service and information obtained from the newly written Job Description Questionnaires and considers that the present qualifications requirement of the grade of Investigator is appropriate.
- 14.5 We consider that the present structure of the Office of the Ombudsperson for Children is appropriate to enable it to carry out its mandate effectively.

OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSPERSON FOR CHILDREN

SALARY SCHEDULE

Salary Code	Salary Scale and Grade
08 067 093	<p>Rs 34825 x 825 - 35650 x 900 - 37450 x 950 - 42200 x 1300 - 46100 x 1575 - 49250 x 1650 - 54200 x 1700 - 64400 x 1800 - 69800 x 2000 - 71800</p> <p>Secretary, Ombudsperson for Children's Office</p>
02 058 088	<p>Rs 27400 x 825 - 35650 x 900 - 37450 x 950 - 42200 x 1300 - 46100 x 1575 - 49250 x 1650 - 54200 x 1700 - 62700</p> <p>Investigator</p>
24 025 058	<p>Rs 15485 x 260 - 17825 x 275 - 18925 x 300 - 19525 x 325 - 21475 x 375 - 22225 x 400 - 23425 x 525 - 26050 x 675 - 27400</p> <p>Driver</p>

