



Hon Dr Michael Cullen
Deputy Prime Minister
Attorney-General
Minister of Finance (including responsibility for the Government Superannuation Fund)
Minister in Charge of Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations
Leader of the House

Dr Michael Cullen is the Deputy Prime Minister, Deputy Leader of the Labour Party, and one of Labour's longest serving MPs. He has been Finance Minister and Leader of the House since Labour took office in 1999.

He was first elected to Parliament in 1981 as the Member for St Kilda in Dunedin.

Dr Cullen has two daughters, a stepson and stepdaughter and is the proud grandfather of two. He is married to Lawson Anne Collins, a primary school teacher and a former Labour MP. Dr Cullen has New Zealand nationality but was born in London. He emigrated here as a child. His birthdate is 5 February, 1945.

Dr Cullen was made Senior Government Whip when Labour took office in 1984 and entered the Cabinet in 1987 as Minister of Social Welfare and Associate Minister of Finance. He added Associate Minister of Health to his mix of portfolios in 1988 and in 1989 was made Associate Minister of Labour.

He became Deputy Leader in 1996 when Labour was in Opposition. His shadow portfolios in the opposition years included: Social Welfare, Accident Insurance and Finance.

Before entering Parliament, Dr Cullen was a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Otago. He did his MA at Canterbury University, was a UK Commonwealth Scholar and did his PhD at Edinburgh University. He has written two books: *The Statistical Movement In Early Victorian Britain* and *Unlawfully Occupied*.

The Minister likes to listen to music, read, play golf badly and renovate houses in his spare time.