To: Local Government Division (DPaC)

**Subject:** Submission Draft Dog Control Amendment Bill 2019

**Date:** Sunday, 22 September 2019 9:34:38 PM

To whom it may concern:

I am aware that over the past couple of years, dogs have decimated penguin colonies at Binalong Bay and Bicheno, as well as at other beaches around Tasmania. As a resident and dog owner living in St Helens, I am upset that this occurs. The native fauna are an important attraction for tourists visiting these areas, as well as residents, and there is the expectation that these animals should be protected.

I agree that penalties for dog attacks on Tasmanian wildlife should be increased, however this will not solve the problem. Dog attacks have to be prevented. I believe that dogs should be banned from all Tasmanian beaches where penguins are nesting. Surveillance cameras should be installed and Animal Control Officers (or similar) should be constantly patrolling these areas. Other measures may also have to be employed.

At this moment in time, it will be almost impossible to catch the culprits as some Tasmanian councils don't have full time Animal Control Officers, let alone surveillance cameras. Also, many of these attacks occur at night when penguins are out of their nests.

Much more has to be done to protect our wildlife.

