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To:

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[Local Government Division \(DPaC\)](#)

Subject:

Comments: Draft Dog Control Amendment Bill 2019

Date:

Wednesday, 18 September 2019 2:07:16 PM

I support the proposed amendments to the Dog Control Act 2000. However, I feel that it could go further regarding dog carers/owners allowing their dogs to harm native wildlife. I suggest it is time to consider the option of custodial sentences for offending owners. Whilst courts may be reluctant to impose a prison term, the fact that it is on the statute book may send a strong message.

My background:

- Lifelong dog owner/carer, mainly terriers, spaniels, Labradors and a couple of 'biters'.
- A Masters Degree in Environmental Management, with a thesis dealing with the effects of dogs on the environment. This thesis topic was chosen because of my casual observation of dead bandicoots and other wildlife as a result of dog attacks. The literature search leading into my thesis indicated that dogs were a global problem environmentally. Not only do they kill wildlife, often in large numbers (e.g. penguins in Tasmania, kiwis in New Zealand) but they transmit diseases (e.g. canine distemper) to a wide range of wildlife around the globe, disturb breeding, feeding and resting mammals and birds, compete for prey and in scavenging carcasses and result in erosion in heavy use/high dog density areas.

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