

**Deputy Premier
Minister for Education and Training
Minister for Primary Industries and Water
Minister for Racing**

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6 March 2015

Ms
.com.au

Dear Ms

Thank you for your correspondence to the Tasmanian Government regarding the Flinders Island veterinarian.

The Government has no plans to reduce biosecurity services on Flinders Island.

Biosecurity Tasmania, within the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and the Environment, has just commenced a review into how best to improve delivery of contemporary biosecurity services on the Bass Strait Islands and will consult with stakeholders over coming months. The Government established Biosecurity Tasmania as a more integrated organisation to protect Tasmania from pests, diseases, weeds and invasive species, including on the Islands.

The Tasmanian Government has for many years funded a veterinary officer on Flinders Island who provides biosecurity services, including animal welfare support, animal disease investigations, and quarantine inspections.

The same officer also conducts a separate private veterinary practice out of the Government Offices on the Island with that facility provided at no charge.

How the private veterinary practice conducts its business is a commercial decision. The Government has not been advised that that the private veterinary practice is in question.

I understand that there is also another private veterinarian who periodically services Flinders Island.

If you have any further questions, please contact Craig Elliot, Manager Biosecurity Operations, on (03) 6777 2171 or Craig.Elliott@dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Again, thank you for writing to the Government on this issue. I can assure you there are no intentions of reducing biosecurity on the island.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeremy Rockliff".

Jeremy Rockliff MP
**Deputy Premier
Minister for Primary Industries and Water**