

Minister for Primary Industries and Water  
Minister for Veterans' Affairs

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Ms Tabatha Badger MP  
Email: [Tabatha.badger@parliament.tas.gov.au](mailto:Tabatha.badger@parliament.tas.gov.au)

29 MAY 2026

Dear Ms Badger

In Parliament on 5 May 2026, you asked the following question on behalf of your constituent:

*My question is from Lyons constituents who are working to control the population of invasive rainbow lorikeets. Despite years of awareness campaigns, the population and damage being caused by rainbow lorikeets continues to grow across the state, placing pressure on local biodiversity and the agricultural sector. Earlier this year a volunteer-led group tackling the issue won the Tasmanian Biosecurity Award. But volunteers alone cannot be expected to manage this escalating biosecurity threat. Given there is still a critical window to control this species before impacts become entrenched, as we have seen happen in Western Australia, will you act on stronger legislative measures, including restrictions on the breeding and sale of rainbow lorikeets in Tasmania? Will you commit to a properly funded, coordinated control strategy, rather than continuing to rely on under-resourced volunteers to manage a growing invasive species crisis?*

Firstly, thank you for your question on behalf of your constituent. The rainbow lorikeet (*Trichoglossus moluccanus*) is an established pest in Tasmania with self-sustaining populations in Hobart, Launceston and on the North-west coast.

The Tasmanian Government will soon release the Tasmanian Invasive Species Action Plan 2026-2029, which sets out priorities and an implementation framework to guide efforts in the management of invasive species, including established pests such as rainbow lorikeets.

The rainbow lorikeet is a controlled animal under the Nature Conservation Act 2002 and the species cannot be imported into Tasmania except with approval from the Secretary of the Department of Natural Resources and Environment Tasmania. Keeping, breeding and selling rainbow lorikeets in Tasmania is not currently restricted under Tasmanian legislation.

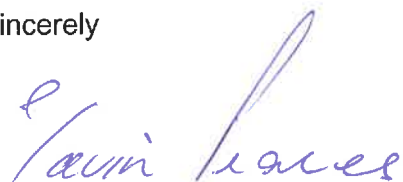
Given the established wild populations and ongoing breeding occurring in the environment, any additional regulatory or legislative measures would need to be carefully considered to ensure they are practical, effective and proportionate. I have asked my Department to provide further advice on what additional measures may be possible to strengthen management arrangements and support broader control efforts.

The Landcare Tasmania Rainbow Lorikeet Management Group that you refer to is a proven community-based model that can support local management of invasive species. Biosecurity Tasmania welcomes interest from groups interested in pursuing similar community-led

management programs focusing on trapping birds. Biosecurity Tasmania can provide existing equipment, as well as advice on how to trap and euthanise birds successfully and humanely.

Thank you again for raising this matter on behalf of your constituents.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gavin Pearce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial 'G'.

Hon Gavin Pearce MP  
**Minister for Primary Industries and Water**