

**INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF CAT POPULATIONS  
IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially  
Confidential

I live in a town where there are plenty of abandoned, mistreated and neglected cats. The general human population seems to have a high level of ignorance in relation to companion animal welfare and ownership responsibility.

I get frequent visits by cats at all hours. Most would be strays. I've set up a humane animal trap and captured a few. I immediately post on social media to try locate owner and I take the cat to a vet to scan for a microchip. Only one time has one been chipped and the details were allegedly not current as it was a previous owner who had on sold it who said they'd simply given up on the cat as it wouldn't return home. It was no older than 18months at the time.

Most of the time a cat was caught, scanned, no owner found, then I'd query council pound and rescues and everyone was full every single time. I was advised to just let the cat go. As this continually occurred, I gave up trying to capture them. Humans are simply terrible at pet ownership and will always put themselves first. When they lose a rental etc the cat is abandoned because everywhere is full. Was it desexed? Mostly no. So the cats roam, kill, breed...

It's not their fault, but it is a serious problem. Humans need to be held responsible and it needs to first be prevented. How? Ban cat breeding. Set up a government facility which houses all the current cats for sale and strays, neuter them all and sell via there only. No backyard breeding or instant jail for one year for every litter plus a \$100k fine per litter with all proceeds to go to wildlife carers that are looking after the cat attack survivors. Enforce cat containment laws with clearly defined minimum containment size housing requirements. Allow current owners access to funds to create them.

Have hunters use tranquilisers rather than bullets to capture cats to haul into said government facility. Note: this will create jobs; building, hunting, caring, medical etc. Facility can then do their best to teach cats to be calm and acceptable home pets rather than fierce hunters. Some of course will be too feral and those will need to be put to sleep in a humane manner. All cat owners (new and current) should be forced to attend an education seminar on cat welfare and caring for them properly. There's no quick fix but it's a doable, long term solution.