

Supplementary  
Submission  
No 31a

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

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DO NOT BLAME THE CATS PLEASE – this is the fault of humans.

- 1) Immediate **FREE DESEXING in hotspots and disadvantaged areas**. The biggest reason cats are homeless is because people don't desex and they dump cats making them become homeless community cats. Unfortunately even if you were to offer free desexing some people can't drive or are still too plain lazy to get cats desexed so I suggest councils provide a **pick up service or a mobile van in hotspot areas**.
- 2) Support and promote **Trap-Neuter-Release TNR** programs for homeless cats with **FREE DESEXING**. This has been shown in the USA and in parts of Victoria to be **highly effective** in reducing populations in a humane manner and sparing the mental health of the vets who are made to euthanise. Manpower is needed to assist in the trapping of the cats for desexing. Many community cat carers are empaths who struggle to do it all on their own.

Community cat carers are currently desexing and feeding abandoned cats out of their own pockets with very little help from anyone. Rehoming organisations get grants and discounts but there is very little done to support the independent carers on the ground. These cats should **be chipped to the feeders or an organisation** so that if cat haters trap the cats to be killed they can be recognised and returned to the carers safely and **without incurring fines**.

- 3) **REMOVE registration fees** for companion animals including cats regardless of age. These are unreasonable and excessive in our current dire cost of living situation and contribute to people dumping cats. By taking in homeless cats we are helping them off the streets and we shouldn't be burdened with these registration fees.
- 4) **Tougher laws on animal abuse and poisoning/harming cats which includes community cats** and including the promoting and suggesting of harming homeless and community cats, including social media. People encouraging this should be reported and banned. Ohio in USA has brought in a new law that homeless and community cats have the same rights in regard to animal abuse as owned cats
- 5) I **strongly oppose mandatory containment of cats**. This will encourage cat haters to trap and kill wandering and community cats. Lazy and uncaring owners will still allow their cats outside and there should be education in **ALL LANGUAGES of the importance and safety of keeping cats inside AND DESEXING**. Many ethnic groups still think cats are dirty and should be kept outside but they should be educated that cats are some of the cleanest animals and can be kept inside.
- 6) That the ABC, Tanya Plibersek and the Government **stop pushing their war on cats** because this is **empowering cat haters to use vile and cruel methods to harm cats**. The govt is using inflated figures of "cats killing wildlife" that have been challenged by Emeritus Professor Jacquie Rand from the Australian Pet Welfare Foundation and blatantly disregarding land clearing and deforestation as being the biggest culprit but using cats as scapegoats.

- 7) BIGGER SHELTERS or please release some land for a cat sanctuary. There would be many people who would volunteer to work in a cat sanctuary if it meant getting the poor homeless cats off the street.