

**Submission
No 67**

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

Name: Ms Michelle Gable

Date Received: 7 November 2024

Having volunteered in feeding colony cats & adopting one that's now been desexed & domesticated & now harmless to the environment. I see the problem of abuse is more owners neglecting the welfare of their cats & not bothering to desex or spay them & sometimes then dump. So you have cats continuing the breeding cycle over & over. People are not made to desex or keep indoors & most won't spend the money either to desex or build cat enclosures for them. Which is why our rates should be a levy to automatically get all animals desexed and spayed for free & rebates for responsible ownership & things like building enclosures. We are paying more and more to euthanise more and more stray animals. It's a huge cost to local councils with the numbers growing & local animal shelters are full. Why wouldn't we just incorporate it like waste collection & water to reduce the numbers of animals that are its environment live off native species to slow the decimation.

The Invasive Species Council is intensifying its attacks on cats, rallying supporters to make submissions that promote lethal controls and call for mandatory cat containment, despite lacking evidence that these measures work. Plus they are cruel, objectionable methods & cats do not deserve to be treated like the enemy when it's the abuse of owners & breeders who have let them down.

Instead of subjecting horrific abuse onto poor cats who are just trying to survive when dumped we need to make people who own animals responsible for them from the get go.