

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 22 November 2024

Partially
Confidential

Dear Sir/Madam,

I write to protest very strongly regarding the lack of legal restraints preventing household cats from roaming freely, killing wildlife at will. We are all aware of the shocking and unacceptable statistics.

Also what should be taken very seriously into account is the distress and harm to health this issue is causing the community who love and care for their wild life.

My son is an animal lover and lives adjacent to bushland reserve. The blue tongues, water dragons, skinks, frogs etc are HIS PETS. His wild pets. He has (had) names for them. He cared deeply for them. They are now mostly all gone! His neighbour bought two pet cats and refused to keep them indoors even though their unfenced backyard backs onto the bushland.

Why are the owners of pet cats (and authorities) allowed to turn a blind eye to the killing of a neighbour's pets? In this case, wild pets.

My son has been deeply distressed by the carnage! His health and well-being has been adversely affected.

At GREAT expense (especially with single income and young baby) he has fenced off his entire property with cat proof fencing to protect what remnants of wildlife he still has and hopefully save and encourage other creatures to seek protection there.

Why should the community suffer like this? Why should there be a human toll because irresponsible cat owners refuse to contain their pets?!

What also needs to be considered is the fracturing of neighbourly relations that is caused because there are no rules by which cat owners and neighbours can go by.

Please, we need action now. 🙏

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]