

Submission  
No 319

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

**Name:** Ms Julie Parker  
**Date Received:** 21 November 2024

---

Humans are responsible for the increasing cat population. Humans breed, buy and sell cats and kittens, abandon their cats, and fail to desex or contain them. It is therefore not right, and immoral, to allow humans to shoot or poison these resulting animals.

To control Australia's cat population, a multi-pronged approach is needed, beginning with stemming the flow of new cats.

Cats bought from breeders costs one in a shelter the chance of a loving home. Shelters and pounds euthanise 50,000 health cats and kittens a year and yet 25% of cats are still being purchased from breeders.

DESEXING is the key to make sure the problem is not compounded. We need extensive and readily available desexing programs that are affordable to all. Government subsidies are needed, along with legislation restricting the breeding and sale of animals by breeders.

Neutering has many other benefits too, particularly making males less likely to roam and fight, saving native animals.

Please -

- Ban the sale of animals by breeders in petstores and online;
- Ban kitten farms;
- Continue and promote mandatory microchipping
- Increase public education about the importance of cat desexing;
- increase state funding of adoption groups and shelters to better house impounded animals and enhance rehoming efforts - I personally have experience of working with a cat rescue and know the efforts and expense that rescuers go to to save dumped cats, often with little outside funding;
- Government funding of desexing programs
- use of euthanasia where necessary not cruel methods such as shooting and poisoning

Thank you.