

**Submission
No 302**

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

Name: Mr Martin Kenny
Date Received: 22 November 2024

I would like to lodge a submission regarding options for managing cats that are pets.

I live in an environmental protection zone and witness weekly the devastating destruction of our birdlife from our neighbour's cat. It is neither kept indoors at night or during the day. We regularly hear it calling at all times of night and day.

Our neighbours do not respond to our requests to keep their pet cat inside.

I would encourage the NSW Legislative Council's Animal Welfare Committee to recommend amending the NSW Companion Animals Act 1998 to enable local governments to enforce anti-roaming laws for pet cats at a local level.

Local governments should have the power to make cat containment or cat prohibition mandatory, especially in areas with cat-sensitive wildlife species nearby.

Local governments should have the power to enforce laws that require owners to keep pet cats indoors or in contained areas outdoors at all times.

Local governments should have the power to enforce laws that require breeders and sellers and owners of cats to ensure any cat in their care is desexed, micro-chipped, registered and kept indoors at all times.

I am sure cat owners love our native animals as much as they love their pet animal.

I am also certain that if cat owners understood that roaming pet cats kill 390 million animals per year in Australia, most of them native species, they would understand the importance of keeping their cat contained:

To protect our native wildlife, who never evolved with such an efficient predator, it's imperative we keep our cats contained – all day, every day.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my submission.