

Submission
No 337

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

Name: Annabel Peeling
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New Rent Laws Pass

This is a good result. The new rent laws will make it easier for renters to have pets. In the past, owners have surrendered their cats to animal shelters or the cats have been abandoned. The new rental laws will make a difference to stop this from happening.

Lots of people love to have pets. It is a fact that owning a companion animal can have an overwhelming effect especially with people who are suffering with low self-esteem or mental problems. Having an animal does lift your spirits. Animals are such good company!

NSW Parliament Homeless Cat Inquiry

The idea of cat desexing vouchers for low income households and hoarders is a good start but can this service be made available to all Ryde residents who own pets?

Would Ryde Council be willing to approach local Vets to discuss the Council subsidising the cost of desexing? What are other Councils doing in this regard?

The ongoing problem is - there are too many cats, kittens, strays etc. By subsidising the cost of desexing this would decrease the cat population over time. This could take a few years but we have to start somewhere. Eventually it could decrease the number of homeless cats to a manageable level.

Animal shelters are full to capacity. Would the Council consider making more shelters available?

I volunteer at WLPA. In this economic climate the organization has taken in surrendered cats and cats/kittens that have been dumped. The nominal adoption fee includes vaccinations, desexing and microchipping. The new owners are advised to keep their cats inside or have a fenced in enclosure/balcony. This will protect the environment and fauna.