

Submission
No 391

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 19 November 2024

Partially
Confidential

NSW government has the responsibility to address the issues that impact the situation many of these lost or stray cats find themselves in at no fault of their own.

- *People who dump pregnant cats and litters of kittens.

- *Unregistered and illegal breeders.

- *Crimes involving the theft of cats from their yards and dumping them in other locations as an act of entertainment or by disgruntled neighbours.

- *The selling of cats and kittens via Facebook market place, Ebay or similar uncontrolled sites.

- *Enforceable laws for those who abandon their pets when moving properties.

- *Stronger controls to enforce desexing and pet registration.

- *More resources for council pounds and rangers.

In other countries there are funded rescue, neuter and return organisations used to control and reduce stray cat colonies which are proven to effectively reduce overall populations.

To resort to the immediate culling of animals that maybe a family's lost and treasured pet is unethical. Funding a neuter program would be more effective and more humane. All living creatures have the right to life. It is not the animals fault that they have to find the means to survive if dumped or abandoned by humans.

The fiasco that occurred with the stray cat slaughter in the Stockton waterfront area near Newcastle highlighted the horrific methods used by those culling the animals and the inhumane approach taken of leaving severely injured cats to die painfully and slowly when the cull approach used was unsuccessful. The local communities were outraged and shocked that this was sanctioned by the authority who took this measure to rid the waterfront of strays.

Please do not sanction the outright slaughtering of animals. As humans we share this planet with all living creatures equally.

Instead fund programs appropriately or create new programs that have or use proven methods to stop, reduce and control stray cat populations.

I do not support the idea proposed to cull cats.