

Submission
No 406

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

Name: Name suppressed
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Partially
Confidential

Cats, like other pets that people have in their lives have an important and significant role in society. They provide comfort, companionship, and love. They are in turn, cherished and loved by their owners - like myself - who freely admit i would be so lonely without my cats.

I agree that cats should be contained in homes - they are a threat to the wildlife and it is dangerous for them - however the way this is managed must be careful. Not everyone can afford to immediately have a catio built on their home. Furthermore, cats should not be used as a scapegoat for protection issues - this government has been rubbish at protecting koalas and other native wildlife so trying to get rid of peoples loved and loving pets seems cruel and stupid.

Actions should include:

Legislation must ensure that landlords have to allow non-permanent structures such as 'catio' to be built - ensures quality of life for pets while they are kept safe and contained.

Older persons should be allowed to take pets to care facilities.

People who hurt animals should be given SEVERE and APPROPRIATE punishment. All sentient life is our kin and there should be no tolerance for people who act with impunity as they know you will act slowly if at all.

No kill shelters be established AS OPPOSED to kill shelters. No only are kill shelters stupid and cruel- what kind of people do people become if they are forced to work in such dreadful places.

Operating shelters should be funded more appropriately and supported to manage cat populations in their areas.

Efforts to conduct TNR to reduce populations must be conducted in a safe and humane manner.

If you ever wonder why people resort to violence to solve problems, and why there seems so much violence - consider your responses to issues such as this. Demonstrate care and compassion for your community. Remember that peoples health and wellbeing, including their mental health, is closely linked to love and care of pets.