

Submission
No 432

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

Name: Name suppressed
Date Received: 17 November 2024

Partially
Confidential

To whom it may concern,

Whilst I in principle support the management of pets, and as cats are being considered in this enquiry, I would like to put forward some point for the discussion.

Pets, including cats, are great companion animals and bring much joy to their owners.

If potential curfews and stricter population managements is not very carefully considered, I am very concerned that the outcome may not lead to the desired effects but may instead cause mayhem with vigilantes taking it upon themselves to act outside of set boundaries.

In my opinion, education and support is a much better solution to this problem.

Firstly, subsidise neutering of cats and kittens and provide education programs in multiple languages and into communities where funding might be a true hurdle for such actions. This will greatly assist in limiting the unwanted breeding of cats, and also provide a safer environment for all cats as less aggression would be likely.

Encourage, rather than punish, people to keep their cats inside and/or confined. There are many solutions to keeping cats happy and safe within a property's boundaries.

Secondly, support the many rescue groups that already exist. I know of several groups that successfully run programs that trap, neuter and release cats found in colonies and who assist owners that may not be able to afford this procedure. To make such programs legal and supported would be very helpful.

For councils and local government to work with and support rescue groups when identifying hoarding situations, and follow the above advise.

Best regards,