

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

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Date Received: 23 October 2024

I assist with a colony and I also volunteer with rescuers on the ground around the Sydney area to raise funds and help find cats find homes, doing all we can to avoid the RSPCA and pounds who KILL cats ie Kevin as one example.

TARGETTED AND CHEAPER DESEXING - The biggest cause of homeless cats is from people dumping, abandoning and leaving cats behind because they haven't desexed them, including pregnant cats and kittens. Desexing ranges from \$600 to \$260 - how can they justify this range of price. Some (very few) Sydney LGA's offer cheap desexing from time to time.

Most of the reasons given by people for not desexing is the cost, they don't drive, they can't be bothered or their religion forbids it. Most are unaware that cats can get pregnant from 4 months. The second cause of homeless cats are people moving who cruelly leave the cats behind using the excuse that they are moving overseas or their new landlord doesn't allow pets.

Council needs to be more proactive in the **EDUCATION OF THE IMPORTANCE OF DESEXING** in ALL LANGUAGES and **CHEAPER DESEXING**. Vets should not be making a big profit from this - it should be a community service. A pick up and return services or mobile van could be used for those that don't drive, are infirm or just can't be bothered.

TNR should be encouraged for colonies and **NOT CATCH AND KILL**. This has been shown overseas to be more effective and humane than **KILLING**. Colony feeders love their cats as if their own and this should be respected.

BIGGER SHELTERS to accommodate homeless cats to rehabilitate and rehome.

I DO NOT AGREE WITH MANDATORY CONTAINMENT - this will only result in the death of cats who are homeless or owned by people who don't bring them inside. There are religious and moral reasons people don't let inside (ie animals are dirty, animals belong outside, will damage furniture etc) as well as those that just don't care. You may say they don't deserve that cat..so what happens...that cat dies. I am against healthy cats being euthanised in any form.

RSPCA AUDIT - **IT NEEDS TO BE A RESCUE** and **NOT ANIMAL CONTROL** - they need to stop killing so many cats and acting like a business. This makes us rescuers avoid them and the burden falls on the rescue groups who are bleeding dry. I am talking about ALL rescues and not just the rehoming ones. Small rescues are always left behind when it comes to grants.

LANDLORDS (public and private) should not be allowed to discriminate against people if they have a cat. This is cruel. Pets are family. This is one of the main reasons cats are left behind (as well as relatives clearing a deceased estate).

BIGGER FINES for dumping and animal cruelty. So many nasty cat hating men in Sydney, spurred on by the lies from Invasive Species Council, are catching neighbors cats to kill or dump far away in national parks which means certain death. It is bizarre that Tanya Plibersek listens to

rabid cat hater Jack Gough from Invasive Species who wants to kill cats whether stray or "feral". Jack has admitted on TV interview he hates all cats. Why is the Govt listening to him?

The Australia Pet Welfare Foundation has disputed the numbers Jack has exaggerated.

CAT SANCTUARY - Can council give some land for a simple cat sanctuary that would house the street cats that can't be rehomed. There would be no shortage of volunteers, especially the colony feeders.