

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Cat Act 2011 amendment needed to keep cats in owner's property
Date: Monday, 22 July 2019 12:12:08 PM

The Cat Act should be brought into line with the Dog Act 1976.

- 1) Cats in public places must be tethered or under the control of the owner/adult (ie on a lease).
- 2) Cats should not be allowed to roam outside their domicile property.
- 3) Cat owners should be required to register each cat, and have it neutered and microchipped and confine it to their property.
- 4) A person should be allowed one neutered cat only.

The present Act allows cat owners to have no responsibility for their cat or cats. This is unacceptable and wrong. Cats are by nature killers - of fauna, especially birds. They are responsible for so much carnage of our natural wildlife.

They are a nuisance to people in the neighbourhood as they wander and hunt by day and night. They also destroy plants in gardens by lying on them in wait for birds that visit, knock over and break bird baths, and using seedling boxes to defecate in. They disturb people's sleep at night when they fight.

The Cat Act needs to be updated to allow Local Government to deal with cats in public places or on property other than its owners, i.e. particularly on nearby properties. The Cat Act needs to be brought into line with the Dog Act so that owners are made responsible for their cats and their whereabouts.

Update of this Act is needed to enable Local Government to deal more easily with stray and feral cats, and for state government to deal with cats in regional and national parks and areas for which it is responsible e.g. S.W. forests. They need to be given financial assistance to deal with this problem of stray cats as it is a major problem that is urgent and needs to be dealt with.

The JSCDL committee has made it extremely difficult for local government to deal with the problem of stray cats. They have done the public of W.A. no favours where local government has tried to address this problem and assist residents affected by roaming cats. The present Act that requires local government to return a cat to its "owner" with no penalty is unacceptable. This is nonsense.

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