

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** megan@nzcac.org.nz  
**Sent:** Monday, 13 November 2017 1:31 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:****Part 2 - General:****Part 3 - Stock:****Part 4 - Cats:**

Dear Palmerston North City Council

Please accept this submission on behalf of the New Zealand Companion Animal Council (<http://nzcac.org.nz/>). The NZCAC supports Palmerston City Council's recommendation to mandate the microchipping and desexing of companion cats.

The NZCAC would like to request that you provide some clarity on which cats this will apply to e.g. owned cats, stray cats, colony cats etc.

Below is a copy of our submission which provides full justification behind why NZCAC supports the councils recommendation.

**1. Proposal**

The Animals and Bees Bylaw should be amended to include:

(1) All domestic cats must be microchipped and registered with the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, or other Council approved microchip register.

(2) All domestic cats must be desexed by a veterinarian by 10 weeks of age or once they reach 1kg in weight.

(3) A cat is exempt from desexing clause (2) if any of the following apply:

- (a) The owner provides a certificate from a veterinarian stating that the desexing of that cat will adversely affect its health and welfare;
- (b) The cat is owned, for the purpose of breeding, by a cat breeder registered with The New Zealand Cat Fancy or Catz Incorporated.

**2. Justification - Microchipping****a) Importance of Microchipping:**

An important aspect of being a responsible animal owner means ensuring your pet is identifiable. The New Zealand Companion Animal Council believes that all pets should be able to be identified as owned. Such identification gives the animal a greater degree of protection and a much higher chance of being returned to their home when lost. Research has indicated that return-to-owner rates for cats that are microchipped is 20 times higher than for cats that are not microchipped.

During the 2011 Christchurch earthquake 85% of owners of microchipped pets were able to be contacted within 3 hours, whilst only 25% of non-chipped pets were reunited with their owners within a 7 day period. Unlike other methods of identification, microchipping is the only permanent and unalterable form of identification currently available for cats.

In New Zealand cats are the most popular companion animal. In our most recent report "Companion Animals in New Zealand 2016", we documented that 44% of New Zealand households have at least one companion cat – this equates to 1.1million cats. From 2011-2015 the proportion of cats microchipped has more than doubled from 12%-31%. However, this is still substantially lower than dogs at 71%. Compulsory microchipping will help increase the number of companion cats that are microchipped.

Recently the Wellington City Council amended their Bylaw to include microchipping and registration on the New Zealand Companion Animal Register, or other Council approved microchip register.

#### b) Benefits of Microchipping to the Owner:

- Microchipping allows the owner of a lost cat to be contacted so that the cat and owner can be reunited.
- Owners of cats that are injured can be promptly identified and are able to make decisions about the cats' treatment.
- Cats that are straying or causing nuisance can be identified and owners can be contacted and educated about their responsibility.

#### c) Benefits of microchipping to Council Animal Control Departments and other Animal Welfare Organisations:

- Quicker repatriation by using the New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR) means less costs for managing and feeding found animals.
- Less administration and time spent on trying to locate owners using social media and advertising.
- Less demand on shelters for larger premises and less cost to Councils trying to fund such systems.
- Profits from the register help animal charities and projects in New Zealand; Over \$2.8 million has been raised by the NZCAR since the launch in 2007.

#### d) Why the New Zealand Companion Animal Register is the Best Choice for a Microchip Register:

The New Zealand Companion Animal Register (NZCAR: <http://www.animalregister.co.nz/>) is New Zealand's leading register for microchipped companion animals. NZCAR currently has over 470,000 animals registered, including over 260,000 cats.

The New Zealand Companion Animal Council has spent considerable time and resources coordinating the creation of the NZCAR which has become New Zealand's leading register for microchipped animals. The reason the NZCAR is so effective at getting lost pets home is that responsible pet owners have taken the time to microchip and register their pets on a single register that has support from the leading companion animal welfare organisations.

Six organisations financed the creation of the NZCAR and today each of these organisations provide a trustee to oversee both the continued development of the register and the dedicated trust set up to manage the funds generated.

The six stakeholder organisations are:

#### 1. New Zealand Veterinary Association

2. RNZSPCA
3. NZVA Companion Animal Society
4. New Zealand Kennel Club
5. New Zealand Cat Fancy
6. New Zealand Companion Animal Council

The NZCAR stakeholders have worked very hard to learn lessons from overseas microchip registers and to form relationships within New Zealand that enhance and expand the effectiveness of the NZCAR.

Within New Zealand we believe the NZCAR is the best choice for a repatriation register as it is New Zealand's largest dedicated repatriation database for companion animals.

The NZCAR is used by over 822 organisations, including 542 Vet Clinics, 52 SPCA branches and programmes, 64 Territorial Authorities, well as many other implanters, shelters and other organisations within New Zealand:

- No other register, including the National Dog Database, has the number of outlets where a microchip can be quickly scanned and contact information accessed to speed repatriation
- No other New Zealand register offers 24/7 online access, along with 365 days a year 0800 phone support.
- No other register offers the Scanner Angel network for free to New Zealand pet owners.
- No other New Zealand register is owned by the leading animal welfare agencies and uses the profits to help fund animal charities and projects within New Zealand.
- No other New Zealand register has given away over \$100,000 of microchip scanners around New Zealand to help make microchip readers even more accessible for getting lost and found pets scanned.
- The NZCAR is also actively involved in looking at future technologies that can help get more pets home and spends considerable time working with a number of overseas companies who are leading product developers in their field.

NZCAR is a not for profit venture and is raising funds to help even more companion animals. Over 60% of all income generated by the NZCAR is passed to the New Zealand Companion Animal Council (NZCAC) and to the New Zealand Companion Animal Trust (NZCAT) to help fund their activities and to assist animal charities and projects in New Zealand. The NZCAC has spent over half a million dollars helping fund desexing and microchipping initiatives around the country. It has also helped fund new technologies that benefit lost pets too.

The trust currently has over \$1 million invested, and this continues to be added to through transfers from the NZCAC and the return on investments. The goal is to build a self-sustaining fund that can fund a wide range of companion animal projects and charities throughout New Zealand. To date the trust has already funded over \$250,000 worth of projects with a significant percentage of this fund supporting the SPCA.

### 3. Justification – Desexing

#### a) Importance of Desexing:

The New Zealand Companion Animal Council supports the desexing of all domestic cats and believes it is a vital part of being a responsible owner.

The overpopulation of cats is a well-known and recognised issue not only in New Zealand but throughout the world. According to the lasted Companion Animal Report produced by the New Zealand Companion Animal Council there are currently an estimated 1.134 million companion cats in New Zealand, making them the most popular companion animal in New Zealand.

Domestic cats can reach reproductive maturity as early as 3.5 months of age. Research conducted in Australia has shown that only 70% of cats are desexed prior to the age of 6 months, allowing opportunity for sexually mature cats to produce litters before they are desexed.

The exact numbers of stray unowned cats in New Zealand is not definitively known, however one study has estimated it to be around 196,000. With most companion cats in New Zealand being free roaming the likelihood of interaction between owned and stray cats is extremely high. Consequently, there is huge potential for un-desexed owned cats to mate with stray cats and produce unwanted litters which contributes towards the overall overpopulation issue in New Zealand.

Each year thousands of cats and kittens are taken to animal shelters, many of which are either unsuitable for adoption or are unable to find homes and are subsequently euthanised. There is a lack of national statistics relating to cat numbers in animal shelters, however, over the past three years 25,000 cats and kittens have arrived at the Auckland SPCA alone.

This is representative of the issue New Zealand wide and should be addressed through implementing mandatory desexing of owned cats to prevent unwanted litters and breeding with the stray cat population.

#### b) Benefits of Desexing:

Desexing has been shown to have numerous health and behavioural benefits for the individual cat, as well as positively influencing urban animal control and overpopulation problems.

Population control and community/owner benefits associated with desexing include (but are not limited to):

- Reduction in unwanted litters and cats/kittens euthanised at shelters
- Reduction in nuisance behaviour e.g. wandering, mating noise, spraying, predation of wildlife
- Improved behaviour - reduced hyperactivity, more affectionate, less anti-social

Benefits associated with desexing for female cats include (but are not limited to):

- Disease prevention – reduced risk of mammary cancer, Pyometra (potentially fatal uterine infection), uterine and ovarian tumours.
- Increased life-span

Benefits associated with desexing for male cats include (but are not limited to):

- Disease prevention - reduced risk of testicular tumours, prostate cancer and disorders.
- Reduction in wandering and fighting behaviour – prevents associated injuries e.g. abscesses.
- Increased life-span

#### c) When Should Desexing Occur:

Research suggests there is no significant behavioural and physical advantages of desexing at the traditional age of 6 months. The New Zealand Veterinary Association supports pre-pubertal desexing of cats from 8 weeks of age, and cites benefits of early age desexing including improved population control, faster surgical procedure with less trauma and stress for the individual cat, and reduced recovery times.

It can therefore be assumed that waiting until the widely practiced age of desexing (6 months) is

1-5

likely to result in the production of unwanted litters. This issue could be mitigated by amending the bylaw to include compulsory desexing at 8 weeks of age (or earlier) or when the cat reaches 1kg in weight.

The New Zealand Companion Animal Council believes that having your cat desexed, microchipped, and registered on the NZCAR is a key part of responsible pet ownership.

The NZCAC kindly asks that you consider this submission in relation to any future amendments of the current bylaw.

Many thanks,

Jessica

Dr Jessica Walker Manager  
The New Zealand Companion Animal Council Inc.  
Mobile: +64 21 555285 Email: [manager@nzcac.org.nz](mailto:manager@nzcac.org.nz)

PO Box 4, Waiuku, Auckland, 2341, New Zealand

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Like us on Facebook

**\*\* Please Note** I currently work on a part-time basis (Mondays and Tuesdays only). If you have contacted me outside these days and your message is urgent please contact the Chair of The New Zealand Companion Animal Council: [chair@nzcac.org.nz](mailto:chair@nzcac.org.nz)

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

I am happy to email a copy of our submission document which contains references for the information cited.

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

True

**Name:**

Megan Khan-Ure

**Email:**

[megan@nzcac.org.nz](mailto:megan@nzcac.org.nz)

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

2

9931895

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 11:03 AM

**To:** Submission

**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Support mandatory desexed cats. Maybe do a drive for desexing for those who would find it financially difficult to pay for more than 1 let.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Nicola Death

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

3

9934112

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 11:05 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Support mandatory desexing and microchipping . This should extend to pet shops and private sellers per sale. Four cats would be a better limit.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

Permits should not make the council money. Not for profit.

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Phil Taylor

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

4

9932415

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 11:17 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I wholeheartedly agree with the new rules around the de-sexing and microchipping of cats. I would think however that it would be better to have council put rules in place for people wishing to breed rather than put it in the hands of the Cat Fancy club that promotes breeding and earns a application fee out of it.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Danny Auger

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False



**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 11:38 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Unfortunately owners with low income will not be able to afford the approx. \$300 cost of de-sexing AND microchipping. Wellington did 8 dollar microchipping with the lady coming to the owners homes, when the new law was introduced. Something like this would help with chipping and de-sexing. De-sexing is much more important though.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Yvonne Petri

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 11:49 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Absolutely agree with the proposed changes. Stricter controls on cat ownership are incredibly important and necessary to encourage responsible pet ownership, and to help protect our native ecosystems.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Mia Lennox

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

7

9935014

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 12:04 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Support mostly. Maybe not so much on restrictions to own more than 3. But something should be in place to allow council to check up on properties and owners with more than 3 to ensure the well being of the pets.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

Support.

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Bianca Ravelich

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 12:07 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:****Part 2 - General:****Part 3 - Stock:****Part 4 - Cats:**

I think this is an excellent addition to the bylaws. Mandatory de-sexing is desperately needed nationwide and I applaud the Palmerston North City Council for spearheading such an important issue. I thoroughly support the mandatory de-sexing and micro-chipping of felines. It would be good to know any penalties imposed if this isn't adhered to. Also, perhaps the council could look at subsidizing the cost of this for lower income households?

**Part 5 - Pigs:****Part 6 - Poultry:****Part 7 - Bees:****Part 8 - Administration:****Administration Manual:****Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Madeleine Gray

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

9

9935611

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 2:25 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**  
Good idea

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**  
Natalie

**Email:**  
**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**  
True

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Keeping pets and animals: policy and bylaws review submission

**Do you think Council should consider allowing dogs on-leash in any of these areas?:**

No I do not consider the Council should allow dogs on leads in these areas as there are always irresponsible dog owners who will not pick up dog poo. In the C.B.D this could then be trampled into leaving shopkeepers with a mess and a smell to clean up. Dogs will poo whether on a leash or not.

There would be the exceptions such as seeing eye dogs etc.

**Are there any on-leash areas that you think should be off-leash - or changed to prohibited public areas?:**

**Do any of these areas need to be reconsidered as 'on-leash' areas?:**

**After reviewing the maps and schedules of dog control areas, are there any areas that need to be added? (Find the maps on our exercising your dog page.):**

**Do you have any other general comments or ideas about what we should be considering in the review of the Dog Control Policy and associated bylaw?:**

**Do you think Council should place restrictions on the number of cats you can have?:**

Yes

**Please explain the reason for your answer::**

Because there are too many cats in any one area and so people who do not have cats are the ones who suffer in having their gardens and environment spoilt by cats urinating and pooing

**Should the restrictions be higher, lower or stay at the current level?:**

**Please explain the reason for your answer::**

No one in a city environment needs 3 cats. 2000 square metres could see you with 12 cats - i.e 4 properties x3 equals 12.

**Do you think Council should encourage people to microchip their cats?:**

Yes

**Please explain the reason for your answer::**

When a cat is hurt or killed then it is much easier to find the owner.

**Do you have any other general comments on what we should be considering for the review of the bylaw section on cats?:**

Cats should be limited to 1 cat per property.

Currently on the social media site of facebook there are endless pleas for people to take the owners pet cat or dog in as they can either not afford to feed or are changing houses and a lot of rental properties to not allow pets in the property.

**Stock:**

I am concerned that when this bylaw was set up "Urban area" was considered to be a standard quarter acre section. Now the city has a lot more rural urban area within it's boundaries and I believe this policy needs a property size set into it of 1 acre for Deer donkeys and horses and a half acre for sheep, goats and alpacas. There must always be sufficient space to graze the animal/s and allow grass to regrow.

**Pigs:**

I am concerned that when this bylaw was set up "Urban area" was considered to be a standard quarter acre section. Now the city has a lot more rural urban area within it's boundaries and I believe this policy needs a property size set into it for pigs of 1 acre. to allow for housing and defecating areas as the pigs do not like to defecate around their shelters.

**Poultry:**

I am concerned that when this bylaw was set up "Urban area" was considered to be a standard quarter acre section. Now the city has a lot more rural urban area within it's boundaries and I believe this policy needs a property size set into it of half an acre to allow for shelter and open area access. If poultry is allowed on smaller property sizes it assists in giving food and shelter for rats and mice to breed.

**Bees:**

These are a very special resource and I would really love my own supply of honey but having a member of the household who when he got a bee sting also had a major adverse reaction to the stings, I would consider a standard section size not to be suitable for a hive.as you do not know your neighbour's reaction to stings. .

**General comments:**

I have thought carefully about my responses. I lived on a rural property for 40 years and we had dogs, poultry, cats. sheep, pigs. I brought an elderly cat to town with me (that is now deceased) but am forever being surprised by the number of cats that have made my property their own. There needs to be respect for people and property and the animals also need room to grow. A little puppy or tiny kitten will grow into a bigger animal and as the child to whom it was given grows up so their interest in a bigger animal lessens and they want another baby one.

**Name:**

Jennifer Olsson

**Email:**

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 6:17 PM

**To:** Submission

**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Desexing and micro chipping should be mandatory. The delay seems sensible.

The differential in property size for the number of cats permitted should be dispensed with.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Jillene Durham

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



12

9934712

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 6:25 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

For Beekeeping In urban I certainly agree that permit application should be part of the bylaw with considerations around nuisance to public etc. An animal officer appointed by council can assess the appropriateness if something like this. What's more is I am a beekeeper myself and I would like to propose that PNCC require all beekeepers to including migratory beekeepers to declare their apiaries and hive count along with the legislated apiary registration number so that more control can be achieved in urban and rural sites around the townships, I also wish to propose that regulations imposed on commercial beekeepers in Manawatu to restrict moving hives near townships past a specific threshold, as many are currently placing hives on the immediate boundary of Ashhurst which we are noticing is resulting in more bees in the township competing for the floral food sources and increased risk of disease spread, Honey robbing, swarming and bee stings to public. In the past my apiary was situated in the Horrowhenua and the HDC required all beekeepers to apply for backyard Beekeeping and surrounding rural sites for consent to keep bees. These were issued as per the assesment report by the animal control officer. All the apiaries locations could be listed by the local council for any Enquiries. I think this encourages more responsible Beekeeping and is more in line with Best practice

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Aidan Wright

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

13

9932414

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 8:15 PM

**To:** Submission

**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I definitely agree to this bylaw. It is the responsibility that comes with owning any animal and as there is such an over population of cats it would be a shame for it not to be passed. Massey University are also offering cheap desexing through a new training program for students which would help with cost issues.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Emily

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 8:20 PM

**To:** Submission

**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I agree having done both to my only cat. But how will this effect long term prices and accessibility of cats in pet shops?

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

Bees are important to our flowers and vegetables restriction on number of hives will see prices for both flowers and vegetables soar.

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Tania

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

15

9933603

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 November 2017 11:38 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Desexing is a MUST

My one concern is that I feed and provide shelter to 3 strays (turned up starving one day).

They are skittish and fearful of humans, including me and will never be pets.

I caught in traps and had them desexed (ears clipped to show that)

Will I have to catch and micro-chip too? That is unfair really.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

I have a serious issue with people being allowed multiple dogs registered. Let's face it, it screams puppy mills

(I know of at least one...dogs are registered)

Why do councils turn a blind eye? Is it because it's a good money revenue?

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Ginny Manderson

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 6:06 AM

**To:** Submission

**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Support - as a cat owner there are so many irresponsible owners (I.e. the ones that don't get their cats desexed and then sell/give away on fb by and sell pages, which the new owners are also unlikely to get them desexed). Obviously people will still ignore, like they do with dogs but this should catch the majority of owners who would actually obey the rules.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

Support - only if these are for rural towns and not for Palmerston North city or the suburbs. These animals have no place in the city as they are farm animals.

**Part 7 - Bees:**

Oppose - as someone who has been affected with the adverse affect of being in the bee flight path in a residential area. The bee poo (wax) destroyed clothing on the washing line and was incredibly difficult to remove from windows, even a professional window cleaner couldn't get it off it needed scrapping with a finger nail (as to not damage the glass). Now I know the particular resident worked at the council so knew the bylaws and knew no one could stop him. So he had one hive to start with a never noticed many issues but he ended up with about 3-5 if not move boxes and then we significantly noticed issued which impacted on our daily lives due to having to rewash clothing, consistently cleaning windows daily to deal with the bee poo. If I lived rurally I would have understood but not in a Palmerston North suburb. I understand bees are important to the eco system but there is a place for that and it does not belong in the suburbs or city.

If bees are significantly impacting neighbours due to flight paths (which the owner cannot force to be changed) then they should be forced to relocate them off their property.

As well as the health risk to people and pets that are allergic to bees, it increases the risk that they will be stung.

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

Support - fair enough to put a limit on cat ownership, as per dog ownership.

Oppose - allowing more beehives in the Palmerston North City and suburbs. This should be kept to rural towns only.

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Rebecca

17

9932835

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 7:37 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I totally support micro chipping and de sexing of all cats. None of my animals I have ever owned have had a chamber to have babies. I have always got them fixed, this is a responsibility my parents have taught me. There are far to many kittens being sold of given away on Facebook because they are to lazy to get their animals de sexed. I am lucky enough to be able to afford it but maybe have a cost cutting program to help. I also have problems with strays or big toms coming and bullying my cat because he's not fixed and thinks it's his house when it's not. This is a great idea to hold pet owners responsible and I will never let any of my animals have babies because I cannot afford to look after them and it's not fair to be giving away kittens which are just going to have babies and the cycle continue.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Katherine Mcgruer

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 11:23 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

I work as a veterinary nurse and do not see how these changes can be unforced. Female cats are very difficult to check if they have been spayed or not, and who is going to go around catching all wandering cats, checking their desexing status and if they have a microchip? I believe that the councils would be spend their money on working towards education regarding good pet ownership and dealing with the huge amount of aggressive dogs in Palmerston North.

Also regarding the rooster bylaw I believe rather than having a permitting system which unless is very cheap people will simply not pay and the current issue of not knowing where the sound is coming from will continue; a mandatory either use of "no crow collars" or decrowing should be issued. My rooster has a collar and he this reduces the noise level he makes to that which I can not even hear from within my own home.

**Part 2 - General:****Part 3 - Stock:****Part 4 - Cats:****Part 5 - Pigs:****Part 6 - Poultry:****Part 7 - Bees:****Part 8 - Administration:****Administration Manual:****Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Scott

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

19

9931334

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 2:51 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Mandatory microchipping and desexing. Totally agree with the number of strays and abandoned cats out there, this will make people responsible for their pets.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Claire Kelly

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



20

9935610

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 6:19 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I think this is great - microchipping, limiting numbers and having breeders register.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

I agree with the changes.

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Tabitha

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 6:48 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I am in strong favor of compulsory microchipping & desexing of cats.  
I think limiting all properties to 2 cats would be preferable

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

I don't think Roosters or any loud poultry (Peacocks etc) should be allowed in Palmerston North City.  
Allowing them in the small towns is a good idea

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Daniel Carrick

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

22

9931893

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 9:13 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I agree to part of this bylaw, no more than 3 cats definitely, de sexing cats yes.

Micro chipping cats - No

Cats are not pron to wander more than a few houses from their normal abode. Dogs are the ones who are wanderers & liable to cause harm to humans or other dogs livestock etc. Cats are harmless & micro chipping is an un nessesary exercise.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Linda Moore

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

23

9933200

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

Support the bylaw

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Should be microchipped and desexed and a limit to how many a property should have ie 3 unless your a certified breeder.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

Should be on farms only

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

Chickens yes but not roosters

**Part 7 - Bees:**

Don't think there is anything wrong with some hives on properties

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

I think it's great to offer cheaper microchipping and desexing but it's still not getting across. Maybe some door knocking and postal advise might help spread the word.

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Caroline Persson

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



24-2

## Animals and Bees rules – what's the buzz?

Making sure all our city's creatures live amicably together has seen management rules change to reflect our city's changing animal keeping practices since Palmerston North was founded in 1866.

It's been 56 years since Council passed its first bee bylaw in 1961. Neighbouring Kairanga, now within the city boundary, passed an Animal, Poultry and Bees Bylaw in 1963. A bylaw for both cats and dogs followed in 1972.

Fast forward to today! A set of bylaws, last amended in 2013, have meant city residents can enjoy their pets and manage livestock in a responsible way. The bylaws help people understand their impact on neighbours and protect public health and safety.

Earlier this year Council started the review of the Animals and Bees bylaw, which generated a ton of interest from residents. Changes have been proposed based on this feedback. We want to know if we got it right!

The proposed changes include:

- the need for cat owners to microchip, register and desex their cats. *Should this change go ahead owners would be given a full twelve months to fulfill the requirement* **Yes**
- the need for a permit to keep more than three cats on a property in the urban area **Yes**
- restricting keeping roosters in Ashhurst, Bunnythorpe, Longburn and Linton; permit required for inner city roosters **Yes**
- a new definition of 'Animal' covering: cats, pigs, poultry, alpacas, cattle, deer, donkeys, horses, sheep and goats **Yes**
- the production of clear guidance for animal owners seeking permits. **Yes**

"The Animal and Bees Bylaw review has certainly been a talking point in Palmerston North neighbourhoods. The proposed changes will give the community an opportunity to express views on animal management and compare this to what is happening nationally. For example, Wellington City Council were the first to introduce compulsory microchipping of cats earlier this year," says Ann-Marie Mori, Policy Analyst.

Dog management is not included in these bylaws, dog control rules will be reviewed in 2018.

Make sure to have your say! Submissions close 4pm Thursday 21 December.

Fill out our online form:  
[www.pncc.govt.nz/animalsandbeesbylaw](http://www.pncc.govt.nz/animalsandbeesbylaw).

SCANNED

29 NOV 2017

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 4 December 2017 7:05 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

"6.1 No person may keep animals in a way that, in the opinion of an authorised officer, causes or is likely to cause a nuisance or injury to the health or safety of any person."

The definition of the term nuisance (provided in the bill) is relatively subjective. To then give an official discretion to determine if an animal may cause (as opposed to is causing) nuisance seems too preemptive. I can see why the term "may cause" should be used before "injury" as in this case preventative measures seem more appropriate.

6.2 [as above] With a term like "nuisance" it seems more reasonable to police of an animal is causing nuisance rather than determining that it may cause nuisance and preemptively policing behaviour.

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

It seems odd that the Council would consider it appropriate that a household could have a bull in their garden (as per clause 7.1 but not a small breed of pig. Could it be outlined in the act why pigs are deemed less suitable for urban habitation than cattle, donkeys, deer, horses, or other stock.

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

Is it possible in bills that it be outlined why certain things are banned or licensed. While I am sure there are great reasons to ban roosters or desex cats (I can make a pretty good guess at both), nowhere is it made explicitly clear why. As residents we have the right to understand the reasoning, or lack thereof, behind creating bylaws so that we can decide whether we support or oppose the reasoning behind such laws. Such transparency facilitates real engagement with the democratic process.

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

True

**Name:**

Nathan Cross

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Wednesday, 22 November 2017 10:21 PM

**To:** Submission

**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

Although I advocate that cats not be allowed by their owners to roam free, I support compulsory microchipping and neutering just in case a cat gets loose (e.g. while being transported). As stated in the proposal, breeding cats registered with NZCF would not need to be neutered. The proposed rule that no one can own more than three cats seems arbitrary (e.g. what if they are all kept indoors?). Someone with more than 3 cats could apply for a permit but, the guidelines for granting a permit are not stated. In summary: a good first attempt, but this needs further work.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Neil Sanderson

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



27

10006591

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 December 2017 9:28 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

It's incredibly frustrating for those of us whom live on lifestyle blocks on the edge of town with 1-2 acres of land (we live on Schnell Drive (upper), off James Line) that we are not allowed a pig because we still fall under the residential area on ur plan. We do not live in an urban area, this is semi rural and it was disappointing to hit a brick wall with you guys a few years back when we wanted a pet kunekune. Surely you must be able to exercise some leniency in this area on a case by case application when those of us are of the unfortunate circumstance to reside in an area you have earmarked as residential but currently isn't even remotely urban.

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Rosie Rochester

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Tuesday, 5 December 2017 6:11 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:****Part 2 - General:****Part 3 - Stock:****Part 4 - Cats:****Part 5 - Pigs:****Part 6 - Poultry:**

There is no provision in the bylaw for birds that are particularly noisy and what should be done about them if they exist. For example, the Guinea Fowl, there is some in Bunnythorpe and the flock was up to about 28 until they started playing on the road the numbers were culled by annoyed residents. I tried to get something done through the right channels, ie Bryon Foster but there was nothing he could do under the bylaw. The Helmeted Guinea Fowl is an African bird and the noise it makes is offensive. the males give a single, recurring chek note; females produce a distinctive, repetitive two-syllable call buck-wheat, the first note short, second one longer and rising. In both sexes, the rate of repetition of their calls increases when birds become agitated or excited. The alarm call is a repeated, harsh, rattling kek-kek-kek-kek-krrrrrrr. If you don't know this noise I suggest you take a listen at <http://nzbirdsonline.org.nz/species/helmeted-guineafowl> especially the flock calls at feeding time, as they feed constantly. This noise starts as soon as the sun comes up and any time that they feel threatened. The noise is worse than nails on a black board. I think there needs to be a provision made in the bylaw for this type of annoyance.

**Part 7 - Bees:****Part 8 - Administration:****Administration Manual:****Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Pip Chrystall

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 4 December 2017 9:03 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I support the changes. In my opinion they don't go far enough. Cat owners need to take more responsibility for preventing their cat from killing native birds and causing a nuisance. I have had two of my bantams caught by neighbouring cats, and can't leave my ground floor windows open without cats coming in. I understand that cats are difficult to contain, but they should have a compulsory bell on a collar, and they should have a curfew.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Vanja Pavarno

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

1<sup>st</sup> December 2017



## **Forest & Bird**

GIVING NATURE A VOICE

### **Submission on Palmerston North City Council Draft Animals and Bees Bylaw**

Emailed to: [submission@pncc.govt.nz](mailto:submission@pncc.govt.nz)

From: Forest & Bird  
PO Box 631  
Wellington 6140  
Attn: Tom Kay

Royal Forest and Bird Protection  
Society of New Zealand Inc.

Head Office:  
PO Box 613  
Wellington  
New Zealand

P: +64 4 3857374

[www.forestandbird.org.nz](http://www.forestandbird.org.nz)

### **INTRODUCTION**

1. The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand (Forest & Bird) is New Zealand's largest independent conservation organisation. It is independently funded by private subscription, donations and bequests. Forest & Bird's mission is to protect New Zealand's unique flora and fauna and its habitat. Key matters of concern therefore relate to the protection of ecological values, particularly the sustainable management of New Zealand's indigenous biodiversity, natural landscapes, and publicly owned land, rivers and lakes.
2. Forest & Bird's submission relates to Section 8 (Cats on Premises) of the Palmerston North City Council's Draft Animal and Bees Bylaw (DABB).

### **SUBMISSION**

3. All cats pose a significant risk to native and endemic birds, lizards and insects throughout New Zealand.
4. Feral cats and—in particular—feral cat colonies pose an additional risk to human and wildlife health through the transfer of diseases such as toxoplasmosis. Toxoplasmosis is said to be present in a high percentage of New Zealanders, has significant risks to pregnant women, and has been found in and contributed to the death of a number of native species. Policies in the DABB should reflect the risk that feral cats and cat colonies pose to humans and native wildlife.
5. Forest & Bird is supportive of Councils that take a progressive approach to cat management in order to reduce the impact on native species. We are particularly supportive of section 8.7 of the PNCC DABB which reads:

*8.7 Every person who keeps cats must ensure:*

- a. Cats are microchipped and registered with a recognised microchip registry.*
- b. Cats over six (6) months are desexed...*

6. Requiring individuals to microchip their cats allows for a clear delineation between those that are 'domestic' and those that are 'feral'. Domestic cats include those animals that are microchipped or clearly identifiable so as to be returned to their owners if found, while feral cats would include any others. Clear delineation allows Council and community groups to intervene with cat control programmes if/where feral animals are having a significant impact on native wildlife.
7. Requiring cats to be desexed is vital to reducing the risk of increases in feral cat populations and the follow on effects for native wildlife. We support this policy.
8. Council may like to consider including a policy in the DABB in opposition to feral cat populations, or promoting the eradication of feral populations, in order to assist in the achievement of its aims for native wildlife.
9. If there is to be any informational material produced to accompany the DABB it should emphasise the importance of responsible cat ownership. Positive language should be used to promote responsible actions (such as cat containment and the use of brightly coloured collars and bells) as best practice when describing ownership. Emphasis should be placed on the benefit of these actions to the owner, the health and safety of their cat, their family, and the native wildlife in their backyard.
10. Council should endeavour to achieve cross-sector consensus on its approach to cat ownership and management. Through collective agreement Council can ensure the public are receiving a consistent message from all organisations when it comes to responsible cat ownership.
11. Every native bird, lizard and insect in Palmerston North is a valuable natural asset. While the intrinsic value of our native species is unquantifiable, the amount of time, energy, and money that Forest & Bird members, local community groups, and Council staff have invested in protecting these species is very real. Council must ensure that the DABB is consistent with its aims to protect and promote native wildlife, not only for its intrinsic value to the community and Palmerston North as a whole, but as a matter of efficient resource allocation.

Forest & Bird wishes to be heard if there is opportunity for this.

Regards,

Tom Kay

Regional Manager, Lower North Island  
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc.

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 30 November 2017 1:07 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

Section 2.2 places the only focus on benefiting people, but on page 2 of the Consulting Document, it refers to the hopes that the Bylaw will be supported with an education programme which will also focus on "advocating best practice animal care". The latter implies that animal welfare is a relevant aspect that Council wishes to move forward on. Would it make sense to include some mention of animal welfare in section 2.2, along with the goals of protecting people? Perhaps this needs to be kept separate for some reason I am unaware of - otherwise I would like to see support or protection of animal welfare being one of the goals of this Bylaw.

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

As a previous cat owner, I support everything in Part 4.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

Some people keep a small pig as a pet, much as other people keep a dog. Is there any way that a person could be permitted to apply for permission to keep a single, small pig as a pet?

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

All very sensible and I support Part 6.

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Christine Muckersie

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 23 November 2017 4:49 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I strongly agree all cats should be desexed and micrchipped. I also oppose pet shops selling kittens (with the exception of Animates as their kittens/cats are from the SPCA and therefore desexed aND micrchipped).

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Joy Wood

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

33

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 4 December 2017 1:21 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I think it's unnecessary to microchip all cats - cats go where they like. What is the point of this?  
Seems like an unnecessary expense to me - make it optional so those who want to microchip can

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Cushla

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 11 December 2017 4:02 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I agree with the changes but would go further with them. Definitely de-sexing and micro-chipping. In addition, they should be registered so owners have personal responsibility. There should also be some rules about cats wandering on to other peoples property. Cat's should be treated the same as dogs are in this respect. They may not be dangerous but they are a nuisance e.g fouling, ripping rubbish bags etc. If captured, cats should be impounded and owners charged a release fee just like a dog owner would be.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

I'm not sure keeping roosters in Urban environments is a good idea. I wouldn't be happy if my next door neighbour decided to get one. These towns are commuter towns now for Palmy. If people want noisy farm animals, they should live in the country on lifestyle blocks or farms.

**Part 7 - Bees:**

1m is too lax. It should be a greater distance than this to prevent them flying into neighbours gardens.

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

John

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 11 December 2017 10:00 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I strongly support the decision to have cats microchipped and desexed (and I am a cat owner). I am concerned about how less affluent members of our community will afford this though and wonder if it would be possible to subsidise these costs for people on very low incomes? I also support restricting all urban residents to no more than 3 cats per property.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Sue Moore

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Tuesday, 12 December 2017 6:56 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

Roosters should not be allowed in Ashhurst, it is no longer rural but quite built up. Roosters don't only crow at dawn but throughout the night. They interrupt sleep and I would consider a neighbour who kept one to not be considerate of his neighbour. Keep roosters on lifestyle blocks or farms

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Joan Ashton

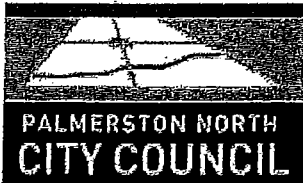
**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

37-1

10037065



## Palmerston North City Council Draft Animals and Bees Bylaw 2017

**We want to hear from you.**

Please note, as required by legislation, your submission (including contact details provided on the submission form), will be available to the public and media as part of the decision-making process unless you request that these details be kept private.

*Please keep our contact details private.*

Your contact details

Full Name: Carina Hickey + Jack Register

Organisation (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want to speak to the Council in support of your submission? (please tick)

☒ Yes

☐ No

*Submissions hearings are planned for March 2018.*

Your submission

1. The specific parts of the bylaw my submission relates to are as follows:  
(Specify the bylaw part(s) and clause(s) to which your submission relates.)

Part 3 - Stock 7. Keeping Stock in  
Urban Areas

AND

Part 6 - Poultry 12. Poultry House  
and Run



Submission to the Draft PN Animals & Bees Bylaw 2017

In Part 3 Stock 7, in Keeping Stock in Urban Areas there should be a minimum area size for the urban area for keeping stock such as there is an area size specified for keeping bees. There should be a ratio of property area to the volume of stock being kept. Our experience this year was that a neighbour kept 2 lambs in a very small area in their backyard which backed onto our property. The constant baaing was a nuisance. Any human activity in the neighbours backyard or our own (the animals would hear us talking or in the garden) would instigate constant and relentless baaing either in the neighbours yard or at our back fence. Due to the small size of the backyard we considered it was quite unfair on the animals themselves due to the limited grass to eat and the restriction of movement. Without an area size there is a potential for any amount of animals to be kept in cramped urban sections. Agencies such as the SPCA and also Federated Farmers could be consulted for minimum land sizes per animal. Thus we want a property area specified and a maximum number of animals per property area eg, 1 animal to 800m<sup>2</sup>.

In addition, the rule as it stands makes it quite difficult for the PNCC animal enforcement officers.

We also oppose Part 6, Poultry, Clause 12.2 – specifically the phrase at the end of the sentence which states, “unless the properties are separated by a solid fence”. Our neighbour also has poultry and our boundary fence is used as a side of the chicken enclosure. The chickens have scratched at the bottom of the corrugated iron, now exposing a gap and the litter is being scratched into our property. We want a buffer distance from the boundary of at least 1.5 metres to not only prevent this overflow but it is access for vermin to freely enter our property. In our experience people who keep chickens don't have them by their house or under their kitchen window largely because of the smell and unsightly area where they are kept. In this time of increasingly small properties where houses are often only 1 metre from the boundary a buffer distance should be enforced to protect those properties from the odour & noise.

Another side of the chicken enclosure is also a boundary fence and the neighbour in this property has 2 dogs. The dogs can hear and probably smell the chickens. They bark and scratch at the fence and that upsets the chickens which then in turn upsets the dogs even more and, at times, there is quite a commotion. If they had the buffer distance this would reduce that occurrence.

If the neighbour who has poultry decides to hose down the area effluent could wash into our property therefore the buffer distance is essential.

In summary we seek a property area per number of animals kept and enclosures for poultry at least 1.5 metres from **any** boundary fence (solid or otherwise).

Carina Hickey & Jack Register

17 December, 2018

Governance and Support Team Leader  
Palmerston North City Council  
Private Bag 11034  
Palmerston North 4442

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Palmerston North 4410

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### **Submission on Draft Palmerston North Animal and Bees Bylaw 2017**

1. The specific part of the bylaw my submission relates to is as follows:

Part 4 Cats. 8. Cats on Premises (8.1 to 8.7a and 8.7b)

2. My submission is that:

I support clauses 8.1 to 8.7a.

I would specifically support the microchipping of all cats. This is a long overdue addition to the bylaw. The procedure is cheap and easy. Microchipping would solve a lot of problem including cat ownership disputes, cats going missing during times of natural disasters etc.

Clause 8.7 b.

Cats over 6 months are desexed (unless kept for breeding purposes and are registered with New Zealand Cat Fancy Ltd)

I support this clause but suggest that that there may exist other national organisations that keep a registry of cat breeders. In specifying New Zealand Cat Fancy Ltd a monopoly control is being created. This clause is unnecessarily restrictive. Other controlling bodies should be included.

Other matters

Policing of Part 4. Cat Bylaw.

Some cat owners will knowingly attempt to contravene these Bylaws or deny any knowledge of the bylaws. So a question to be asked is how are these bylaws to be

policed? Will an officers representing PNCC be employed to make proactive investigations as to whether cat owners are adhering to the bylaw? Or will the public be left to make a complaint to Council regarding non-compliance. This latter option will lead to a witch hunt and bad feelings. Cat's ownership can easily be denied.

#### Implement a Night time Curfew for Cats

I would like to see an additional clause in this Bylaw which required cats to be confined either in a dwelling or secure cage overnight. Suggested hours for locking up cats could be from 9 pm at night to say 6 a.m. the next day. Locking cats up at night is contrary to their natural desire to go on patrol of their territory during darkness. But cats get into a lot of trouble at night, fighting with other cats (causing injury and expensive et bills), getting run over, scrounging in rubbish bins, raiding bird nests). Cats do play a valuable role as rodents catchers.

#### 3. I seek the following decision from the Palmerston North City Council:

Amend Clause 8.7 b. to read:

Cats over six (6) months are desexed (unless kept for breeding purposes and are registered with a nationally recognised Cat Breeders body).

#### Add a further clause 8.8 Implement a Night Time Cat Curfew.

A suggested reading this further clause is that *"All cats should be confined in a secure space between the hours of 9 pm and 6 a.m."*

Note: These hours could be changed according to season or adjusted with day light saving.

Further Note: I am assuming that the welfare of cats to avoid neglect is covered by other legislation. If not the bylaw needs to cover this matter.

I wish to speak to Council in support of my submission.

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 18 December 2017 3:54 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

Goats!

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I think it's great however exceptions should be made for current cat families. We do have way too many cats that are going unloved and being abandoned but some of us have too many cats and know it but can't just knock em on the head!

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

Mmm bacon. Yes please.

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

Stop listening to complaints about roosters when it's just one person being whiny.

**Part 7 - Bees:**

let's save the bees!

**Part 8 - Administration:**

Be nice

**Administration Manual:**

Be easy to read and well written

**Other comments:**

did I read this... um I wanted to. But no. I don't get paid so yanno :p have fun :)

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Karla Jayne Pedersen

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False



40

10069270

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Monday, 18 December 2017 9:53 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

No roosters in Palmerston North. They don't belong in a city.

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Margo Lawrence

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

41

10072087

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 December 2017 7:49 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

It would be great to see some reference to compliance with the animal welfare act and the associated codes of welfare - this would be a good place to make people take responsibility for being aware of their obligations under the codes of welfare

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Lisa Whitfield

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

## Submission on Bee Bylaw Review

We wish to enter the following submission with regard to the forthcoming review of the Bee Bylaw.

With regard to keeping beehives, we submit that:

1. In a residential zoned area the number of hives allowed on the property should be reduced to a maximum two (2). In addition, written agreement must be required from all neighbours, as bees do not stay within the beekeeper's property. Therefore, nuisance effects and potential health and safety factors must be considered. Agreement must also be able to be revoked if issues arise.
2. In rural zoned area, there can be no limit on the number of beehives; however, all apiaries should be sited in a location that does not interfere with normal activities (e.g. in dwellings, rural sheds, yards and races). In addition, neighbour's written consent must be required for any beehives situated within 300 meters of a boundary.

## Background

We are currently being approached, several times a year, by beekeepers requesting us to allow them to put hives on our rural property. In fact, we understand that many rural owners, as well as some residential owners, are being approached with similar requests, which is a significant change to previous years. Some beekeepers may be oversaturating areas with bees because of potential financial gains. In many cases landowners are being paid to have hives on the property, so the 'cash return' can come ahead of maintaining neighbourly relations and respecting their neighbours' rights to the quiet enjoyment of their property.

Health and safety of people also has to be taken into account. One example is the recent changes to where smoking is allowed. For instance, some corporations (including Massey University) now impose a 'no smoking' zone within 200 meters of any buildings, to avoid secondary smoke inhalation by others. A similar rational should now be applied to the keeping of bees. While bees are encouraged for a range of reasons, the hives must be managed so people are not negatively affected.

We have experienced the following events recently, which have led to this submission

1. A few months ago 14 hives were placed on a residential section alongside the boundary to our rural property. Due to the proximity of the bees, we are often unable to go out into our home garden because of the huge numbers of bees using it as a flight path to their nectar sources. My wife has had reactions to bee stings in the past, so she is currently house bound during fine days. We also cannot hang out washing on fine days, particularly after rain, as items on the washing line become spotted with orange bee faeces. We talked to the council environmental section, and then we suggested to the neighbour that they reduce to one or two hives and move them into a more open area. After a reasonable discussion, during which we pointed out the bylaws, the neighbour reluctantly reduced the number of hives to six. However, he has refused to move them to another area. A further issue is that it appears that the beekeeper may not be registered, as no registration number is visible on the apiary.

42-2

This factor may be the underlying reason why the land owner did not want the hives to be seen from the road. If he moved them away from our boundary he would also be personally affected by the bees himself (he acknowledges he has already been stung several times). We are now unable to use our farm race farm effectively, as we regularly get chased by wild bees during the day. Also, we are unable to weed spray in adjacent paddocks without bees attacking us. This is a serious nuisance, and ongoing health and safety issue.

2. A contrasting example is that a rural neighbour on the other side of us has recently allowed a beekeeper to have bees on his property. In this case, the beekeeper brought in about 35 hives. These hives were initially placed approximately 40 meters from our boundary and, due to a gap in the trees, the bees used our property as a flight path. As a result, we were unable to work in our sheep yards on fine days. In this instance, once both the landowner and the semi-commercial beekeeper understood the issues, the apiary was moved to about 400 meters away, into an open paddock. We now have no issues with this apiary anymore, and welcome the pollination by the bees in the area. This outcome is a win-win for all.

We look forward to positive changes in this bylaw to ensure the rights of any neighbours who may be affected by beehives are upheld.

It would be appreciated if you could keep us up to date with the review process and timeline.

Sincerely

Geoff and Penny Haworth

43

10072503

**Merle Lavin**

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**Subject:** FW: Keeping pets and animals: policy and bylaws review submission

**Subject:** Keeping pets and animals: policy and bylaws review submission

**Do you think Council should consider allowing dogs on-leash in any of these areas?:**

Yes. Dogs should be allowed on-leash everywhere.

**Are there any on-leash areas that you think should be off-leash - or changed to prohibited public areas?:**

No.

**Do any of these areas need to be reconsidered as 'on-leash' areas?:**

No

**After reviewing the maps and schedules of dog control areas, are there any areas that need to be added? (Find the maps on our exercising your dog page.):**

**Do you have any other general comments or ideas about what we should be considering in the review of the Dog Control Policy and associated bylaw?:**

Restrictions on breeders. There are too many puppies being born. The SPCA is full of unwanted dogs. Dogs are a very difficult pet. More education is needed. All dogs bark.

**Do you think Council should place restrictions on the number of cats you can have?:**

No

**Please explain the reason for your answer::**

Absolutely not and I will not pay my rates in protest if any are introduced.

**Should the restrictions be higher, lower or stay at the current level?:**

**Please explain the reason for your answer::**

**Do you think Council should encourage people to microchip their cats?:**

No

**Please explain the reason for your answer::**

Most people have their cats microchipped. No need for regulation. This cat hating harks back to the burning of witches time. It is horrifying that NZ councils are stepping back in time by centuries.

**Do you have any other general comments on what we should be considering for the review of the bylaw section on cats?:**

There should be no changes!!! You have not publicised this. You also have set this up for the cat haters. This survey should have been constructed much differently!

**Stock:**

No.

**Pigs:**

No.

**Poultry:**

No.

**Bees:**

No.

**General comments:**

You have not sought public opinion on whether the majority support the current by-laws. This whole process is flawed.

**Name:**

Angela Ritchie

44

10069279

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 December 2017 10:52 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I support desexing and microchipping all cats. In view of sections becoming smaller, I think two cats should be the maximum number per household.

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Merete Hipp

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

False

45

10072614

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 December 2017 9:53 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

No way to roosters in Ashhurst. Hens are fine but no to roosters. There are to many young children here that will be woken up early

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

James

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 19 December 2017 7:04 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:****Part 2 - General:****Part 3 - Stock:****Part 4 - Cats:**

Dissagree with this. For what purpose do cats need to be micro chipped? Ours never strays off our property. Only the responsible owners will do this and their cats probably aren't the ones causing the problems, just like dogs. Seems like a pointless money making excersize with no benefit for those who will abide by it. Hows it being enforced? The council cant Keep up with unregistered dogs, how on earth are you going to keep tabs on unregistered cats!

**Part 5 - Pigs:****Part 6 - Poultry:****Part 7 - Bees:****Part 8 - Administration:****Administration Manual:****Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Darren Brothwell

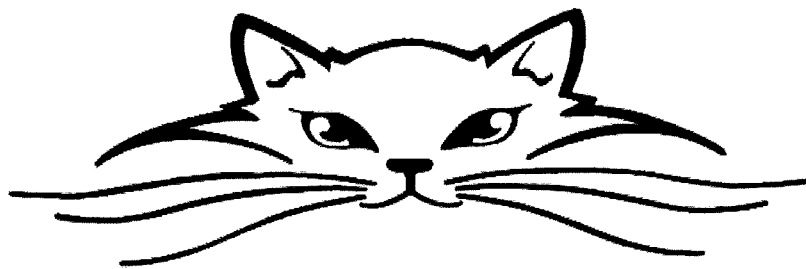
**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



## ***FELINE RIGHTS NEW ZEALAND***



*Supporting Your Right To Keep Cats  
Supporting Your Cat's Right To A Safe, Long And Happy Life*

## **Submission To PNCC Animal Policy 2017**

### **Introduction**

To begin, we'd like to share a word of gratitude with PNCC staff for being completely transparent and informally providing information requested without delay. We also shared a brief email exchange with Councilor Lorna Johnson regarding the prospect of compulsory microchipping of Cats. We feel the consultation document is unclear about the real reasons compulsory microchipping is being proposed and sought clarification from Councillor Johnson. We also queried the statement in the media report by journalist Janine Rankin dated 3rd October 2017 which mentioned "New Zealand Veterinary Association's advice to councils". We requested copies of whatever documentation NZVA has shared with PNCC. Councillor Johnson directed us to the NZVA online paper entitled Responsible Cat 'Ownership'.

3 October 2017 - Stricter Rules For Palmerston North Cat Owners Likely

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/97404813/>

1 June 2016 - NZVA Responsible Cat 'Ownership'

<http://www.nzva.org.nz/?page=policycatownership>

We gave some close attention to the content of the NZVA Responsible Cat 'Ownership' paper and it appears to us to be a digested version of the contents of the National Cat Management Strategy Group 'discussion paper'. While we agree with some of the NZVA recommendations, other aspects of it appear to be thoroughly flawed. The paper recommends "deterrent collars (eg. bells, scrunchies)". One only needs to view the image below of the Cat who suffered the collar injury to see NZVA is not exactly playing with a full deck of cards and the image of the Cat forced to wear a 'scrunchie' amounts to confirmation. NZVA also suggest the unacceptable option of total indoor confinement of Cats along with the idea of "Cat aviaries". The only thing NZVA have accomplished with these bizarre suggestions is reducing our trust in the vets.



Left: Cat collar injury, Nelson 2016 - Right: Cat forced to wear a 'scrunchie'

It is unfortunate councillors are referencing this particular document as it contains references to conservation of native wildlife and the associated political ideology wrapped in the veil of environmentalism. Thus our submission will need to be considerably more comprehensive and challenge the ongoing demonisation of Cats by politically motivated environmentalists, join the dots and share an exposition of who is promoting what and who benefits financially from 'Cat control' measures.

We will first address the proposals in the consultation, then go a few steps further and address the larger picture of cultural destruction being perpetrated by the environmental extremists and corporate profiteers within our midst.

### On the Limitation of the Number of Cats One May Keep

Presently, under the Palmerston North Cat Control Bylaw 1997, the council has a limitation of three Cats per residence with an exemption to this rule where a property is 2000m<sup>2</sup> or larger. In two decades, no residents have been prosecuted for non compliance with the bylaw. When the council has needed to enforce the bylaw, compliance has been effected by council officers simply negotiating with residents. PNCC presently receives complaints or enquiries relating to Cats under two categories: Where people identify multiple Cats on a property causing nuisance, and people requesting a Cat trap. Over the period of 2016 - 2017 PNCC received a total of 16 complaints of multiple Cats creating nuisance. This is a miniscule amount of complaints from the public for a city with an urban population of around 85,000. Clearly not many residents are as troubled by Cats as has been suggested by some people, thus we must query if the three Cats per residence rule is worth having at all.

During the 2016/17 year the following complaints/enquiries were received:

Month	Cat Traps	Multiple cats
July 16	7	1
August 16	9	0
September 16	10	0
October 16	6	5
November 16	14	0
December 16	16	1
January 17	9	2
February 17	11	1
March 17	13	2
April 17	6	1
May 17	8	3
June 17	10	0

The council has stated on it's website that it recommends removing the exemption on properties 2000m<sup>2</sup> or larger so all residents are covered by the same rule. We expect there will be some residents with properties 2000m<sup>2</sup> or larger who presently keep more than three Cats. If the 2000m<sup>2</sup> exemption is removed, the question the council must ask itself is: What are these citizens to do with the additional Cats they presently keep? Are they expected get rid of any extra Cats they keep

47-4

should the current proposal be implemented as a bylaw?

### **Councils Already Have Power To Deal With Health And Nuisance**

Councils already have the power to intervene when there is an issue with public health or nuisance, namely the Health Act 1956. Invercargill has a similar bylaw to the present Palmerston North bylaw which restricts the number of Cats which may be kept at a residence to three Cats. Yet in the case of the case of Invercargill City Council vs Averil Gardiner in 2015, it was the Health Act 1956 which was invoked by Invercargill City Council to successfully prosecute, not the bylaw limitation on the number of Cats one may keep.

4th July 2014 - Cat Lady Named After Appeal Ends

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=11287449](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11287449)

The council is amongst a minority with it's three Cats per residence rule, only six other district councils and two city councils have a similar regulation. If the council wishes to appear truly fair, we recommend the council follow the example of most other local government bodies and fully expunge the limitation of three Cats per residence from the new bylaw.

### **Compulsory Desexing - Impossible To Enforce**

Feline Rights fully supports desexing, not only in the interest of preventing Cats from breeding. A desexed Cat is less likely to engage in wandering, fighting and territorial marking behavior. A desexed Cat is less prone to diseases like FIV, and above all else, experience demonstrates a desexed Cat is a happier, healthier Cat.

To pass a bylaw making desexing compulsory is another matter. We do not support compulsory desexing simply because enforcement would be impossible. A more effective approach to encourage residents to be responsible and desex their Cats is via a program of public education. While subsidised desexing is an option, we would say to everyone, if you cannot afford to desex your Cats, chances are you cannot afford to keep Cats at all. That being said Feline Rights supports subsidies for desexing, particularly for local groups who serve the stray Cat population and work with the process of trap, neuter, return (TNR). A well managed desexed Cat colony will deter other Cats from moving into the area, whereas if Cats are trapped and removed from a location, other Cats will simply move in to the vacant space. The technical term for this is the 'vacuum effect'. Alley Cat Allies have a paper covering the vacuum effect which we feel is an essential reference.

Alley Cat Allies - The Vacuum Effect - Why Catch And Kill Doesn't Work

<https://www.alleycat.org/resources/the-vacuum-effect-why-catch-and-kill-doesnt-work/>

47-5

## **Compulsory Microchipping = Mass Genocide And Profit**

Councillor Johnson is on record in the media report dated 3 October 2017 as stating "People who are opposed to the idea like to make it sound dramatic." To this statement we respond: It actually is dramatic when we read the statement from Councillor Iona Pannett of Wellington City Council published on 12 March 2016. Councillor Pannett stated to the media "Essentially having the identification means we won't be trapping, and potentially putting a Cat down if it is caught, our staff will know that it is a Cat 'owned' by someone".

12 March 2016 - Cat IDs Could Pave Way For Culls

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/298739/cat-ids-could-pave-way-for-culls>

The idea of using microchip identification to determine who will live and who will die is not an idea limited to Wellington. In November, Auckland Council announced it's intention to execute any Cat they can catch which does not return an ID on a microchip scanner. Auckland Council has no intention of implementing a compulsory microchipping bylaw. They've just announced they intend to conduct mass genocide of these beautiful animals in the name of 'conservation'. Essentially they have thumbed their noses at the guardians of Cats and said microchip them or else. Auckland councillor Daniel Newman stated council should be prepared for a backlash from Cat 'owners' and he is right on. Go down the path of compulsory microchipping, use the microchip ID to determine who lives and who dies and social unrest is an inevitable consequence.

15 November 2017 - Auckland Council Cat Cull On Cards For 'Moggies' Found Without Microchips

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/98891772/>

There appears to be quite a covert financial feedback loop happening with the organisations promoting compulsory microchipping, all of whom have representatives on the National Cat Management Strategy Group (NCMSG). NZ Taxpayers Union calculate there is about 112 million dollars to be made if all companion Cats in NZ were microchipped and registered with NZ Companion Animal Register (NZCAR), along with a further estimated 9 million dollars per annum for new Cats microchipped and registered.

The vets get their consultation fees, NZCAR as a non profit organisation feeds all funds gained from microchipping and registration back to NZ Companion Animal Council (NZCAC). NZCAC then pays Animal Register Limited to host and maintain the database. Animal Register Limited is a company owned by Nygllhuw Morris who is also the manager of NZCAR. Nygllhuw Morris & NZCAR have just taken over the petsonthenet website, it's now called lostpet.co.nz

In our view, the takeover of petsonthenet by NZCAR represents yet another step in the process of centralisation, monopoly and total control over companion animals and their guardians sought by NZ Companion Animal Council and their

47-6

associates for the purposes of both profit and mass genocide. NZCAC are also offering courses in microchipping companion animals for individuals with zero veterinary qualifications. It is clear certification of individuals who are neither veterinarians or vet nurses in the task of implanting microchips amounts to a disaster waiting to happen.

## Failure Of Microchips

There is a belief microchips are an infallible method of providing identification. However some veterinarians disagree. Dr Alan Probert, a senior vet at Miramar Vet Hospital is on record as having noticed some microchips failing to scan. He expressed concern that "people are living with a false sense of security about the microchip's ability to track and find their 'pet' if it goes missing" and "My concern and I think it's probably every vet's worst nightmare would be that a dog or a Cat might be inadvertently euthanised, even though it's microchipped". Alan Probert also stated "the problem is occurring across a range of chip makers".

24 October 2012 - Vet Concerned At Faulty Microchips

<http://www.radionz.co.nz/news/national/119027/vet-concerned-at-faulty-microchips>

Dr Roger Barnard of Kerikeri Veterinary Clinic has provided the following statement about microchips to our colleagues at Northland Cats In Balance:

"To whom it may concern, microchips placed into animals can be useful for identification but there have been failures that have occurred. On occasions some expel from the animal soon after insertion, some fail to be read at some later date because of manufacturing failure and movement of microchip to other parts of the body".

Our third example comes from one of our own supporters. A neighbor discovered one of her Cats could not access the microchip controlled Cat door so she asked our supporter to visit with her scanner. On scanning the Cat there was no ID reading. The Cat was scanned again at the vet and the vet determined the chip had failed. Not a big deal if it comes to opening a Cat door, but had the Cat been trapped by the council or one of it's 'partners' chances are the Cat would be executed, simply for being a Cat.

There is also quite a large body of information online which demonstrates microchips do fail. While there is benefit in using microchips for the standard purposes they were designed for such as identifying lost animals and as an electronic key to activate a Cat door, the guardians of animals need to be aware that chips can and do fail. Because of this, our view is no way should microchips be used to determine who lives and who dies in the name of 'conservation'. Sooner or later council staff and/or their private environmental extremist cronies will execute beloved companion Cats and once documented and exposed, the result will be an awakening amongst citizens and social unrest.

47-7

## Environmental Mass Hysteria

New Zealanders are presently challenged with a severe case of environmental mass hysteria. An ongoing orchestrated libelous propaganda campaign against Cats and their guardians is being run in the mainstream media on behalf of misguided environmental extremists and corporate entities who stand to make a considerable amount of profit from the exercise of 'Cat control. If you believe Cats present a threat to 'native biodiversity' chances are you have allowed yourselves to be indoctrinated by this ongoing propaganda campaign. If this all sounds a little like 'conspiracy theory' we need look no further than the National Cat Management Strategy Group (NCMSG) 'discussion paper' dated September 2017.

### National Cat Management Strategy Group Discussion Paper

<http://www.nzcac.org.nz/images/downloads/nz-national-cat-management-strategy-discussion-paper.pdf>

On page 52 of the NCMSG 'discussion paper' it states:

If an intensive and large-scale culling programme was considered, a pervasive, intense and continuing campaign to educate the public about the impacts of cats on wildlife and human health and the resulting need for culling would be necessary (Proulx 1988; Medina et al. 2016).

The public education campaign would need to be planned and implemented well before any culling operation commenced and would likely need to include public service announcements on television, radio, social media and in newspapers, and education in schools. It can be difficult to develop effective communication programs; it is necessary to begin the development process with a clear understanding of target audiences, including their attitudes and beliefs (Jacobson 2009; Fishbein and Ajzen, 2010).

Changing public attitudes takes time and the ideas need to be continually put before the public. In addition, local government programmes aimed at reducing immigration of cats into the unowned population would need to be strictly enforced (Hatley 2003). However, cat control, and particularly the lethal control of cats in urban areas, has never been popular with federal, state or local government. Previous efforts to address cat overpopulation issues have been poorly funded and have rarely received ongoing support.

## Who is the National Cat Management Strategy Group?

The National Cat Management Strategy Group (NCMSG) was convened in 2014. Membership comprises of representatives from the environmental extremist group the Morgan Foundation, NZ Veterinary Association (NZVA) & NZVA Companion Animal Veterinarians, NZ Companion Animal Council, Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Local Government New Zealand, Department of Conservation, Ministry for Primary Industries.

NCMSG has declined to engage in discussion with the public, preferring to conspire behind closed doors and dictate policy. The primary objective of NCMSG is the total eradication of all stray and 'feral' Cats from New Zealand by 2025 and make a whole lot of profit in the process. On Page 44 of the National Cat Management Strategy 'discussion paper' recommended methods of execution are listed as a blow to the head with a solid object or a head shot with a firearm or alternatively a captive bolt gun. NCMSG also suggest cutting the throats of Cats afterwards to ensure they have been killed. These suggestions are unquestionably immoral, unethical and just plain evil. It's called speciesism which is a very similar aberration to racism.

NCMSG has limited their consultation with New Zealanders to two loaded 'surveys'. The first survey was conducted in secret and only invited groups were permitted to participate. The contents of the first survey and the identities of those groups surveyed have never been disclosed to the public. The second survey was to an extent public, but once again only groups were permitted to share input.

The second survey may be downloaded from our website:

NCMSG Stakeholder Consultation Phase 2 Survey (PDF - 2.56mb)

<http://felineights.org/NCMSG-Stakeholder-Consultation-Phase-2-Survey.pdf>

The loaded survey document is pure Gareth Morgan, he may as well have written it all himself. Even a cursory view of the phase two survey document reveals the intent of this group is not one of animal welfare. What this is about is draconian restrictions on Cats and their guardians, profit and death. There is only one word for the National Cat Management Strategy Group and all of the individuals and organisations involved with it. Subversives.

## Addressing The Alleged Predation By Cats On Native Wildlife

Once the pseudoscience behind politically motivated environmentalist ideology is stripped away leaving us with the real facts, the truth of the matter is Cats keep the population of rodents, mustelids and rabbits in check. Confirmation of this fact may be found in recent occurrences at both Raglan and Rakiura/Stewart Island.



47-9

In 2013 in Raglan, persons known to be birdlife enthusiasts took it upon themselves to kill all Cats they could find in Raglan West. One resident had six of her Cats murdered for the cause of 'conservation'. The local vet clinic documented a total of 16 missing Cats over a period of 12 months in Raglan West.

9 September 2013 - Raglan Cat Lover Wants Out As Killings Continue

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/waikato-times/news/9142152/>

Within three months, local ecological consultant Adrienne Livingston is on record in the media stating: "I am now observing the effect the marked absence of Cats is having on this suburban ecosystem". She expressed concern about the number of half-eaten eggs and dead chicks appearing, all killed by rodents the Cats would have dealt with were they still around to do their job.

18 December 2013 - Raglan Cat Killings Annihilate Local Birdlife

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/9531706/>

During winter 2016 DOC put the idea of a predator proof fence for Rakiura/Stewart Island on hold and decided they would first go after Cats. Media reports at the time suggested the Morgan Foundation and Predator Free Rakiura were involved in funding the mass execution of Cats on Rakiura/Stewart Island.

12 June 2016 - DOC Puts Stewart Island Predator Fence On Backburner

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/80940208/>

Multiple Cat killer Phillip Smith claimed "Getting rid of all the wild Cats would change the dynamics of the island".

14 June 2016 - Stewart Island Residents Back DOC's Plan To Get Rid Of 'Feral' Cats

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/81014907/>

Eight months after 'conservationists' began engaging in the Feline holocaust on Rakiura/Stewart Island, Phillip Smith was proven correct. The ecological dynamics of the island had indeed changed, but not in the way intended. The following column written by experienced trampers details their experiences on the Rakiura track and elsewhere on the island. They stated they "found large rats were everywhere, not only around huts and campsites but on all parts of the tracks". DOC staff confirmed a much higher rat count than seen for many years. While two successive rimu mast years and inadequate 'pest' control are cited as the causes, we have no doubt the wholesale execution of the islands Cats is a more likely cause of the sudden increase in the rat population on Rakiura/Stewart Island.

47-10

21 February 2017 - Rats A Symptom Of Something Rotten In Protection Of Conservation Estate

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/environment/89658201/>

Admittedly the above examples are but media reports, however if any amongst you would care for some real science, download and read the document "Modelling The Mesopredator Release Effect".

Cats Protecting Birds: Modelling The Mesopredator Release Effect (PDF 360kb)

<http://felineights.org/Modelling%20The%20Mesopredator%20Release%20Effect.pdf>

While the minds of some citizens are ensnared by pest-free mass hysteria and others citizens are engaged in emotively defending their companion animals, what we have is a divide and rule scenario. Undoubtedly there is other business going on behind the scenes the hidden wannabe rulers of society are hoping we will not notice. It's the standard methodology of the stage conjurer utilised on a mass scale.

When one sees business terminology such as "private-public partnership" and "management strategy", etc used in a political context, that is a sure sign of the evolution of corporate power into a dangerous political form.

The present focus on environmental action at all costs is not about genuine conservation as such. It's a business model, albeit a thoroughly flawed one. Restoration of 'native biodiversity' = more tourism = more revenue, and if it takes a series of pogroms against any and all exotic species including our beloved Feline family members then so be it.

A culture that does not grasp the essential interplay between power and true moral values, which mistakes management techniques for wisdom, and fails to understand that compassion and inclusiveness, not profit, is the measure of a civilization, condemns itself to death.

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48-1

10091164

Submission  
Contact details:

Rhonda Findlay

**I wish for all my contact details to be kept private.**

**I wish to speak to my submission.**

### SUBMISSION FOR PROPOSED ANIMALS AND BEEKEEPING BYLAW

by Rhonda Findlay

#### **Desexing 8.7B**

Firstly I would like to congratulate the Palmertson North City Council for their proposal to mandate the desexing of cats over 6 months old. This is the only solution to halt the perpetuation of unwanted and stray cats. While monitoring may be a challenge at times, it will go a long way to address an irresponsible attitude or the idea that it is acceptable to have kittens merely so children can experience it. While I do not live within the PN council boundaries, I am on the outskirts of Manawatu and have been affected by stray cat welfare when in the city or when working or studying there, as well as experiencing friends' stress when they repeatedly get no help from the SPCA/Council concerning the plight of hungry stray and often pregnant cats.

There may be occasions when it is in the interest of sick, injured or under weight cats to leave desexing for a short time until cleared by vet for optimal surgery.

As breeders will be exempt from this bylaw but contribute to the over population of cats, I hope the Council will impose steep fees, but not unreasonable regulations that unnaturally confine cats, rendering them no more than factory breeding machines .

#### **Limit**

8.1 This proposal does not make its meaning clear about more than one person sharing a property such as flatmates, or two people deciding to get married for example, who have two cats each and then move onto one property, or an elderly parent moving to live with family or in a granny flat, making the total number on the property more than three but individually within the three. The wording needs to be clarified so the meaning is understood.

I assume where there are currently more than three cats, all current cats will be exempt from this bylaw but will be required to be registered until they naturally die of old age or accident/illness. Anything less than this would be tantamount to telling people to get rid of or kill their children.

I do not think this cap is really necessary once desexing becomes mandatory because the breeding will not be permitted. Often people with more than three cats are those who have helped the community by taking in, desexing and feeding a stray that would otherwise be roaming, or as in my case taking in a friend's two cats when she died untimely. SPCA usually will not take in cats in these circumstances or when an elderly person has to go into a rest home. It would be sad if family

48-2

or friends were not able to help in these circumstances because would they would be over the limit.

**Concern : Council must offer euthanasia service**

I have deep concerns about a current council practice, and for the future abuse of stray or non microchipped cats. It is essential the Council have a place where stray cats can be brought in to, working alongside the SPCA where possible. Its is not right for the council to lend out traps, "no questions asked", as is the current practice. What happens to the cats that are trapped? Who kills them and most importantly, **how**? Or are they dumped elsewhere. How do the trappers know they don't belong to someone? Do they check for a microchip or advertise the finding of a cat?

The current 'ask no questions' practice is likely to be aiding and abetting cruelty towards animals and the breaking of the law if people are killing cats themselves, or dumping them elsewhere. If someone's cat goes missing they can phone SPCA but they obviously can not contact a private trapper. The council I am under, the Horowhenua District Council, lends out traps and has a euthanasia service, and will pass on any tame cats to the SPCA next door. If a smaller region can do this, why can't the Palmerston North City Council, or at least work in with another council to provide the euthanasia?

The council needs to take responsibility for this. It is not up to the public. People, especially animal lovers who find stray cats down their street or at their doorstep and can't keep them (especially if there is a limit of three) should not be told to get them killed themselves. Most do not feel they can 'play God', neither can most afford euthansia at a vet. Neither can they know they don't belong to someone else. As SPCA's response across the land is (with the exception of a few areas such as the wonderful Waikane SPCA ) 'we only deal with injured and sick animals', although it seems sick or injured strays also do not come into this category, stressed residents can not get the help they need and the hungry cats roam the streets, become pregnant or fight, and continue to MULTIPLY.

There are also a growing number of cat haters or people becoming intolerant to cats, fed by Morgan hysteria based largely on fallacies. These people will trap and not care who a cat belongs to, or whether it is stray or not. Neither do they have means to check for a microchip. It is imperative these people are not encouraged to ( illegally) deal with a cat themselves. It is crucial that there is a place the cats can be brought to so the proper checks and procedures can take place by the Council or SPCA. At the very least, all stray cats deserve a humane death.

This also applies to local conservation and other organisations - many who deem cats as 'pests', use volunteers, and should not be trusted to hold or terminate the lives of cats. Earlier this year (Jan 2017) numerous animals were found dead in live-catch traps set by the Foxton Wildlife Trust. Although the trust had publically announced and taught in local schools that any animals caught would be humanely euthanased, many animals were left to die a slow and painful death by dehydration and starvation. Some of the trapped animals had not been attended to for such a long period that they had become skeletons. <https://www.stuff.co.nz/manawatu-standard/news/89005186/Bones-and-fur-were-all-that-remained-in-traps-required-to-be-checked-daily> It is not known how many animals died like this nor if any small cats/kittens got trapped, but the Trust prior to being investigated had also announced intentions for a project to deal with stray cats in Foxton/Foxton Beach.

Cats are beautiful creatures who command the upmost respect; it is not their fault irresponsible humans have failed them by lack of desexing, dumping or abandonment. Many stray cats are tame. Once microchipping becomes mandatory I would hate to see a free-for-all trapping and killing mentality towards cats, a big killing spree of any cats on other people's properties. The above case

shows how important it is to have the proper authorities - Palmerston North Council or SPCA deal with the termination of life, and obviously prior to any euthanasia, check for microchip, wait to see if there are any inquiries regarding a cat to the SPCA, or if rehoming can take place. It is a terrible thing for a person to never know what happened to their loved pet. It would also be stressful for half the population who are cat owners to live in fear of neighbourhood locals who might trap and kill their beloved cat. It is crucial that cats never acquire a 'pest' status, for the above Foxton case shows how regardless of welfare laws, once animals are deemed pests they are often treated, even by well standing people in the community, worse than refuse.

#### **Working in with those already desexing stray cats**

Organisations such as Manawatu Alley Cat Trust have been desexing stray cats for awhile, preventing multitudes of kittens being born in Palmerston North. Many individuals have also spent life savings on getting cats desexed and looking after strays. I hope the Council will work in with these people who have carried the burden of stray cat problems for some time, while the Council has done very little. Some of these cats may not live with the person who feeds them, and there may be more than three. The Council owes a lot to these people and I hope it will be humble enough to learn from, liaise with and work in with them.

#### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, I believe the mandatory desexing of cats over 6 months is the best solution to the cat problem and applaud the Council for stepping up to deal with the root of the problem. However the Council /SPCA **must** provide premises where stray cats can be brought to, properly processed and humanely euthanased if necessary. The 'dealing with' of stray cats must not be left to members of the public, anti cat or conservation groups.

Rhonda Findlay

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 December 2017 9:41 AM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I think cats should be contained by the owners on the owners' own property. I think that good progress has been made on reducing stray dogs in Palmerston North and that it's time we started to limit the wandering cat population. I don't think cats should be allowed to roam around on streets and in other people's yards, or in public parks. I think 'keeping cats' should be similar to 'keeping dogs', and that if people want to have a cat for a pet, they should keep the cat in their own yard. I don't have a cat, and yet at least six different cats enter my property freely. I have trees which are visited by tuis, fantails, warblers, kereru, waxeyes, thrushes, blackbirds and various finches and at times nesting occurs. I don't think it is fair that somebody else's cat can wander onto my property and stalk and kill any of these wild creatures. I have previously had domestic rabbits as pets and found that they can only survive by living in a cage, while other people's cats have free range on my section. I also find that freshly dug ground is used as a toilet by visiting cats, which I feel is unfair as I have to remove cat droppings from in amongst my lettuces, and seedbeds are disturbed by the digging of cats. I feel that I should have the right to not have a cat on my property, and at the moment people who have pet cats are taking away that option. Even though I don't have a cat myself, in practice I am forced to have six cats, and at any one time at least two of them are at my place

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Mary Legg

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

Llyvonne Barber

I do not need to speak to the Council in support of my submission  
I would like my personal details to be kept private.

I wish to submit regarding the section on poultry, especially that regarding the keeping of roosters.

6.1 No person may keep animals in a way that, in the opinion of an authorised officer, causes or is likely to cause a nuisance or injury to the health or safety of any person.

I feel that this clause needs more definition. Essentially the personal view of the officer could override the intention of the Bylaw. My previous experience with the Officers is that they view roosters themselves as a nuisance and therefore tell owners they must remove them within a set period of time.

Roosters crow. That is part of their natural behaviour. The animal welfare act requires that animals need the opportunity to display normal patterns of behaviour. Crowing is a natural behaviour. Of course, in a built up area crowing at 2am in the morning would rightly be seen as a nuisance, however if the owner of the animal takes action to prevent that sort of intrusion and ensures that the noise the rooster makes only occurs during reasonable daylight hours—then the noise should not be regarded as a nuisance.

Additionally, the Council should recognise that some neighbours are nuisance neighbours and will complain simply because they have the opportunity and the power to do so. In this regard they use the Council bureaucracy and systems as a weapon.

Other neighbours move into an area like Ashhurst not realising that it has status as a Rural Village and that the residents of the Village enjoy the rural aspect of that. This leads to complaints to the Council.

I do believe that the Council needs to take into account this sort of situation. Some people will complain about a rooster crowing simply because they do not like roosters crowing. This should not be a valid reason for complaint if they are living in one of the designated areas. Roosters crowing during the day should be viewed as normal and accepted behaviour. The Animal Control Officers should not be able to override this aspect of the bylaw based on one persons complaint or agenda, or even repeated complaints by the same person.

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12.2 No poultry house or poultry run shall be placed so that any part of it is within 2 metres of any dwelling house, whether wholly or partially occupied, or the boundary of any adjoining premises, unless the properties are separated by a solid fence.

12.4 Any property where poultry are not confined in a poultry house and run must have secure boundary fences to confine poultry to that property

I feel that these particular clauses need clarification. As I read them—if the chickens are kept in a run the run must be two metres from the house or solid fence. If they are not kept in a run, then they are allowed to roam free on the property as long as they are sufficiently fenced in and do not leave the property.

However, I have had Council Staff interpreting this as meaning that the chickens are not allowed to roam within two metres of the house on the owners property.

I disagree with the latter interpretation. I fully understand keeping the poultry house 2 metres from the family home, however I believe the interpretation of not letting the chickens wander within two metres of the house to be placing unnecessary requirements on poultry owners. If the poultry were allowed to roam the section the house would essentially need to be fenced off from the rest of the section or the poultry would need to be confined within an area of the property. This is an unnecessary requirement.

Small poultry runs can very quickly become muddy once the chickens have eaten all of the greenery. This is exacerbated during winter months when rain can make the poultry run muddy and the water combined with poultry manure quickly produces offensive odour. Allowing poultry a wider area to range does help lower that issue. Additionally, many poultry are viewed as pets and beneficial to the garden by eating pests and fertilising the garden—so keeping them away from the house is not what is desired by the Poultry owner.

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## 8. CATS ON PREMISES

Nowhere in this section does it cover anything that relates to cats being a nuisance to other residents in the area. Most cat owners let their cats roam freely, however, there is no protection for other peoples pets from wandering cats. I myself, as well as others have lost pets/poultry from roaming cats. I do feel that there needs to be some form of recognition that cats do cause nuisance by their wandering and allow some ability for owners to be informed and required to compensate the owners for the loss of their pets/animals.

I do not want cats roaming my property, scaring my animals and defecating in my garden. I am required to keep all my animals on my property. I resent that cat owners are being given priority over all other animals owners.



51-1

10098194



Submission from the  
Royal New Zealand Society  
for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals  
on the  
Draft Palmerston North Animals and Bees  
Bylaw 2017

December 2017



## Contents

Introduction .....	3
Submission .....	3
Part 2: General.....	4
Part 3: Keeping stock in urban areas .....	4
Part 4: Cats .....	4
Part 6: Poultry.....	5
Administration Manual .....	6
References.....	7



## **Introduction**

The following submission is made on behalf of the Royal New Zealand Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RNZSPCA).

The RNZSPCA is the preeminent animal welfare and advocacy organisation in New Zealand. Our organisation has been in existence for over 140 years with a supporter base representing many tens of thousands of New Zealanders across the nation. The organisation includes 40 Animal Welfare Centres across New Zealand and over 80 inspectors appointed under the Animal Welfare Act 1999.

The RNZSPCA welcomes the opportunity to make a submission on the Draft Palmerston North Animals and Bees Bylaw 2017.

## **Submission**

The RNZSPCA would like to commend the Palmerston North City Council on the draft Animals and Bees Bylaw 2017. Below we have made some specific comments on the different parts of the draft bylaw that we hope will be helpful in developing it further.

Our organisation also fully supports and recommends the development of an education programme to target animal owners and residents on safety, protection and etiquette around keeping animals as being considered by Council. We are happy to assist with advice on the contents of this and suggest that topics such as the safe containment of cats, anti-predation devices, identification and pre-pubertal desexing are included.



## ***Part 2: General***

The RNZSPCA suggests that an extra condition be added specifying that no person may keep animals in a way that, in the opinion of an authorised officer, causes or is likely to cause injury to the health or safety of that or any other animal. Avoiding harm and distress to animals is expected and desired by the community and is also an important component of keeping the community safe.

## ***Part 3: Keeping stock in urban areas***

The RNZSPCA suggests that an extra condition be added specifying that the stock should have adequate and appropriate living environment for their species, including companionship, space, shade, and shelter. Keeping animals in appropriate conditions is important in order to avoid causing harm and distress to animals, which is expected and desired by the community and is also an important component of keeping the community safe.

## ***Part 4: Cats***

The RNZSPCA unreservedly supports the requirement that all cats be microchipped, registered with a recognised microchip registry, and desexed. These are progressive and valuable requirements that will have positive impacts for animal welfare and the community. We have some suggestions on how to add more value to the bylaw:

- It is not currently specified at what age cats must be microchipped from. We would suggest that a requirement should be added and that cats are microchipped and registered with a recognised microchip registry by 4 months of age, such as the New Zealand Companion Animal Register. This will give greater clarity to the public and simplify compliance action.



- The RNZSPCA submits that the requirement that cats over six (6) months are desexed (unless kept for breeding purposes and are registered with New Zealand Cat Fancy Ltd.) should have a recommendation that cats are desexed at or before 4 months of age. The 'traditional' age of desexing is six months of age but this allows cats to reach reproductive maturity before they are desexed (Joyce et al. 2011; Clark et al. 2012; Zanolowski 2012); cats may reach reproductive maturity as early as three and a half months of age (Little 2001; Farnworth et al. 2013). Delaying desexing of owned cats can result in the production of unwanted litters of kittens, thereby limiting the effectiveness of the mandatory desexing requirement. A report produced by RSPCA UK concluded that the promotion and practice of pre-pubertal neutering (at four months) is vital to tackling the cat population crisis (RSPCA UK 2014). To give this progressive piece of legislation the best possible chance of making a positive impact on unwanted cat numbers and successful cat management, the bylaw should require that cats are desexed at 16 weeks or earlier.

### ***Part 6: Poultry***

The RNZSPCA submits that, in addition to the requirements already included in this section, the following should be added:

- Poultry must be provided with access to an adequately sized run or free-ranging area.
- Poultry must be provided with appropriate areas/space for nesting, including nesting materials, as appropriate for the species.

We also suggest a recommendation that appropriate drip type watering containers are used rather than open containers since these are more hygienic; this makes them better for animal welfare and to safeguard the community.

51-6



### ***Administration Manual***

There is currently no detail in this section other than the introduction to the administration manual and the forms for applying for a permit. Will the contents of the administration manual be consulted on at a later date?

This document will be an important resource and provide guidance that could significantly affect animal welfare. Therefore, we submit that this document should also be subject to consultation.



## References

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52

10098603

**Merle Lavin**

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**From:** Submission  
**Subject:** FW: Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Sent:** Thursday, 21 December 2017 2:53 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw review

**Part 1 - Introduction:**

**Part 2 - General:**

**Part 3 - Stock:**

**Part 4 - Cats:**

I support the mandatory desexing and microchipping of cats. Responsible owners that can afford to do so will comply, however, a segment of the community will not and I foresee an increase in abandonment and dumping. This will add to the stray epidemic. There should be an amnesty path via Council for such cases to surrender cats to SPCA and local rescue organizations for processing and rehoming. Further suggest local retailers of cats only be permitted to sell rescues similar to that of the recent law change made in California. <http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/new-california-law-pet-shops-allowed-sell-rescues-article-1.3566464> "All dogs, cats and rabbits sold in pet stores in the state of California must now come directly from shelters and nonprofit rescues, instead of breeders or notoriously cruel puppy mills."

**Part 5 - Pigs:**

**Part 6 - Poultry:**

**Part 7 - Bees:**

**Part 8 - Administration:**

**Administration Manual:**

**Other comments:**

**Please tick the box if you wish to speak to this submission at a Hearing.:**

False

**Name:**

Garth Piesse

**Email:**

**Withhold my contact details (but not my name):**

True



53

10098097

**Merle Lavin**

---

**From:** Sarah Carswell <sarah.carswell@horizons.govt.nz>  
**Sent:** Thursday, 21 December 2017 3:52 PM  
**To:** Submission  
**Subject:** Animals and Bees Bylaw Submission

To whom it may concern,

Just a courtesy email to let you know that Horizons has read the draft consultation document and Horizons has no concerns from the perspective of the One Plan.

Kind regards

**Sarah Carswell** | Coordinator District Advice  
Regional Services & Information Group  
T 0508 800 800 E [help@horizons.govt.nz](mailto:help@horizons.govt.nz)  
**Horizons Regional Council** | Private Bag 11025, Palmerston North

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Horizons Regional Council endeavours to provide useful and accurate information. Horizons Regional Council shall not, however be liable whether in contract, tort, equity or otherwise, for any loss or damage of any type (including consequential losses) arising directly or indirectly from the inadequacy, inaccuracy or any other deficiency in information supplied irrespective of the cause. Use of information supplied is entirely at the risk of the recipient and shall be deemed to be acceptance of this liability exclusion.

**From:** Help  
**Sent:** Thursday, 16 November 2017 2:00 p.m.  
**To:** Sarah Carswell  
**Subject:** Draft Animals and Bees Bylaw - consultation period open (++42302++)

Hi, Sarah

Not sure if you coordinate a response on behalf or do I need to forward to Jon's team.

**Ann-Marie Mori** ([Ann-Marie.Mori@pncc.govt.nz](mailto:Ann-Marie.Mori@pncc.govt.nz)) contacted Horizons on Nov 15, 2017 12:27 PM with a query relating to **Draft Animals and Bees Bylaw - consultation period open**. Please respond to them directly as necessary

Thanks  
Diane Lauridsen

#### **Original Request Detail**

Hello

Thank you for your interest in the Council's review of the Animals and Bees Bylaw.

The formal submission stage started on Saturday 11 November and will close at 4 pm on Saturday 21 December.

If you are interested in making a submission on the draft bylaw please go to:

<https://www.pncc.govt.nz/yourcouncil/consultations/animals-and-bees-bylaw-review/>

54-1

Jenny Doyle

Manawatu Alley Cat trust

Palmerston North

### SUBMISSIONS FOR PROPOSED ANIMALS & BEEKEEPING BY LAW

**\*I would like to SPEAK our submission**

#### **Microchipping**

**\* Mandatory microchipping** is all well & good but as per usual, it is only the already responsible owners whom will abide by the law and the majority would already have done so and **desexed also** at an appropriate time. However, it is of course the only way of determining the ownership of peoples cats and also very useful for Lost / Found and injured cases.

**Microchipping is only part of a solution.** There needs to be a serious drive on the ground to work with **irresponsible individuals** whom are the main culprits of all these stray and homeless cats. They neglect their animals and let them breed hence the problem of feral kittens being born out into the wider communities. Also as **impoverishment** is affecting more people, then cats especially, are being abandoned or dumped to fend for themselves. These are the people whom will ignore the **compulsory microchipping**, they can barely afford to desex!

**As the council along with the SPCA have become more hands off in tackling this problem, then inevitably, the problem of stray cats grows.**

#### **Lack of support from Council & SPCA**

There has become less and less support for people whom need to relinquish their cat for whatever reason, which encourages dumping or leaving behind if they move. At the moment you are leaving it up to the public at large to deal with these homeless strays on peoples properties. Since the shortsighted and tragic closure of the Feilding SPCA (a worrying trend across New Zealand) we are seeing more cases of abandonment and dumping because of total

lack of support for rehoming of many of these animals.

### Lending out of Traps

To lend out traps to people whom want rid of an unwanted cat and telling them it is their responsibility to euthanize them, is nothing short of an out rage and passing the buck which there lies a huge problem on many levels....

**Firstly**, it is an outright breach of the animal welfare act because it is not guaranteed as to how the animal is disposed of/destroyed.. Not many people will want to pay out a veterinary bill for euthanasia.

**Secondly** there is no guarantee that the cat is NOT somebody's pet!.

**Thirdly**, Some people don't want to kill a healthy animal therefore would most likely dump the cat in rural areas....

..this of course is an act of cruelty, in itself, for a domestic cat to be left to totally fend for itself in the country. Of course, environmentally it does the wild life no favors.

**\*\*\*We would like to see a guarantee in place from the Council that unmicrochipped cats are not vulnerable to carte blanche, widespread euthanasia of these animals. Instead, there should be a process to be gone through where the council works in with animal rescue groups in cases of possibility of rehoming, otherwise they are looked after by TNR - no euthanasia of healthy cats.**

### Desexing

As an established TNR group that has been desexing / rehoming of cats/kittens where possible, we are receiving messages on a daily basis, asking for help re a stray cat having litters under their houses. If these litters are left to grow up feral that is another lot each season whom will also adding to the feral and stray populations. **Trap Neuter & Return of stray cats** is endorsed in MPI's Cat Management Strategy plans . We would like to see reputable TNR groups be supported by Councils in working at grass roots level to alleviate the breeding of homeless cats and to educate the public by working closely with them to get the results and change of attitudes to become more responsible and caring citizens of our communities towards animals and pet ownership in general.

**Mandatory desexing of cats over 6mths** is a good start to change attitudes in the communities but will be useless to try and enforce unless at a **National Government level, laws are changed, to ban the selling of kittens on online sites and pet shops which encourage impulse buying of pets and with no contracts in place to ensure desexing occurs by sexual maturity. Pets shops should only be allowed to sell animals that need**

54-3

**rehoming FULL STOP!!!**

**\*\*We as a rescue group are totally opposed to early age desexing** and feel people should have the right to choose to let their cat fully mature before being desexed.

### **Limit of Cats**

We think it is unrealistic to enforce 3 cats only for all household. This could prevent people whom do the community a favor by taking on a stray off the streets to look after, along with their own. Putting strict limits as in 3 will exacerbate the homeless cat problem.

All responsible, well run Cat Rescue groups need to be exempt. BUT there needs to be checks and ballances in place to ensure that the welfare of these animals is paramount and hoarding is prevented.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity for having our say.

**Jenny Doyle**

**Member and Trustee of**

**Manawatu Alley Cat Trust**

ORIGINAL TO FOR ACTION AND REPLY	
REC'D	21 DEC 2017 PNCC
COPY TO	
PALMERSTON NORTH CITY COUNCIL	

55-1

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## Palmerston North City Council Draft Animals and Bees Bylaw 2017

### We want to hear from you.

Please note, as required by legislation, your submission (including contact details provided on the submission form), will be available to the public and media as part of the decision-making process unless you request that these details be kept private.

#### Your contact details

Full Name: Glenis Anne Mobberley

Organisation (if applicable): 'Hokowhitu Community Cats'

Postal Address: 489a Ruahine Street

Palmerston North 4410

Phone (day) 3578850

Email: dr.gal@inspire.net.nz

Do you want to speak to the Council in support of your submission? (please tick)  
☒ Yes ☐ No

Submissions hearings are planned for March 2018.

#### Your submission

1. The specific parts of the bylaw my submission relates to are as follows:  
 (Specify the bylaw part(s) and clause(s) to which your submission relates.)

Part 4. Clause 8. Cats on Premises  
8.1 No person may keep more than 3 cats  
8.7 a. Mandatory Microchipping  
b. De-sexing cats over 6 months

Part 2. General  
clause 6.

55-2

2. My submission is that:

(Include whether you support or oppose the various parts of the bylaw or wish to have them amended, and the reasons for your views.)

Please refer to the attached document

3. I seek the following decision from the Palmerston North City Council

(Give precise details about the decision you want the Council to make)

- \* Microchipping be recommended not mandatory
- \* The current limit of 3 cats be removed or increased.
- \* No person be permitted to trap and destroy any cat on private land.
- or That strict reporting and welfare rules are in a Bylaw.

Please send your submission:

- By mail** Draft Palmerston North Animals and Bees Bylaw Submissions, Governance and Support Team Leader, Palmerston North City Council, Private Bag 11034, Palmerston North 4442
- In person** Palmerston North City Council Contact Services Centre, 32 The Square, Palmerston North
- By email** [submission@pncc.govt.nz](mailto:submission@pncc.govt.nz) (put Animals and Bees Bylaw submissions in the subject)
- By fax** 06 355 4115

**SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 4PM, THURSDAY 21**

**DECEMBER 2017**

Dr. Glenn's Mobberley

Glenis Anne Mobberley  
 489a Ruahine Street,  
 Palmerston North 4410  
 Phone 3578850  
 Email: [dr.g@inspire.net.nz](mailto:dr.g@inspire.net.nz)

I wish to speak to my submission

1. The specific parts of the the Bylaw

Part 4

Clause 8. Cats on premises

- 8.1 No more than 3 Cats on Premises
- 8.7 Microchipping and desexing

Part 2 General

Clause 6. This relates solely to nuisance to people. There needs to be consideration to animal welfare issues when the PNCC gives right to individuals to trap and destroy cats that are not their own.

Introduction. There needs to be a Bylaw not just education around safety, etiquette and welfare relating to the Bylaws around cats.

2. My Submission is that:

Part 4

Clause 8. Cats on premises

**8.1 No person may keep more than 3 cats.**

I oppose this bylaw as too restrictive.

- Wellington has no such limit and has fewer cat problems. P.N. had fewer problems before this was introduced.
- Prior to this Bylaw people, myself included, would often adopt an extra cat that turned up. This reduced the stray population. The current Bylaw acts to increase the number of free living cats as people don't adopt those deemed 'over their allotted number'.
- The existing health and safety rules contain enough power to address 'hoarders'. For most people the expense of keeping lots of cats would be deterrent enough.

**8.7 Microchipping and desexing**

**8.7b** I support the requirement to desex cats but consider this Bylaw unenforceable in practice.

**8.7a I oppose this Bylaw for the following reasons:**

- An unnecessary expense especially for older people who probably won't microchip their older cat who 'never wanders'. This provides an excuse to those who hate cats to kill a neighbour's cat if not microchipped.
- It encourages dumping or desertion of cats.
- It discourages people from adopting an extra cat that may have turned up.

- There must be guidelines/ stipulations with this Bylaw to stipulate what is to be done with any cat found without a microchip. As drafted now this is an excuse for cruelty. Current council practice provides no animal welfare protection for cats.
- Currently cats often wear collars with nametags and a bell to deter birds. Microchipping is likely to discourage this practice.
- Only vets and SPCA have microchip readers. A cat with a named collar can often be returned home by a neighbour. The PNCC currently provides traps for people to catch cats. There is no requirement to check for a chip. It would be more sensible to require a named collar.
- Microchips move and fail in dogs so probably will in cats.
- It is likely a lot more cats will be uplifted to the SPCA to be checked for chips, instead of waiting to see if the owner returns, especially around the Xmas holidays.
- P.N. has a large student population who often bring a cat and are unlikely to know about such a rule.
- Trap neuter and release programmes are the recommended method of dealing with stray cat colonies both by the M.P.I. and international research. This bylaw takes no account of those cats that are no longer owned and assumes all have a person who may be held accountable. This is why the problem still exists in P.N. when it has been successfully addressed elsewhere.
- There are people who currently manage and de-sex cats currently living at sites in the community. I have done this sort of work for over 20 years. I trap, de-sex and return adults (and feed) and rehome kittens. Colonies then naturally die out. Adults can often also be re-homed. The small amount of money available to do this work must be directed to desexing the breeding females. Not wasted on microchipping which costs more than desexing. People who take kittens from these programmes now pay the cost of de-sex and can often be encouraged to take a sibling as well. This Bylaw will double the cost and result in fewer placements.
- The best way to successfully deal with the problem of stray cats is for the council to help support those groups in the community who are doing a good job with very little support.
- Punitive measures seldom work they just get ignored by most people.

### Introduction

Current council practice provides no animal welfare protection for cats. Traps are provided by PNCC to trap with the sole requirement they be returned empty. Education is not enough there needs to be a Bylaw that directs and requires reporting of cats caught.

- Location date and number of cats caught
- Photo id. as vets must do when they put down a cat brought in after a road accident
- Requirement to check with neighbours and take healthy cats to the SPCA
- No right to destroy. People have no means to humanely destroy cats and vets won't euthanise cats unless injured or they know it is the owner. The current practice encourages cruelty and dumping of cats outside the city. No commercial operators should be able to set up a business trapping and killing our neighbourhood cats. Irrespective of whose property they may have strayed on to. Vet euthanise only.



**SUBMISSION ON THE PALMERSTON NORTH ANIMALS AND BEES BYLAW 2017**

**From: Dr Caroline Roche, 25 Springdale Grove, Summerhill, Palmerston North 4410**

**PH: 3564012 EMAIL: [mmr@inspire.net.nz](mailto:mmr@inspire.net.nz)**

I am grateful to the Palmerston North City Council to have this opportunity to make a submission on the proposed Palmerston North Animals and Bees Bylaw 2017. I am presently owned by 3 cats and am a regular donor to the SPCA whose work I wholeheartedly support. I am fully in support of the proposal that no more than 3 cats be kept on any property and that all cats are to be neutered and microchipped.

My support arises out of my concern that too many cats in our society are not as much pets, that is an active part of the daily life of their families, as they are appendages that are disregarded after they move from the pretty kitten stage to the independent adult cat. This means that there are too many cats that are effectively abandoned and who have to rely on what they kill to feed themselves. These abandoned cats quickly become feral cats who are a threat to our native wildlife. So I would hope that an active stance on de-sexing combined with microchipping will do something to address the existing stray and feral cat populations and ensure that the only cats who are loved and cared for are part of our city.

I accept that this is a bold step given that it is only responsible cat owners will comply. That may be the case but I think that most cat owners are willing to bear that cost and responsibility to address a larger problem. In fact a cat from a breeder or the SPCA are likely to be neutered when you take over responsibility for them and I would go a step further and require any pet shop to only be able to sell neutered cats. While that might increase the cost of the cat it will emphasis to the owner that this is the first stage of their financial and care responsibilities for their cat. In the longer run that should help to ensure that we have few cats all of which will be treasured family companions.

I would also encourage the Palmerston North City Council having taken this very positive step to follow it up with a policy to encourage more people to consider indoor cats. While many of you can recoil and say that is unnatural I have had more than 20 years of indoor cat keeping and can testify to the fact that cats can be very happy inside. In Europe and North American indoor cats are generally more common than our free ranging moggies. In reality cats are efficient killers of our birds, lizards and insects and no amount of bells will stop that killing. By chance we ended up rescuing a badly injured stray kitten some 20 years ago, who was so thoroughly frightened by the experience he did not want to go outside and our vet suggested he should be kept as an indoor cat. We accepted this peculiar situation with the very concerns that are passing over your minds as you read this submission. However, I am now a dedicated indoor cat advocate and can have my cats and my native birds. Moggies

and pedigrees they have all settled into indoor life and our latest addition Tilda sits with her pedigree mate Finn in front of an open door with no desire or need to step over the door step. They live a happy and fully life with us in our home and vets will testify that they live longer lives, don't get into fights or get bowled on the road. They are also not a nuisance to my neighbours. Our only exception is Alfie a wild cat that I tamed, had neutered and for whom I take responsibility. She however cannot cope with being inside for any period but she will be our last outdoor cat.

This idea may be regarded as odd and extreme but in the end it would help to actively reduce our cat population and to ensure every cat it a cared for cat with the minimum of opportunities to predate the very birds etc. which this Council's work in establishing green corridors has done so much to increase bird life particularly around the city. Not everyone will see it as something they want to do but if even a few people are persuaded to view that as an option then this Council would be taking the first step in establishing an enlightened approach to the cat issues which we must face up to if our native birds and fauna are ever to get the protection they need.

Dr Caroline Roche

25 Springdale Grove

Summerhill

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