



City of **HOBART**

**MEMORANDUM:** LORD MAYOR  
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR  
ELECTED MEMBERS

## **CAT-FREE AREAS**

**Meeting:** City Planning Committee

**Meeting date:** 23 May 2022

**Raised by:** Councillor Harvey

**Question:**

Can the Director advise if Council has ever considered declaring all of our reserves cat free areas? And could we please do so?

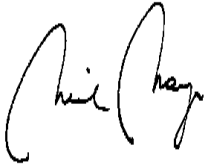
**Response:**

The Council has considered declaring Council reserves as prohibited areas under the *Cat Management Act 2009*. However, the declaration of areas as a prohibited area under the *Cat Management Act 2009* does not expand the range of measures available to the Council to manage feral cats. There is limited evidence available to officers that biodiversity values in Council's reserves are under threat by free-roaming domestic cats.

The declaration of areas as prohibited brings with it community expectation that Council will undertake compliance activity in response to any cat found in a prohibited area. This may include trapping, seizing, detaining or humanely destroying cats. The Council does not currently have sufficient resources to meet this expectation.

Under the *Cat Management Act 2009* all state reserves are prohibited areas. If Council wish to declare all Council reserves as cat prohibited areas, a more appropriate response would be to seek legislative amendment to extend the legislative provisions to include Council reserves.

*As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Neil Noye', written in a cursive style.

Neil Noye  
**DIRECTOR CITY LIFE**

Date: 15 August 2022  
File Reference: F22/50405; 13-1-10