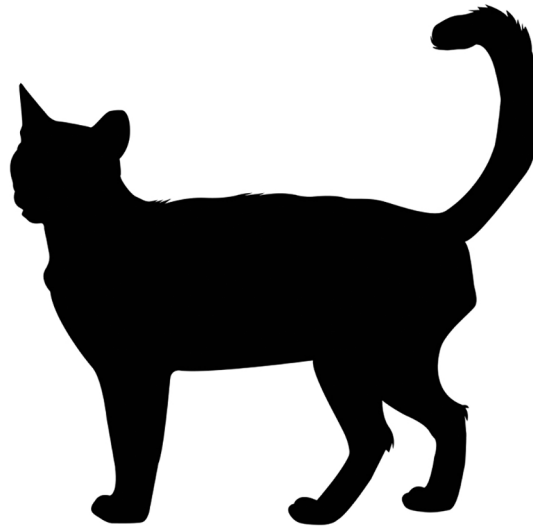


Catastrophe?



- 1 Councillors in the Western Australian city Fremantle backed a motion which, if approved, could see cats banned from all city-owned and managed property unless they're on a leash. The motion was put forth in a meeting earlier this week. The move to begin amending the Cat Management Local Law 2020 in such a way could see the cats prohibited from roads, to save them from being hit by vehicles, too.
- 2 Councillor Adin Lang, who put forward the motion, told *Perth Now*: 'In the 1970s dogs would roam our streets and I expect roaming cats will also become a thing of the past. While we have prohibited areas in our natural bushland areas, cats are still entering.' He added that native verge gardens act as 'animal shelter' and called the proposal a practical step to protect the local wildlife.
- 3 Feral cats, which roam in more than 99.9% of the country's landmass, have for a long while been a concern for the Australian government. A federal report from last year revealed that feral cats are seen to be a potential threat to 74 mammal species and sub-species, 40 birds, 21 reptiles and four amphibians. It added that feral cats are responsible for the loss of 1.4 billion native animals every year.

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