

# Annual Report **2023-2024**



## OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLES

*The Cat Protection Society of NSW has adopted a number of important principles that govern how we work to achieve our goals.*

*Notably, we are independent. While we value partnerships, our organisation is independent and we seek to speak with our own voice on our own terms, always giving precedence to the aims and objectives of the Cat Protection Society of NSW. We will minimise government grants so that we are not dependent on government, and we will not become a contracted pound service. We will report cruelty but we will not seek to become an enforcement agency under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act.*

*We are a no-kill shelter. We achieve this by managing admissions and using a network of foster carers. We will give every cat in our care every chance and assistance to be healthy and adopted. Any decision on euthanasia is made on a case-by-case basis, with veterinary advice, and the authority to make such a decision rests with the CEO or in their absence, their delegate. In the interest of feline community health, we will not knowingly rehome an FIV positive cat.*

*We deal with domestic cats only, whether stray, abandoned or surrendered owned cats. We do not have the capacity or skills to deal with feral cats. We believe every animal deserves to be treated humanely and with respect for their sentience and dignity.*

*We do not adopt aggressive fundraising tactics. Our requests for donations and support will be polite and we will not use pressure tactics to solicit donations.*

*We will manage our operations so that we can continue to meet basic levels of service in the absence of bequest income by ensuring adequate reserves that will give us time to adjust to changed financial circumstances.*

*We reserve the right to refuse adoption and will not adopt cats and kittens to meet numeric targets but only to suitable loving and responsible homes.*

*We aim to provide the best quality care and shelter medicine for our cats, using specialist and alternative therapies as needed.*

*We aim to provide shelter to an optimal number of cats at all times, which will mean at times we will take in cats from pounds and other shelters, and at times we will be unable to accept admissions. The optimal number will vary according to season, the number of kittens and shelter health.*

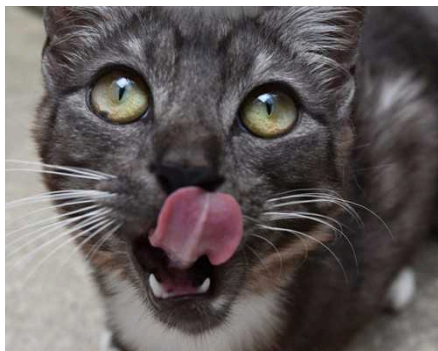
*Our focus is on finding homes for cats, helping cats with homes to stay with their people, and improving feline welfare.*

**Cat Protection acknowledges the Gadigal people of the Eora Nation as the traditional custodians of the land on which we work, and we pay our respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.**

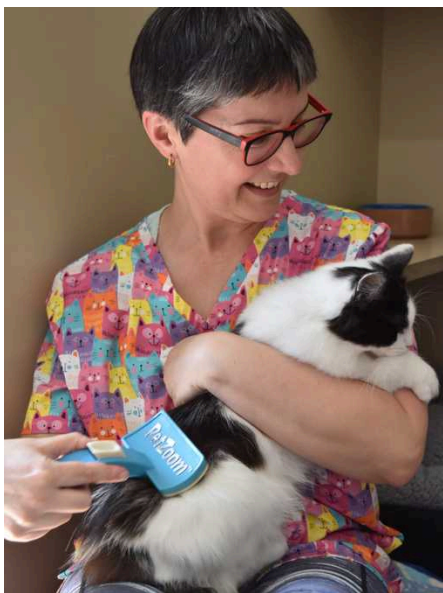
## Celebrating the connection between people and cats



As in previous years, we continue to be compliant with our obligations and received an unqualified audit. This reporting period, we were reminded of the enduring bond and loving connection that people and cats share. The human - feline bond has existed for centuries, and while the heartbreaking struggles that homeless cats endure can be a painful, unforgiving reality, reminders of these amazing connections keep us going. Whether it's a child writing a haiku for their best friend, receiving daily updates and photos from those who have welcomed Cat Protection alumni into their loving homes, or the conversations we have with passionate cat lovers in the community who tell us all about their own clan of cats with such delight – these wonderful, joyful moments are so special.



As always, we are humbled by bequests from members and others in the community who remembered us in their will. Bequests keep our doors open, and this year we received some \$1.65m in legacies: a profound example of the unwavering devotion that people have to cats. We received over more than \$550,000 from our generous donors and members, and we also reflect on how our day-to-day operations can only happen because of our wonderful volunteers, pro-bono partners, and sponsors. To put a figure on it, the dollar value of donated goods and volunteer services was an amazing \$558,000.



Our vet partners offer us discounted fees across Greater Sydney and some regional centres. Without their support, we would see a drastic decline in the number of cats and cat lovers we can help. A profession dedicated to helping animals, what better indication of the loving relationship between people and animals than that of a vet. It's not an easy job, as we noted in our submission to the NSW Legislative Council Committee into the veterinary workforce shortage.

The unique set of challenges vets face – financial, ethical, and even geographical – can cause severe mental hardship. To do what's best for animals, cats included, we need to take care of those who take such good care of them. We will continue to advocate for our vets so they get the recognition they deserve and the support they need. We were proud to host 21 University of Sydney students from veterinary and veterinary bioscience degrees for professional placements this year.



There's another group of people who give so much to animals who must be mentioned. These people are members of our community who selflessly take care of cats who are not their own, whether it's cats living on their local streets, backyards, industrial areas, etc. This can be financially taxing and emotionally exhausting work, as we hear all too often from those in the thick of it.

We are so grateful that during this reporting period we were able to launch our DIVA program, thanks to a \$1.5m NSW Government grant to deliver a two-year targeted desexing program. You can see DIVA figures below, but a truly touching part of our journey with DIVA has been the stories we hear from people who care for unowned cats. Being a lifeline for them when they're at breaking point and hearing about their refusal to give up on these cats has been inspiring. It's also a stark reminder of the number of cats and people in the community who need help, like Russell in Sydney who used DIVA to get Felix and Squeak off the streets and into a safe home – that's them below, now living their best lives.

In this report, you will find an overview of our achievements through the 2023-24 reporting period and the touching stories of some of the cats in our care. Every page offers examples of the connection that cats and people share. Cats are woven into the fabric of our lives – work and play! – and we will continue to advocate for, admire, and adore them.

**Nita Harvey**  
President



## KEY FELINE FACTS

During the 2023-24 reporting period, Cat Protection:

- Received **561** surrendered cats and kittens
- Found **1,796** cats loving forever homes (**515** were adoptions from our shelter, which was made up of **414** kittens and **101** adult cats, and **1,281** were cats from our Adopt-a-Stray program)
- Lifetime registered **1,657** cats and kittens, not including those in our DIVA program
- Helped low-income cat owners desex **2,173** cats through our programs like Operation Cat and F3 vaccinate 621 cats
- Desexed **1,155** cats through DIVA and provided **1,125** lifetime registrations and **818** vaccinations
- Supported research into FIP by Professor Jacqui Norris and colleagues at the University of Sydney, as well as research led by Emeritus Professor Jacquie Rand into community cats
- Commissioned Ipsos to research the state of cat welfare in NSW
- Reunited **three** lost cats with their families
- Gave post-adoption support to all of our clients, including those through Adopt-a-Stray and DIVA
- Provided **117** nights of crisis cat accommodation
- Spoke to media about cat adoptions, keeping cats safe, the F3 shortage, and the “war” on cats
- Made submissions to **three** Parliamentary inquiries and four government reviews and published them to our [Advocate for Cats](#) page.

## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

*Cat Protection is a best-practice facility prioritising the health and wellbeing of every cat and kitten who come to us*

### Keeping cats safe and healthy

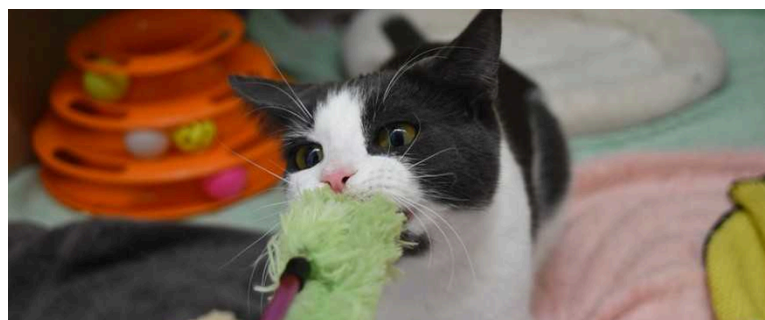
We implement best-practice feline shelter health and wellbeing, consulting veterinarians and human medicine experts when designing, implementing, and reviewing our infection-control and disease-management protocols.

All cats and kittens who are surrendered to Cat Protection, if unvaccinated or have an unknown vaccination background, are **vaccinated** upon entry (or within 24 hours if going immediately to the vet for a health check) with a modified live vaccine. Pregnant or lactating females are administered an inactive vaccine. Faecal tests are performed for every cat and kitten on entry to identify and ensure prompt, appropriate treatment, such as the antibiotic Panacur for cats that test positive for giardia. All cats and kittens are routinely treated with Baycox on entry to prevent coccidia, which is commonly shed intermittently so can be missed in faecal testing.

Orphan kittens and mother cats with kittens are placed in foster care until they are big and healthy enough to be desexed and can then move to our Newtown Adoption Centre. Cats and kittens are weighed weekly to ensure optimum weight is maintained. Cats who come to us overweight are placed on weight management plans designed with our vets to prevent health issues like diabetes and heart problems.

Probiotics are used for all cats while in our care to maintain good gut health. Cats and kittens who are on medication are placed on Hills **Gastro Biome** food to prevent reactions from the meds to their gut flora/fauna. **Lysine** paste is given to cats who may have an Upper Respiratory Tract Infection (URTI), and all other cats in their vicinity, to help boost their immune systems. It is also used ongoing for cats who have tested positive to herpesvirus; it helps to minimise the risk of recurrence due to stress.

On vet advice, any cats who have had known feline calicivirus continue to be isolated for eight weeks, such as in foster care, after their last visible symptoms as cats can shed the virus for an unknown length of time. We also amend our viewing procedures when these cats or kittens become available for adoption to further limit the risk of disease transmission.



## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

We provide every cat in our care with all the veterinary attention they need, from surgeries, to diagnostics, to behavioural medicine and support. As well as a veterinary health check on entry, if a cat is still with us after six months, or if their health calls for it, they will have another vet check.

We ensure that all cats over seven years old have geriatric blood tests. All cats are **desexed, vaccinated, flea and worm treated, microchipped**. On adoption, they are **registered** to their new owner and we email their new family a reminder about flea/worming and vaccinations – as well as making sure their fur baby is settling in well! With permission, we love sharing these updates on our Facebook page and our Scratching Post section of *Cat Affairs*.

Eight cats in our care had an **Anti-Mullerian Hormone blood test**, with seven results indicating they were all already desexed. This test means these seven cats didn't undergo unnecessary anesthetic and surgery, we avoided unnecessary medical costs, and the veterinary team saved time and resources.

**Austrazole** wash is used on cats and kittens on entry to minimise the risk of ringworm. This is also given to foster carers to repeat when kittens are in care and may be done several times while a cat is with us to minimise their chance of a ringworm infection. **Canesten** wash is used in each load of laundry, too – it is both an anti-fungal and anti-bacterial treatment.

Every cat and kitten apartment and exercise areas are cleaned routinely with antifungal cleaners. All floors are routinely steam cleaned as required to further minimise disease spread. We currently use **SAFE4 disinfectant**, which is effective in killing many (if not all!) of the parasites and diseases that may present in shelter environments.

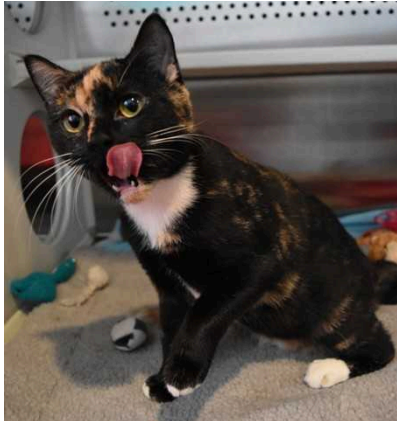
### Providing cats a Fear Free shelter experience

All staff, Feline Services volunteers, and foster carers continue to be trained in Fear Free handling of cats by **Fear Free Pets**. Their **Fear Free Shelter Program** is a science-backed program that uses behaviour-led strategies to ensure that all interactions with cats are as comfortable and stress-free as possible. All of our staff also complete online training through **CEVA's FELIWAY Cat Handling Program** to further instill skills, knowledge, and confidence in the stress-free handling of cats.

We take the mental health and wellbeing of all Cat Protection cats very seriously; like with humans, it's as important as their physical health and has a direct link to their overall wellbeing. Most of the cats that come through our doors started life as strays and carry feline herpesvirus and/or feline calicivirus.



## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES



Even if dormant at the time, the stress of coming into a new environment, where there are lots of new people and other cats, can trigger the virus to shed and lead to cat flu symptoms and possible upper respiratory tract infections. As well as treating these physical symptoms, Fear Free measures are important to preventing the severity of disease – a stressed cat is a sicker cat.

**Feliway** and **Feliway Friends** diffusers and sprays are used in every area of the shelter to assist with the calming of the cats, including in our van on vet runs and sprayed on staff scrubs. New cat and kitten admissions are immediately started on the calming nutraceutical **Zylkene** and this is continued for 7-14 days (or longer if they are particularly stressed or fearful) to assist with the settling in period.



Frightened or shy cats may be placed in our rehabilitation ward while being socialised and, if advised by our vets, may be placed on a course of calming medication like **Gabapentin** to help them adapt to changes. Extreme cases may go into foster care if we feel this will benefit the cat (this is not advised in many cases moving from place to place can add to stress).

Classical or 'cat specific' music, like the David Teie's *Music for Cats*, is played throughout the day in high traffic areas to keep the cats relaxed.

### Giving cats an enriching life

Shelter life for cats shouldn't be somewhere where they're simply waiting for their adopters to walk through the door and take them home. Each cat has a unique personality, quirks, likes and dislikes – this is why we love them so much! We want every cat to live their best lives when they're with us and for their personalities to shine through. This also helps us get them adopted faster and into the most suitable home for their unique needs and temperament.

Routines are developed for individual cats to ensure they get specialised care and appropriate socialisation that meets their needs. This may include extra time brushing, clicker training, harness training, one-on-one playtime in their apartment, and many more activities depending on the particular kitty.

All cats and kittens are given **food mazes** made from cardboard rolls or egg cartons for enrichment (a handful of daily dry food is placed in them). Thank you to our supporters who donate these and other recycled items to us, like newspapers which we use to line litter trays.



## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

We also include cardboard boxes in each cat's apartment to give them a safe hiding spot and/or additional resting place. For cats who may be with us for prolonged periods, larger scratchers or platforms are added to their apartments to give them extra enrichment.

A **daily playtime roster** for each cat is monitored to ensure all cats get time to stretch and play in the playroom or Marie's Place. For those cats who may not be comfortable in an open area, we develop training aids to get them used to these spaces and to become more confident.

### We honour every cat with love and dignity

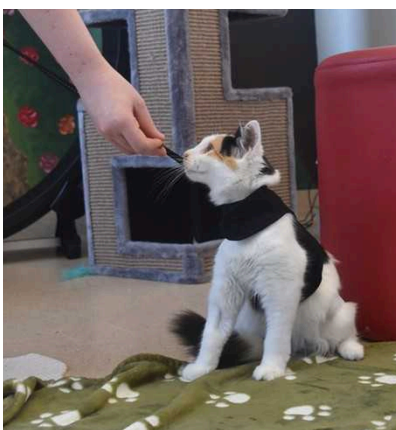
After thorough discussion with our vets, sometimes we need to make tough decisions and humanely euthanise very unwell cats. We acknowledge the emotional strain on those who were caring for these cats, such as veterinary teams, our staff, and our cattery volunteers and foster carers.

This reporting period, we said goodbye to **Taffy**, a 7.5 week old kitten who came to us with many health issues. Sadly, Taffy had lung issues that continued to get worse despite treatment. We also said goodbye to two adolescent kittens who came to us from a hoarding case. Their brother was euthanised due to severe respiratory issues, and the boys were diagnosed with chronic bronchopneumitis. They had a limited response to aggressive medical treatment and the decision was made to humanely put them to sleep.

Ten other young kittens were either euthanised or passed away in foster care due to medical issues. Four had untreatable congenital heart issues, one kitten had lung and heart defects, and another had a severe heart murmur. Four very young kittens had severe suspected calicivirus infections. We thank their foster care for the love they gave them.

One adult cat had an untreatable mass on their spleen, kidneys and liver, and another has chronic respiratory disease that would not respond to treatment.

We love and remember all cats and kittens who come through our doors, and we take solace in giving them the care they deserved, even when the outcome isn't what we'd hoped for.





## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

**Adopt-a-Stray** is a program for people who would like to welcome a stray cat into their homes – all vet work and registration for just \$100 per cat. This makes adopting a found cat much easier for people, many who would otherwise not have been able to front the cost of hundreds of dollars for vet care and desexing. This also leaves more room in shelters and rescues like ours for other cats in need. Adopt-a-Stray has resulted in **1,281 cats** going from living on the street directly into loving homes in this reporting period alone.

One client told us via social media that *“The Adopt-a-Stray program helped me take in a pregnant mother cat and get her and her daughter looked after for us to keep them! We are so grateful to the Cat Protection Society”*.

### Special case cats

*Every cat receives individualised care; every cat is special to us, but we’ve only enough room to highlight some of their stories.*



Penny

**Penny** was just 18 months old when her person sadly passed away and she came to Cat Protection. Both of Penny’s eyes were cloudy when she arrived and she was prescribed several courses of eye drops for treatment.

Unfortunately, Penny’s eye issues showed little improvement even after changing her medication and undergoing various tests – including a fluorescein stain which showed plaque like lesions around the peripheral regions of the cornea in both of Penny’s eyes. Penny was one of three cats and kittens who underwent eye enucleations during this reporting period.

Further test results indicated Penny’s condition as eosinophilic keratitis, a chronic inflammation of the corneas, and our vets determined she would always have cloudy eyes and poor vision. This condition was also likely to be causing discomfort and pain for Penny, so the decision was made to perform double enucleation surgery to remove both her eyes. Following a brief recovery period at the vet, Penny was happily exploring and purring away once more.

After almost a year of care, rehabilitation, and support to help Penny adjust to her new world, she is now living happily with her loving and devoted forever person. Penny is proving that blindness is no obstacle to having fun and she is living her nine lives to the fullest.

When her previous carer moved overseas, beautiful **Bisho** found herself back at our shelter after originally being adopted in 2016. Now an eight-year-old senior, Bisho underwent a geriatric blood screen on entry. All results came back within the normal range, but staff noticed Bisho limping and avoiding putting weight on her left hind leg. Initial X-rays showed mild swelling of her toes and the vets originally believed Bisho to be showing signs of osteoarthritis – with a possible osteophyte (or bone spur) the cause of her limp.



Bisho

## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

Pain relief and anti-inflammatory medications were prescribed but Bisho's condition deteriorated; she became lethargic and immobile. Further X-rays revealed a plate in her ankle to repair a previous break, but this still did not account for her symptoms. Another round of X-rays was then sent to a specialist for interpretation, who found soft tissue swelling in all four of Bisho's limbs.

Unfortunately, the swelling spread to her face, and as Bisho's health continued to decline, feline medicine expert Prof. Richard Malik was consulted. His diagnosis was a severe calicivirus reaction – later confirmed in the lab by an upper respiratory swab.

While the presentation of symptoms of feline calicivirus were unusual and extreme in Bisho's case, luckily the usual medications and treatment worked well and she made a full recovery. Within three days of her return to the Adoption Centre, Bisho had found her loving forever home.

Bonded brothers **Shane** and **Russell** came to Cat Protection as one-year-old Bengals from a breeder who could no longer care for them. Shy at first, extra encouragement and time was needed socialising these boys and getting them used to human interaction. Though they improved, the brothers always relied on each other for support and we knew this pair needed to find a forever home together.

During their time with us, they were both treated for conjunctivitis, cat flu, and ringworm, plus their teeth were in need of some attention and they underwent a dental scale and polish. Russell showed signs of a sensitive tummy and was given probiotics and put on a low-allergy diet to help with his symptoms.

Not to be left out, Shane quickly adapted to Russell's new diet which made mealtimes with the boys much easier. We knew this bonded pair were devoted to each other as they would get depressed and lonely when they had to spend time apart, but we also found they were bickering when sharing an apartment in our rehoming area. Shane and Russell were much happier when given their own space, visiting each other to enjoy a catnap curled up together or zooming around after each other in the playroom.

It was also a good indication they would need plenty of space in their forever home, but Bengals are known for roaming and their expert athleticism makes them keen hunters. To protect local wildlife and the boys themselves, we were also eager for this pair to be kept enclosed in their new home. Luckily, we found them a loving forever family with a large house where they can enjoy all the benefits of an indoor lifestyle and still have lots of space for zoomies.



## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES



Frankie

Adorable **Frankie** found her way into our care after her previous person found themselves with more pets than they could provide for. With a severe flea infestation and multiple inflamed rodent ulcers on her upper lip, Frankie was started on antibiotics and given steroid injections.

After two months of treatment, the lesions were still not fully healed and further investigation was required. A bacterial culture and sensitivity swab, plus hole punch biopsies, were taken for testing.

Results from the biopsies showed eosinophilic granulomas, suggesting an underlying allergic hypersensitivity. Vets could now focus on treating Frankie's allergies with further steroid injections and a hypoallergenic diet trial. Frankie fancied her new food and her skin showed much improvement with the lesions finally healing.

Back at the shelter, Frankie found her forever home within two weeks. Her new guardians understand the importance of making sure Frankie sticks to her special diet and enjoys an indoor lifestyle to keep her allergies in check.



Clementine & Blueberry

Sweet little **Blueberry** was only one week old when she came to the cattery with her mother and three siblings. Her left hind leg showed signs of a previous injury with necrotic tissue damage – X-rays were performed and revealed soft tissue swelling.

Blueberry's mother, Bluey, was very diligent in looking after her little one but, probably sensing this injury in Blueberry's leg, she started overgrooming her limb. Even though Bluey's mothering instincts were well-intentioned, to avoid any further damage Blueberry was placed in foster care where she was bottle fed.



Blueberry

While Blueberry was healing well, her injury had resulted in the loss of some toes. She stayed in foster care until she was big enough for surgery and was paired up with another kitten, Clementine, who had been orphaned. It's important for small kittens to learn from one another and discover the ways of the world together, particularly if they're without a mother, so it was a great match. The two became fast friends, happily playing and cuddling every day.

Initially it seemed Blueberry's leg would need to be amputated, but as time progressed she was clearly using her leg as any kitten would – running, jumping and climbing! Amputation could be avoided and thanks to the efforts of her fabulous foster carers' Blueberry continued to thrive.

Although Clementine and Blueberry had bonded as kittens, as they grew so did their independence and each went on to find their forever homes separately. With her new family, Blueberry also received a new name and is now known as Tanpopo, meaning dandelion in Japanese. A most delightful name for a most delightful kitty!

## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

**Cherry** arrived at our shelter as a one-year-old stray and her charming nature was quickly on show. Soon after entry, she underwent a routine dental scale and polish. After she was back from the vet, her coughing came to the team's attention.

Cherry was treated for an URTI before follow-up X-rays confirmed an asthma diagnosis. Undergoing a bronchoalveolar lavage (BAL) to check her lungs, several rounds of antibiotics, and a course of prednisolone tablets to treat other factors contributing to the coughing, Cherry settled into using her asthma inhaler like a true champion – always brave and well-behaved.

After all her health issues were resolved, Cherry was adopted in less than two months and is breathing easy now in her forever home.



*Cherry*

**Dusty** arrived at our cattery in a disheveled state. An 18-month-old stray with a very matted coat, her fur was beyond brushing, Dusty required a lion clip under sedation at the vet to give her long fur a fresh start. Her faecal test on entry came back positive for campylobacter, which was swiftly treated with erythromycin.

A shy girl, Dusty required some extra time socialising with our team as she settled into the shelter environment, but it soon became apparent that even with the coaxing of staff Dusty was finding it hard to adjust. For her anxiety, Dusty was prescribed Gabapentin and she slowly but surely began responding to the attention from our team. The medication was working well and Dusty was becoming more comfortable in her surroundings.

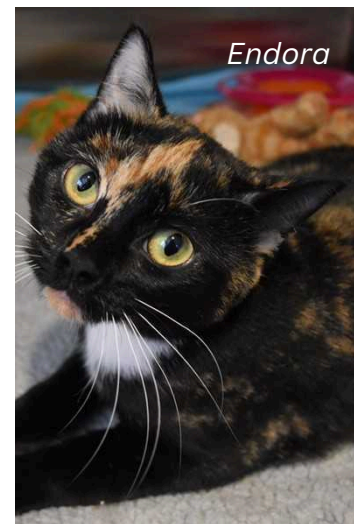


*Dusty*

As Dusty's coat grew back and returned in all its fluffy glory, her curiosity also grew, and we could see this gentle girl just needed some extra encouragement in her interactions with people. After several months of waiting patiently, Dusty's dream came true and she found an understanding person ready to win her trust and give her the loving, peaceful, forever home she deserves.

Adorable **Endora** was surrendered as a shy six-month-old stray. On examination by our vets, ulcers were discovered in her mouth and an upper respiratory swab came back positive for mycoplasma. Needing a quiet place to recover while she was treated with antibiotics, Endora was moved to our Rehabilitation Ward.

Our staff noticed Endora breathing heavily and panting. As a precaution, Endora was treated for lungworm but thoracic X-rays pointed to potential feline asthma or bronchopneumonia. She received an antibiotic injection, steroid injection, and bronchodilator injection and was started on a course of antibiotics.



*Endora*

In the end, Endora needed a second round of medication before repeat X-rays showed that her lung issues had resolved. With clearer lungs, Endora was then given the all clear by our vets and a little over a month later was enjoying life in her forever home.

## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

When a pound facility had exhausted all their own treatment options for a young four-month-old kitten with severe eye disease, they reached out to us. A very affectionate girl, **CeCe** remained lively and playful despite both her eyes being extremely inflamed and causing her intense pain.

Given the severity of her eye disease, vets found CeCe would need surgery to remove both eyes. Until this could be scheduled, eye drops and pain relief were prescribed to alleviate her discomfort and she was also treated for ear infections and URTIs. CeCe was a little trooper when it came time for her surgery and she was quick to heal and recover – complete loss of vision never hampered her spirits or her sense of fun!

She amazed all our team with her ease in navigating new environments, learning the layout of her apartment in the rehoming area of the Adoption Centre almost immediately. Once settled, she was quick to establish a routine of afternoon cuddles and remains a continual delight for her new person.

Five-month-old **Charlie** was surrendered into our care when his owner could no longer care for him. Full of personality and energy, Charlie always exhibited an exuberant approach to playtime, but our team became concerned by his chronic constipation.

After abdominal X-rays and blood tests to check for any underlying issues, the vets tested Charlie's T4 (Thyroxine) levels and it became clear he had hypothyroidism. Charlie was prescribed a thyroid hormone, Levothyroxine, and responded well to treatment. His history of constipation behind him, Charlie's growth and development is now back on track and he can focus all his energy on having fun.

Charlie will need to be on medication for the rest of his life, requiring careful monitoring with blood tests and weigh-ins at the vet every six months to make sure he is receiving the correct dosage. Charlie is entertaining all our team with his athletic antics while he waits for his forever home.

Lovely **Cinnamon** was surrendered into our care with his mother Juniper as strays. Even though he was only 18 months old, our vets found Cinnamon was extremely sensitive to having his back touched suggesting he was suffering from spinal pain. X-rays showed no obvious fractures or structural cause for the pain, and he responded well to a medication trial of Gabapentin.



## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES



Cinnamon

During the length of the trial, Cinnamon spent time away from his mother and enjoyed his independence, so our team knew he was now ready to start his own journey. Examining his X-rays, specialists diagnosed hyperaesthesia with chronic inflammation, but Cinnamon's condition could be easily managed with ongoing medication.

Less than two weeks after returning from the vet he quickly won the hearts of his adopters and Cinnamon is now living a charmed life in his forever home under the very distinguished name Edward Fairfax Rochester.

Abandoned at a nearby vet clinic, **Iggy** and his two 16-week-old brothers were shy boys in need of some TLC when they came to our shelter. On arrival, vets noted a grade two heart murmur, probably due to the anemia caused by his severe flea burden. Luckily, this murmur was not detected in any later health checks, but throughout his stay Iggy was treated for feline herpesvirus, ringworm, and diarrhea. These are common health issues for cats who come to us as strays.



Iggy

What was uncommon was that Iggy was eating everything and anything he could get his teeth into – beds, blankets, towels, toys, and rubber mats! All cats and kittens at Cat Protection are assessed to minimise stress and anxiety in the Adoption Centre in accordance with Fear Free and International Cat Care protocols, but sometimes cats like Iggy with more complex conditions need ongoing help.

The veterinary team diagnosed Iggy with Pica and prescribed him the long-term behavioural medication Fluoxetine. He was also treated using Gabapentin and placed in a calm foster home to see if this environment would help ease his strange snacking behaviour. There were signs of improvement, but any stress and Iggy would be back to ingesting items he shouldn't.



Cloudy

Our vets consulted a behavioural specialist and undertook various tests to rule out as many physiological causes for the Pica as they could – including an abdominal ultrasound and blood tests to check his B12, iron, a trypsin-like immunoreactivity test, and bile acids to see if there was a nutritional deficiency or inflammatory bowel disease. However, all of Iggy's tests returned normal results.

Just when it seemed like all treatment options had been exhausted, we were relieved when one of our Feline Services team put their hand up to adopt Iggy. As a veterinary student close to completing their degree, they're well equipped to monitor his behaviour and continue looking for future treatment options. Iggy couldn't have wished for someone more suitable to share his forever home with!

A kind-hearted cat-lover received daily visits from young stray **Cloudy**, who would come to share some purrs and rub along their legs. This very friendly feline visitor had an obvious issue with her left eye, which was cloudy in appearance – hence her nickname!

## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

As friendly as Cloudy was with humans, she made it very clear she was not a fan of sharing her home with other cats and her carer reached out for assistance rehoming this adorable adolescent. Cloudy underwent various assessments of her eye including a fluorescein stain and Schirmer tear test before vets decided she would need surgery to remove the eye.

After surgery and a brief recovery period, Cloudy was back to her sprightly self. Later tests revealed her eye issues were likely due to congenital malformation or trauma earlier in life. Within two weeks of her return to the Adoption Centre, Cloudy had charmed her new family and is now enjoying plenty of playtime in her forever home.

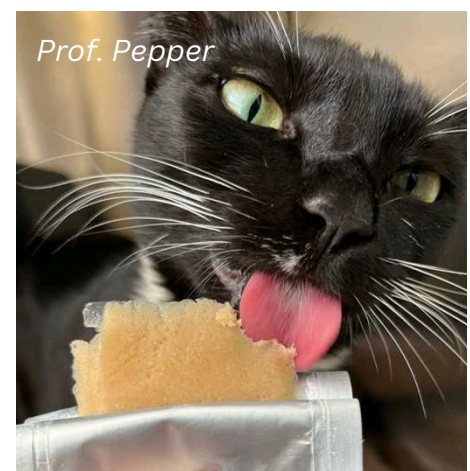
Cute as a button **Cranberry** and her brother were surrendered into our care when a stray cat a member of the community was caring for had kittens. After she arrived, staff noticed a reddish hue to her urine and vets quickly started Cranberry on antibiotics to treat a urinary tract infection (UTI), along with pain relief to manage any discomfort. Despite medication, her symptoms persisted. An ultrasound revealed a thickened bladder wall and further tests detected E. coli.

Luckily, with an extended course of antibiotics, Cranberry's UTI finally cleared up. Her brother had already been adopted and now it was Cranberry's turn to find a home. Cranberry's new family were quickly smitten with their new fluffy friend but worried when she started urinating outside the litter tray.

Fortunately, vets quickly ruled out another UTI and her patient new family, working closely with the team at the Inner West Cat Hospital, resolved the behavioural issue. Since then, Cranberry has been using her litter tray correctly and having a berry good time in her forever home.

Talkative **Professor Pepper** came to Cat Protection as a 13.5-year-old sassy senior lady when her owner moved overseas. Pepper had a routine dental scale and polish with X-rays and she tested negative for FIV and FeLV. Geriatric blood tests are always performed for cats over seven years old to establish their overall health, and Pepper was one of 10 cats to have these tests this period. While her results were normal, she was observed to be coughing and an upper respiratory swab was positive for feline herpesvirus.

Pepper's coughing persisted, but as a confident senior lass with strict boundaries she did not like being handled at the vet – and wasn't afraid to show it. It was therefore pretty tricky to do a comprehensive physical examination on her, so she went on a steroid trial for asthma instead.



## FINDING LOVING AND RESPONSIBLE HOMES FOR CATS ... WHAT EVERY CAT DESERVES

Following this trial, she was placed under sedation and thoracic X-rays showed improvement and a likely diagnosis of asthma was made. She was started on an asthma inhaler, but her strong-willed nature made it an unsuitable long-term plan. Three other cats (including Cherry) were diagnosed with feline asthma this period, but fortunately they took to their puffer without issue and were rehomed with asthma inhalers for lifelong treatment of the condition.

Pepper underwent further X-rays which were sent to a specialist for interpretation, with their findings being mild bronchitis. Pepper was placed on prednisolone to manage this condition and has responded well – this treatment will also manage her asthma so that no inhaler is needed.

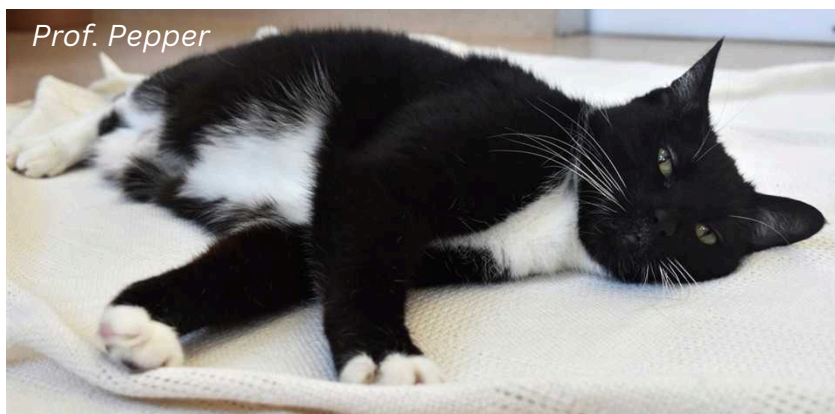
While at the shelter, Pepper was toileting on her bedding so a urinalysis and culture were taken that identified blood but no bacteria. Thankfully, a urinary tract infection could be ruled out. As she has complex care needs and a strong dislike of other cats, Pepper is currently residing at our Marrickville Welfare and Education Centre. She is on a wet food urinary diet to increase her water intake and prevent any bladder problems and she has received treatment for arthritis and is on pain management.

When cats have been living on the streets with poor nutrition and exposure to bacteria and viruses, dental problems present regularly. This reporting period, 38 cats had scale and polishes, 19 of which included tooth extractions. Two biopsies were performed and three cats underwent surgeries to repair broken down dental wounds. Eight cats had tooth extractions due to Feline Odontoclastic Resorptive Lesions. All cats have dental X-rays with their dental procedures and cats who have extractions typically have follow-up X-rays to ensure all affected teeth have been successfully removed or treated.

One special cat that needed lots of dental work done this reporting period was **Charlene**. Charlene came to us as a 12-month-old stray with serious dental issues; her initial examination indicated moderate dental disease and gingivitis. But when she went under aesthetic for her dental procedure, X-rays revealed eight teeth were missing and there was tooth resorption in her three remaining teeth, which had to be removed.

Following her dental Charlene was pawing at her mouth. A follow-up health check revealed moderate stomatitis on the lateral aspect of her caudal tongue and enlarged lymph nodes. She also had bone exposure over her previous dental extraction sites and was booked for a revisional surgery.

In this surgery, Charlene's wounds were fixed and a bone biopsy was taken from the premolar area to ensure nothing more sinister was happening. Luckily, the results were not suspicious of neoplasia, which could be cancerous. After lots of pain relief and rest, gorgeous Charlene found her forever home just two weeks after returning from the vet.





## EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY ABOUT SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE CAT CARE

*Cat Protection is a support system and trusted knowledge base for those who care for cats.*



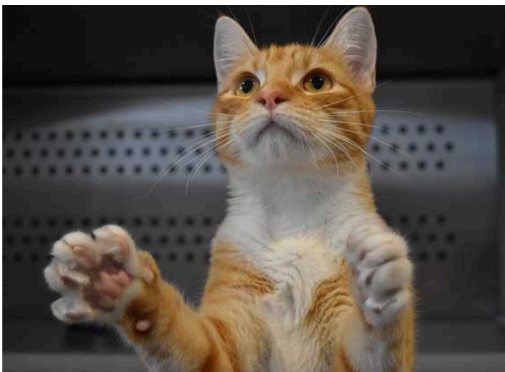
Our Feline Health and Welfare team take thousands of calls every year on all manner of cat-related queries, from how to stop kitty scratching the furniture to how to introduce a new pet to the household.

*Your new cat* is a guide on keeping cats healthy and happy, and is included with every adopter's information pack, which includes their cat's records as well as factsheets, the Good Neighbour Project brochure and a postcard on cat-friendly flowers.



All our factsheets and brochures are free to download or pick up from our Newtown or Marrickville centres. New factsheets included tips on minimising stress for cats when they have to wear Elizabethan collars, and *Animals on the Internet* which warns of the dangers of fake animal rescue videos and how to spot scams that exploit our love for animals.

Our website [catprotection.org.au](https://catprotection.org.au) offers a wealth of freely accessible information, including factsheets and videos on feline health and behaviour, safety, protection of wildlife, and the benefits of early-age desexing, with **many materials in languages other than English**.



Our website now also includes a page dedicated to **research** that we have been involved with, whether by direct participation, funding or review, and research we have commissioned. In 2017 we first **commissioned Ipsos to research the state of cat welfare in NSW**; the 2023 Report is the fourth and compares findings from previous years, providing insights into key indicators of feline welfare such as desexing and vaccination rates. We share this research freely in the interest of feline health and welfare. The reports can also be found on the research page of our [catcare.org.au](https://catcare.org.au) site, a website we developed for people who work with cats.



Media, whether paid-for campaigns like our **Sydney Trains** posters, or news interviews, all offer opportunities to educate the community. Our Sydney Trains campaign promotes early-age desexing; vaccination; and our Adopt-a-Stray program; awareness of our cat desexing programs is promoted via independent media such as *City Hub* and *El Telegraph*. *Radio 2UE* and *Reader's Digest* offer fun facts about cats with health and welfare messages.

## EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY ABOUT SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE CAT CARE

In the reporting period, **the national F3 vaccine shortage** was a major challenge for us as a shelter and for all cat owners. The F3 vaccine is a core vaccine for cats, it protects against Feline Panleukopaenia (parvovirus) and Feline Herpes Virus and Feline Calicivirus. We worked with our veterinarians on strategies to ensure the health and safety of our cats and kittens.

**ABC Breakfast television** invited Cat Protection CEO Kristina Vesk to the program in December, to discuss how owners could keep their cats safe. The key messages for owners were to keep cats indoors and away from other cats; to minimise stress; practice good hygiene; and to not panic – our Ipsos research told us that about 90% of owned desexed cats were vaccinated so had a good level of protection. Kristina said the priority for veterinarians was to vaccinate kittens, adding that “It’s a really difficult time because it’s kitten season and kittens are vulnerable” and thanking foster carers who were helping to manage this difficult time. There was an improvement to vaccine supplies around March, but demand led to renewed shortages, so in June Kristina spoke on the topic again, this time to **ABC Radio Sydney**. Fortunately, supply of F3 has now stabilised.

Cat Protection appeared in the **Sydney Morning Herald** September articles *Claw & Order: Are cats villains or victims in the war on feral animals* (online) and *Cat-lovers get claws out against ban* (print). These articles, about Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek declaring war on feral cats in Australia, quoted CEO Kristina Vesk numerous times as she called out the violent language used in the media release and the inherent contradictions in the government’s environment policies. Kristina was quoted in another article about the ‘war on feral cats’ named *Law to lock up pet cats urged*, published in print and online by the **Canterbury Bankstown Torch** (September) and in the **Auburn Review** (October). Kristina explained that “creating a moral panic about cats is a tactic used to pretend there’s a simple solution”.

In September, ABC’s panel discussion program **The Drum** did a segment discussing Tanya Plibersek’s ‘Threat Abatement Plan’, mentioning that Cat Protection has urged the Minister to call off the cat offensive and focus on bigger environmental issues. Cat Protection was quoted:

*Just to be clear, cats didn’t approve the gas project in the Pilliga; they aren’t speed-logging in the proposed Great Koala National Park; they aren’t conducting seismic blasts in the oceans; they aren’t logging precious old growth forests. They don’t cause mega-bushfires or floods.*



## EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY ABOUT SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE CAT CARE

Cat Protection had many other editorials and stories in print and online publications during the reporting period, educating readers about best-practice cat care and engaging them in animal welfare topics. These included in Bunnings Magazine's **Pet Corner** *How to read your cat purr-rectly* (July) and *How to keep indoor cats happy and healthy* (April).

The April article quoted Cat Protection Marketing and Communications Coordinator Kylie McKendry, who spoke of the benefits of keeping cats indoors: "Cats can live perfectly healthy and happy lives completely indoors, as long as you provide them with opportunities to express normal behaviours – things such as climbing frames, scratching posts, window perches, food puzzles, toys, potted cat grass and hiding spots."

Kristina was quoted in September in a **Yahoo News** article – *Horror as Aussie woman's cat caught in steel trap*, using the incident as an opportunity to encourage cat owners to keep their pets confined to their property or indoors, as we recommend through our Good Neighbour Project.

Our **Facebook** page continues to be a place where people can indulge in all-things cats and learn more about them along the way. As well as cats and kittens for adoption, and key dates in our calendar, such as International Cat Day and Black Cat Appreciation Day, we share regular updates and reminders on cat health and welfare topics.

Our members' magazine **Cat Affairs** focuses on important, timely cat care topics – often with the input of specialists like veterinarians. Issues in the reporting period covered medicines for cats (by Dr Susan de Burgh), paralysis tick safety measures, catnip for cats (by Dr Anne Quain and Dr Mia Cobb), veterinary cannabis, and examples of awesome cat enclosures.



**Pet CORNER**  
NEWS • MEWS • CHEWS • REVIEWS

### HOW TO READ YOUR CAT PURR-FECTLY

Felines can be enigmatic by nature, but Kylie McKendry from the Cat Protection Society of NSW offers these tips on kitty body language to help you read your cat better.

**Wagging tail:** Dogs wag tails when happy, but a swishing or flicking cat tail can signal agitation. This is a cue for you to bring down the excitement level if you're playing together, or postpone the cuddles to give your feline friend more personal space.

**Ears pointing sideways:** This can be a sign your cat is feeling frightened or threatened. Proceed with caution; better still, leave your cat alone and let it approach you when it's ready (and the ears are straight up and alert).

**Rolling onto their back:** While this is a demonstration of trust, it isn't an invitation for you to rub your cat's belly, and trying it may earn you a swipe or two! Stick to stroking your cat's chin and cheeks.

*What are those eyes trying to tell you?*



Since 1958 Cat Protection has been helping cats and the people who love them. We need your help to continue our life-saving work.

Every donation makes a difference.  
Please visit our website to donate.  
Purrs & thanks ♥



**cat protection society** OF NSW

www.catprotection.org.au

Find us on  [catprotection.org.au](#)  
 [@catprotectionnsw](#)  
 [catprotectionnsw](#)  
 Raising Orphan Kittens Number 819999999



**City Hub - Cat Of The Month**

Name: Karen  
Age: 1 year (est)  
Colour: Female White BSH

Charming Karen isn't really too demanding, all she asks for is some TLC, your company and a cozy bed for catnapping. This fluffy kitty likes to have her sly and might request extra treats but as the manager of her meanness you'll be able resolve any downtime discrepancies quickly with an extra helping of cuddles. An affectionate and friendly feline, Karen just loves being the centre of attention and wants to be the only cat in your life, but she has loads of love to share and she'll make sure you're never short on purrs. Karen enjoys nothing more than curling up in a sunny, cozy bed and will happily daydream the day away occasionally stretching out for a chin scratch or two. She is looking for an indoor-only forever home to protect her pretty, pale features and sensitive skin. You'll feel very privileged to have this lovable lady snuggled up next to you.

**INTERESTED IN ADOPTING?**  
Call the Cat Protection Society of NSW on 02 9557 4816 or visit [www.catprotection.org.au](http://www.catprotection.org.au)  
 Financing Organisation Number: P231003024

## EDUCATING THE COMMUNITY ABOUT SOCIALLY AND ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE CAT CARE

**Dr Harry** visited our Newtown Adoption Centre for a September TV segment on Better Homes & Gardens, How to Adopt a Cat. It was purr-riffic having over five minutes of national airtime dedicated to Cat Protection. Our Feline Services Manager Nerida Atkin spoke with Dr Harry about our adoption process and the importance of finding a cat that's a perfect match their family. As well as getting his fix playing with kittens in our courtyard, Dr Harry visited our adult cats in our rehoming area.



There were great opportunities for Cat Protection to attend events across Sydney this period. The highly-anticipated **Sydney Cat Lovers Festival**, held at Sydney Olympic Park in August, attracted 1000s of cat lovers from across NSW. The event was a huge success and we enjoyed meeting so many fellow friends of felines.



Cat Protection helped to organise and attended **City of Sydney's Northcott Pet Day** in September. This annual event is for pet owners in and around Northcott Towers in Surry Hills and offers free vet health checks, vaccinations, microchipping, flea and tick treatments, plus registration for our desexing programs. We assisted with microchipping of 13 cats, plus health checks for 39 cats, 3 birds, 3 rabbits, and even one bearded dragon!



At the start of 2024 we got our claws into the Eras tour hype by participating in the **Cat Appreciation Day** at Appetite Five Dock Café as a part of their February 'Taylor Takeover month'. Café patrons and passers-by could purchase cat-themed goodies and chat with us about all-things-cats.

We also attended the City of Canterbury Bankstown's **Pets Day Out** in Earlwood in May, where we promoted our DIVA and Adopt-a-Stray programs and participated in a talk on the Pet Stage with **Dr Lisa Chimes**.



## ACTIVELY WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PROMOTE AND IMPROVE CAT WELFARE



*Cat Protection is a voice for cats and the people who protect, love, and care for them in the community.*

Our values are informed and guided by a **One Welfare framework** which recognises the interconnectedness of the environment, people and animals. Cats are companions to people and our health and welfare is entwined.

Our submission to the review of the **Australian Animal Welfare Strategy** argued the Strategy must:

- commit to a One Health/One Welfare approach
- recognise animal sentience
- promote positive animal welfare outcomes
- advance an ethical framework.



The **veterinary workforce shortage** is of great concern, and we welcomed the NSW Legislative Council's inquiry into the problem. We made a written submission, our CEO appeared before the Inquiry and answered supplementary questions following the hearings.

Explaining why we needed to take a One Welfare approach to veterinary care, we noted that: "we all need clean air, clean water, and disease mitigation for good health ... the misuse and overuse of antimicrobials has led to the global health crisis of antimicrobial resistance (AMR). In 2019, the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared AMR as one of the top ten global public health threats."



**Vets are critical, frontline health practitioners** in strategies to deal with the threat of AMR. Vets are also people, and we need to consider them in a One Welfare context:

- To protect their mental health
- To value their labour (do not expect vets in private practice to deal with stray and injured animals, including wildlife, without remuneration; do not expect them to operate as pound services if they haven't signed a contract to operate as a pound service)
- To prevent moral injury (strengthen referral services; strengthen social services; strengthen animal cruelty laws [violence and cruelty are not species-specific])
- To protect their safety at work

## ACTIVELY WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PROMOTE AND IMPROVE CAT WELFARE



- To acknowledge the challenge faced by vet teams who, because their animal patients need them, can't avoid unpleasant clients: clinics aren't restaurants that can refuse service to a hostile customer
- Improve planning laws so that vet clinics are appreciated as key health services that need to be accessible to their communities (and planning should permit "animal boarding" as both necessary to the nature of being a hospital as well as an opportunity to recoup capital investment)
- To recognise veterinarians and veterinary workers as key frontline health practitioners – biosecurity, zoonoses, mental health
- To recognise that their work delivers cost savings to the economy through better human health, and that good animal health and welfare contribute social as well as economic benefits, both directly and indirectly.



We also made submissions to the NSW Government on improving rental laws (and we're pleased to say that new legislation that came into effect after the reporting period is more pet-friendly); to the NSW Ministry of Health regarding the Draft Medicines, Poisons and Therapeutic Goods Regulation; to the Legislative Council Inquiry into the approved charitable organisations under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979; to the Legislative Council Inquiry into Pounds in New South Wales; and to the Australian Government's draft threat abatement plan for predation by feral cats.

We continue to support the contribution of research specialists, recognising the intrinsic value research has to cats and the people who love and care for them, including cat owners, community cat carers, and veterinary staff. During the reporting period, we assisted **EAC Animal Care** with a study on the effects of their inside-out probiotic powder on feline gut health.



In return, EAC donated probiotics for use in our Adoption Centre as well as a sample pack to go home with each kitty we adopt out to help their gut adjust to moving to a new home. We also assisted Dr Riannon Apicella at **Invetus** with a study to ascertain tapeworms prevalence in cats. We supplied fresh faecal samples from cats who arrived in our care and had not been treated with worming products in the last six months.

We continue to support the valuable research into **community cats** being led by **Emeritus Professor Jacquie Rand** and **research into FIP** by **Professor Jacqui Norris** and colleagues at the University of Sydney. This groundbreaking research has uncovered a highly effective treatment for FIP. "We've gone from zero cats surviving to now up to as many as 96% surviving. That's a game changer," says Professor Norris.

## ACTIVELY WORKING WITH GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO PROMOTE AND IMPROVE CAT WELFARE

We are proud to report on the success of our **DIVA Cats** program, which offers ultra-low-cost desexing for cats in targeted areas that we know have historically high unowned or semi-owned cat numbers. We launched DIVA at the beginning of this reporting period and it will continue until the end of June 2025. In this reporting period, we helped carers of **697** unowned cats and kittens access heavily **discounted desexing, vaccination, microchipping, and registration**. This benefits the lives of cats, their carers, and the environment through population management.

For years, we have witnessed the mental, physical, and financial strain that community members undergo voluntarily caring for unowned cats. We have received heartwarming feedback from individuals in the community participating in the DIVA program. In the words of Vivien from Lakemba:

*“I’m not feeling depressed and overwhelmed knowing you’re supporting me get this area under control. I truly can’t explain how run down, discouraged and frustrated I was... some of us can’t stop doing what we do, seeing them suffering causes pain in our hearts and minds which affects our daily lives. Knowing I have your support is really what has rebooted me to continue doing what I believe I was put here to do... I truly don’t know how I could possibly thank you for all your support, patience and dedication helping these sweethearts get healthy and hopefully – as much as possible – [into] homes.”*



## HONOURING THE UNIQUE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PEOPLE AND CATS



*Cat Protection is a place to celebrate and cherish the bonds between cats and the humans who love them.*

A rewarding and joyful part of what we do at Cat Protection is celebrate the cats in our lives and the special moments we share with them. We love hearing and sharing the stories of Cat Protection alumni from our community, and we also have a great library of books by talented authors who put their love of cats from paw to paper.

We had the pleasure of collaborating with such authors during this reporting period: **Carla Francis**, author of *The Zen of Cat*, and **Vivian Bi**, author of *Sunshine in the Dark*. Carla judged a competition we held asking entrants to send a heartfelt haiku about their feline friend and a photo of them at their most Zen. Carla was blown away by the entries and is even hoping to include some in her next book.

This touching haiku was penned by 8-year-old Annabelle (pictured left) about her kitten Cookie:

*Happy and content,  
Gently purring in my arms,  
She is my best friend.*



*Sunshine in the Dark* book launches were held at **Gleebooks** and **Ascham School** and discussion focused on how animals enrich our lives. CEO Kristina Vesk interviewed Vivian at Gleebooks about capturing the voice of her feline narrator. Kristina was also a guest speaker at the Ascham School event, and Cat Protection held a small stall and enjoyed talking to parents and teachers from the community.



During the reporting period, we shared our excitement at moving and settling into our new **Education and Welfare Centre** in Marrickville – it's amazing that we now own our second Cat Protection space. Our members and supporters who followed our journey – either via *Cat Affairs*, social media, or visiting us in person – witnessed the huge undertaking that was needed for this transition. Our new space offers areas tailored to community activities, like our **Craft Club** and **Kitten Kindy**, which will recommence in 2025.

Every day we see the important role cats play in the day-to-day lives of those who love them – they are family, best friends, fluffy bellies to cry on when needed and always a source of laughter. We recognise it's so hard to lose the special cat in your life, so we honour Cat Protection cat alumni who have crossed the rainbow bridge in our In Memoriam section of *Cat Affairs* and our Forever in Our Hearts Facebook posts.



## THANK YOU

*Cat Protection can continue to help cats because of the generous, selfless contributions of people and organisations.*

Everything we listed in this report couldn't be a reality without the generous contributions of our supporters. These wonderful people ensure we can continue to help thousands of cats each year.

*Thank you* to those who remembered us in their Wills. Bequests are our main source of income and every year we are inspired by their wholehearted love for cats. We celebrate their lives in our cat caring mission. They are remembered with the purrs of all the cats and kittens we help because of their generosity:

Winsome Barker	Jana Jones	Angela Pearson	Susan Venn
Joan Cole	Ronald (Ronny) Lloyd	Julia Santa	Colin Williams
Peter Dale	Marie Lowndes	John Tolhurst	Jasmine Whyte
Edit Easton	Loreta Merlino		

*Thank you* to our **foster carers, volunteers, and Craft Club members**. You help us in so many ways. We are so grateful to all of you, and the time, energy, and commitment you give is so important to our cause.

*Thank you* to our **donors and members**. You help us give cats a voice – we love that you are a part of our community.

*Thank you* to the **Office of Local Government, Department of Planning and Environment** for the **Companion Animal Welfare Grant** that has allowed us to launch our DIVA program and helped us to buy important equipment for our shelter and replace our old van with a brand-new vehicle for our all-important vet runs. We also thank all the vet practices who work with us. You and your teams are amazing.

Cat Protection cats and kittens are happy, healthy, and in loving homes because of the contributions of thousands of people. We can't thank every one of you individually here, but please know every single contribution goes a long way and is deeply appreciated.

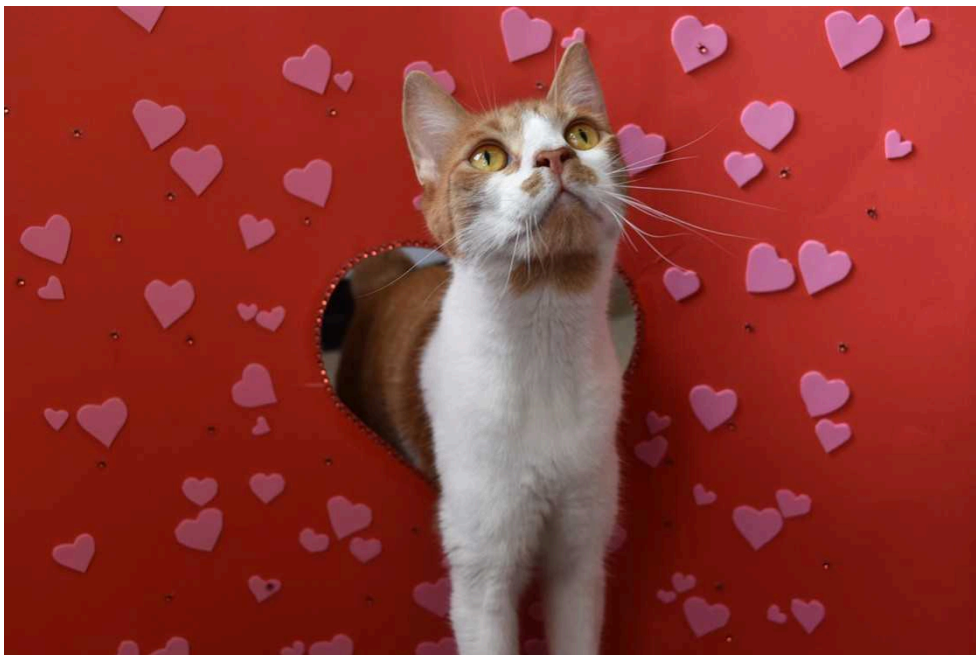


## THANK YOU

Thank you to the individuals and businesses who donate wonderful goods and services to Cat Protection.

A very special thank you to **Hill's Pet Nutrition** who have been our major sponsor for more than 20 years!

- AMP Foundation
- APS Foundation - Sappey Holme Gift
- Berry Tea Shop
- Beserk
- Bunnings
- Cat Harness Australia
- Catnets
- Ceva Animal Health
- Darren Kane
- EAC Probiotics
- Elanco Animal Health
- Erstwilder
- Flea Circus Pet Supplies
- Furry Munchkins Photography
- Gigi's
- Goblin Wine Shop
- Goodwill Wine
- Hanasoft Pty Ltd
- Hill's Pet Nutrition
- Karress Rhodes
- Kaz Childs
- Kerry Ward
- Lala Land
- Lawrence Gibbons
- Lesley Allsopp
- Lickimat
- Lyppard
- Modern Times/Art on King
- Origami Doll
- Oz-Pet
- Parrot Digital
- Perpetual Foundation
- Pet Greens
- Plant Daddy
- Prestige Pet Products
- Retrospec'd
- Salesforce
- Sue Huff
- Suncorp Group
- Taronga Zoo
- Technical Audio Group
- Virbac
- VivCourt Trading
- Where's Nick



## THANK YOU

Thank you to all the vet practices we work with, and your veterinary teams, for your expertise, compassion, and generosity in helping us help thousands of cats and kittens every year.

### Our vet partners

- Abbotsbury Veterinary Clinic – Abbotsbury
- All Paws Vet – Concord West
- Bathurst Central Animal Hospital – Bathurst
- Bondi Vet Hospital – Bondi
- Campsie Veterinary Hospital – Campsie
- Central Veterinary Services – Cowra
- Collaroy Veterinary Services – Collaroy
- Colyton Veterinary Hospital – St Marys
- Concord Veterinary Hospital – North Strathfield
- Cowra Veterinary Centre – Cowra
- Croydon Park Veterinary Clinic – Croydon Park
- Drummoyne Veterinary Hospital – Drummoyne
- Earlwood Animal Hospital – Earlwood
- Fairfield Road Veterinary Clinic – Guildford West
- Five Dock Veterinary Hospital – Five Dock
- Glenorie Veterinary Clinic – Glenorie
- Great Western Animal Hospital – Wentworthville
- Greystanes Veterinary Clinic – Greystanes
- Hartley Valley Vet – Little Hartley
- Leppington Veterinary Hospital – Leppington
- Liverpool Veterinary Hospital – Liverpool
- Marrickville Vet Hospital (AMS) – Marrickville
- Menai Animal Hospital – Bangor
- Mt Druitt Veterinary Clinic – Mt Druitt
- My Vet Zetland – Zetland
- Narrabri Veterinary Clinic – Narrabri
- Penshurst Veterinary Clinic – Penshurst
- Princes Highway Veterinary Hospital – Kogarah
- Ramsgate Veterinary Hospital – Ramsgate
- Rooty Hill Vet Clinic – Rooty Hill
- Stewart Street Veterinary Hospital – Bathurst
- Sydney Dogs and Cats Home – Strathfield South
- The Inner West Cat Hospital – Newtown



# **The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited**

## **Financial Statements**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

The registered office and principal place of business of the Company is:  
The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited  
103 Enmore Road  
Newtown NSW 2042

# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

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# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

## Directors' Report

30 June 2024

The directors present their report on The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

### Directors

The names of the directors in office at any time during the year and until the date of this report:

Names		
Nita Harvey	President	(re-appointed 25 November 2023)
Petra Dobrijevic	Vice President	
Natalie Meadows		
Vanessa Williams		
Emily Falkingham CPA		(re-appointed 25 November 2023)
Felicity Walton		(re-appointed 25 November 2023)
Dr Penelope Hansen		(appointed 25 November 2023)
Angelika Elliott		(retired at AGM 25 November 2023)

All directors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

### Company secretary

The following people held the position of Company Secretary at the end of the financial year:

Kristina Vesk  
Neil Williams

### Principal activities

The principal activities of The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited during the financial year, consistent with its objects under its Constitution, were as follows:

- a) To provide short-term direct care to feline animals that have been lost or mistreated or which are without owners.
- b) To rehabilitate orphaned, sick or injured feline animals that have been lost or mistreated or which are without owners.
- c) To provide care for lost, abandoned and unwanted feline animals.
- d) To provide care for injured feline animals and such animals without an identifiable owner.
- e) To find the original or, in the alternative, new owners for the animals described above.
- f) To provide education regarding socially and environmentally responsible care for feline animals.
- g) To foster, develop, improve and promote issues relating to feline welfare.
- h) To prevent homelessness of feline animals by providing temporary accommodation and care for cats and kittens owned by people who find themselves in crisis situations.
- i) To provide information, goods and services that promote and improve feline welfare, including without limitation the desexing of feline animals.
- j) To promote and encourage either directly or indirectly animal welfare initiatives.
- k) To promote and encourage either directly or indirectly animal health initiatives.
- l) To maintain and administer the Gift Fund, which must be maintained strictly in compliance with all relevant Commonwealth and State laws.

No significant changes in the nature of the Company's activity occurred during the financial period.

### Short-term objectives

Throughout 2023-24, the Company maintained focus on the delivery of our short-term objectives, including: best practices in the shelter; ensuring the good health and successful rehoming of cats and kittens surrendered into our care; delivering subsidised programs of desexing, vaccination and microchipping of cats and kittens to targeted groups in the broader community; developing and delivering activities and materials to educate the community about responsible pet ownership; and promoting feline health and welfare through research, advocacy and policy activities. Additionally, the Company developed and commenced delivery of a NSW Government-funded cat desexing program, DIVA, plus managed moving operations from two rented premises into the new Welfare and Education Centre in Marrickville. This facility complements the Adoption Centre in Newtown.

# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

## Directors' Report

30 June 2024

### Long-term objectives

The long-term objectives derive from the vision – that every cat has a loving and responsible home. It is the Company's task to maintain a sustainable organisation which will continue to build on the accomplishments of the past more than 60 years and extend our involvement with communities in regional and rural New South Wales.

### Strategy for achieving the objectives

Cat Protection pursues its mission by:

- finding loving and responsible homes for cats in need
- improving the quality of life for cats by educating the community about socially and environmentally responsible cat care
- actively working with government and non-government agencies to promote and improve cat welfare, and
- honouring the unique relationship between people and cats.

### Performance measures

The Company measures its own performance using both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks. The benchmarks are used by the Directors to assess the financial sustainability of the Company and its performance towards our short-term and long-term objectives.

### Operating results

The deficit after providing for amortisation and depreciation amounted to \$479,887 (2023 surplus of \$993,879).

### Information on Directors

Nita Harvey

Qualifications

-

Experience

Life Member of Cat Protection since the 1980s and began volunteering in 1996, after retiring from her role as office manager for a major health fund. She was appointed Treasurer in 1998 and served as President from 2004 to November 2007. Nita was re-appointed to the role of President in November 2020.

Petra Dobrijevic

Qualifications

BA (Hons) in Sociology

Experience

Worked extensively in the tertiary education sector as a lecturer, tutor and researcher. She has also worked as a policy adviser in a variety of state and federal government departments. Her public sector experience also includes work as a senior training consultant, research officer and manager. She is an active supporter of Cat Protection and has hands-on experience in feline welfare.

Natalie Meadows

Qualifications

Bachelor of Laws as well as Bachelor of Medical Science (Hons)

Experience

A Life Member, Natalie worked in health law defending health professionals for 20 years, 12 of those as a partner and now works as a lawyer for the Australian Government. She has a keen interest in animal welfare and volunteers for animal welfare and conservation organisations. Natalie is a Committee member of a Human Research Ethics Committee and an Animal Research Ethics Committee.

Vanessa Williams

Qualifications

-

Experience

A Life Member, Vanessa moved to the far South Coast in 2017 after more than a decade working at Cat Protection in feline welfare services and policy, and foster care coordination. Prior to that she was a flight crew training scheduling officer for Qantas. She currently works as OK Shed Manager and Parish Administrator for the Anglican Parish of Cobargo/Bermagui.

# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

## Directors' Report

30 June 2024

Emily Falkingham CPA

Qualifications

BA of Commerce (Accounting)

Experience

Emily has a Bachelor of Commerce (Accounting) and has 10 years accounting experience. She works in a chartered firm specialising in outsourced accounting across a variety of industries.

Felicity Walton

Qualifications

Master of Business Administration, Bachelor of Commerce and Bachelor of Law, Graduate Diploma in Practical Legal Training

Experience

Felicity is an experienced regulatory strategy, compliance and engagement specialist with 15 years' experience in the energy sector working for private and government agencies.

Dr Penelope Hansen

Qualifications

BVSc, MNZACVSc (Canine Medicine)

Experience

Penny is a registered veterinarian and Associate Lecturer in the School of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Sydney. A recognised expert in small animal urolithiasis and clinical nutrition, she has worked as a veterinary clinician in a variety of practices across Sydney and was a consultant to Hill's Pet Nutrition for many years. A member of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA), she served as Secretary of the Sydney Metropolitan Practitioners Branch for 12 years and in 2002, received the AVA Meritorious Service Award.

Angelika Elliott

Qualifications

Studied design in Vienna

Experience

Born in Austria, later moving to London where she volunteered for Cats Protection UK. She moved to Australia in 1984 and has volunteered for Cat Protection for more than 30 years. She runs her own French antique import business.

### Meetings of directors

During the financial period, 7 meetings of directors were held. Attendances by each director during the year were as follows:

Directors' Meetings	
Number eligible to attend	Number attended
Nita Harvey	5
Petra Dobrijevic	6
Angelika Elliott	3
Emily Falkingham	6
Vanessa Williams	6
Felicity Walton	7
Natalie Meadows	7
Penny Hansen	3



# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

## Directors' Report

30 June 2024

### Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

The Company has provided for and paid premiums during the period for current Directors' and Officers' liability insurances.

The directors have not included details of the nature of the liabilities covered or the amount of the premium paid in respect of the directors' and officers' liability and legal expenses insurance contracts as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

No person has applied for leave of the Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the Company or to intervene in any proceedings to which the Company is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the Company for all or any part of those proceedings.

The Company does not maintain insurances for the indemnification of the auditor of the Company. No indemnities have been given during or since the end of the financial year, for any person who is or has been an auditor of the Company.

### Subsequent events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

### Auditor's independence declaration

The lead auditor's independence declaration in accordance with section 60-40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*, for the year ended 30 June 2024 has been received and can be found on page 5 of the financial report.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

President:   
Nita Harvey

Vice President:   
Petra Dobrijevic

Dated this 19<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION  
UNDER DIVISION 60.40 OF THE AUSTRALIAN CHARITIES AND NOT-FOR-PROFITS COMMISSION ACT 2012  
TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW LIMITED

As auditor of The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited for the year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

1. no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements as set out in Division 60.40 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* in relation to the audit; and
2. no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.

LNP Audit and Assurance Pty Ltd



Chin Ding Khoo  
Director

Sydney, 19 October 2024

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
Revenue	4	2,717,446	4,314,598
Other income	4	1,465,063	797,498
<b>Total revenue and other income</b>		<b>4,182,509</b>	5,112,096
Merchandise		(137,810)	(191,021)
Public information and marketing expenses		(101,865)	(168,241)
Employee benefit expenses		(1,951,708)	(1,839,432)
Finance costs		(1,759)	(3,684)
Insurance, IT, accounting and administrative expenses		(298,430)	(229,445)
Veterinary expenses		(1,132,998)	(956,739)
Auditor's remuneration		(15,178)	(10,469)
Donations/grants		(17,500)	(25,428)
Cattery expenses and animal welfare programs		(593,553)	(401,288)
Occupancy costs and utilities		(117,634)	(89,955)
Depreciation and amortisation expenses		(152,913)	(125,073)
Other expenses		(141,048)	(77,442)
<b>(Deficit)/ Surplus for the year</b>		<b>(479,887)</b>	993,879
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>			
<b>Items that will not be reclassified subsequently to profit or loss</b>			
Net fair value movements through other comprehensive income		125,717	74,021
<b>Other comprehensive income for the year</b>		<b>125,717</b>	74,021
<b>Total comprehensive (loss)/income for the year</b>		<b>(354,170)</b>	1,067,900

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

**Statement of Financial Position**  
As At 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>			
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	5	<b>8,862,018</b>	10,779,300
Trade and other receivables	6	<b>181,238</b>	128,462
Inventories		<b>73,500</b>	68,469
Prepayments		<b>63,850</b>	42,093
<b>TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>9,180,606</b>	<b>11,018,324</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Other financial assets	7	<b>1,728,274</b>	1,568,429
Property, plant and equipment	8	<b>7,077,597</b>	6,260,823
Right of use assets	9	<b>25,728</b>	60,471
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>8,831,599</b>	<b>7,889,723</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>18,012,205</b>	<b>18,908,047</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Trade and other payables	10	<b>188,005</b>	244,119
Deferred government grant income	19	<b>1,123,445</b>	848,968
Employee benefits	11	<b>120,910</b>	119,816
Lease liability	9	<b>5,141</b>	59,416
<b>TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,437,501</b>	<b>1,272,319</b>
<b>NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Deferred government grant income	19	-	750,000
Employee benefits	11	<b>85,282</b>	60,852
Lease liability	9	<b>20,758</b>	2,042
<b>TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<b>106,040</b>	<b>812,894</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>1,543,541</b>	<b>2,085,213</b>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<b>16,468,664</b>	<b>16,822,834</b>
<b>EQUITY</b>			
Reserves (asset revaluation reserve)		<b>2,431,430</b>	2,305,713
Retained earnings		<b>14,037,234</b>	14,517,121
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>16,468,664</b>	<b>16,822,834</b>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited**

**Statement of Changes in Equity**

**For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

**2024**

	Retained Earnings	Asset Revaluation Reserve		Total
		Fixed Assets	Financial Assets	
		\$	\$	
<b>Balance at 1 July 2022</b>	<b>14,517,121</b>	<b>2,005,986</b>	<b>299,727</b>	<b>16,822,834</b>
Deficit for the year	(479,887)	-	-	(479,887)
Total other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	125,717	125,717
<b>Balance at 30 June 2023</b>	<b>14,037,234</b>	<b>2,005,986</b>	<b>425,444</b>	<b>16,468,664</b>

**2023**

	Retained Earnings	Asset Revaluation Reserve		Total
		Fixed Assets	Financial Assets	
		\$	\$	
Balance at 1 July 2022	13,523,242	2,005,986	225,706	15,754,934
Surplus for the year	993,879	-	-	993,879
Total other comprehensive income for the year	-	-	74,021	74,021
Balance at 30 June 2023	14,517,121	2,005,986	299,727	16,822,834

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

**The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited**

**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

	2024	2023
Note	\$	\$
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Receipts from customers	<b>447,079</b>	458,722
Payments to suppliers and employees	<b>(4,006,689)</b>	(3,402,919)
Dividends received	<b>62,282</b>	70,413
Donations and bequests received	<b>2,217,591</b>	3,827,750
Government grants received		1,598,968
Interest paid	<b>(1,759)</b>	(3,683)
Interest received	<b>368,845</b>	222,612
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	<b>(912,651)</b>	2,771,863
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	<b>(907,378)</b>	(1,742,122)
Purchase of financial assets	<b>(34,128)</b>	(77,036)
Net cash (used in) investing activities	<b>(941,506)</b>	(1,819,158)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Lease repayments	<b>(63,125)</b>	(96,412)
Net cash (used in) financing activities	<b>(63,125)</b>	(96,412)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents held	<b>(1,917,282)</b>	856,293
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<b>10,779,300</b>	9,923,007
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	<b>8,862,018</b>	10,779,300

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements

# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

The financial report covers The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited as an individual entity. The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited is a not-for-profit Company, registered and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited is Australian dollars.

The financial report was authorised for issue by those charged with governance on 19 October 2024.

Comparatives are consistent with prior years, unless otherwise stated.

### 1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that comply with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission Act 2012*.

The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and are based on historical costs modified, where applicable, by the measurement at fair value of selected non-current assets, financial assets and financial liabilities.

### 2 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

#### (a) Revenue and other income

##### Sale of goods

Revenue is recognised on transfer of goods to the customer as this is deemed to be the point in time when performance obligations are satisfied.

##### Rendering of services

Revenue in relation to rendering of services is recognised on the completion of the services.

##### Donations, donations in kind and bequests

Donations, donations in kind and bequests are recognised as revenue at their fair value when the Company gains control of the asset, becomes legally entitled to it or receives a service. There are no enforceable or sufficiently specific performance obligations linked to donations or bequests.

##### Grants

When an agreement is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations, the revenue is recognised over time as the performance obligations to the grant agreement are fulfilled.

##### Other income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

##### Volunteer Services

Recognised volunteer services are measured at fair value. On the initial recognition of volunteer services as an asset or an expense, the Company recognises any related amounts in accordance with the applicable Australian Accounting Standards. The entity recognises the excess of the fair value of the volunteer services over the recognised related amounts as income immediately in profit or loss.

#### (b) Property, plant and equipment

**Land and buildings** - are measured using the revaluation model.

**Plant and equipment** - are measured using the cost model.

**Depreciation** - Property, plant and equipment, excluding freehold land, is depreciated either on a straight-line basis or reducing balance basis over the assets' useful life to the Company, commencing when the asset is ready for use.

# The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 2 Summary of Material Accounting Policies

##### (b) Property, plant and equipment (continued)

The depreciation rates used for each class of depreciable asset are shown below:

Fixed asset class	Depreciation rate
Buildings	2.5% SL
Plant and Equipment	10 - 20% SL
Motor Vehicles	25% DV
Office Equipment	10 - 40% SL

At the end of each annual reporting period, the depreciation method and useful life of each asset is reviewed. Any revisions are accounted for prospectively as a change in estimate.

##### (c) Financial instruments

**Financial assets measured at fair value through other comprehensive income** - These investments are carried at fair value with changes in fair value recognised in other comprehensive income (financial asset reserve). On disposal any balance in the financial asset reserve is transferred to retained earnings and is not reclassified to profit or loss. The Company has several strategic investments in listed and unlisted entities over which they do not have significant influence nor control. The Company has made an irrevocable election to classify these equity investments as fair value through other comprehensive income. Dividends are recognised as income in profit or loss unless the dividend clearly represents a recovery of part of the cost of the investment. Other net gains and losses are recognised in Other Comprehensive income.

**Financial assets measured at amortised cost** - The Company's financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise 'trade and other receivables', and 'cash and cash equivalents'. The carrying value of trade receivables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances. Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand, demand deposits and short-term investments which are readily convertible to known amounts of cash and which are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

**Financial liabilities** - The Company's financial liabilities include trade and other payables. These are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method. The interest expense is calculated each reporting period by applying the effective interest rate, and the resulting charge is reflected in finance costs on the Statement of profit and loss and comprehensive income. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

#### 3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

Those charged with governance make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

The significant estimates and judgements made have been described below.

##### Key Estimates – Property held at fair value

The land and building at 214 Marrickville Road have not been independently valued since extensive renovations were only completed and possession of the property taken in September 2023.

An independent valuation of property of land and building at 103 Enmore Road was last carried out in August 2021.

Those charged with governance have determined that for 103 Enmore Road:

- the then higher book value (after allowing for a depreciation charge in FY21) was more reflective of the true value of the property;
- the valuer's reliance on recent sales for guidance did not adequately take account of the size, condition and utility of the building which houses our shelter compared to the very poor state of the buildings in this area which had sold; and
- for similar reasons, the FY24 book value which reflects only a further depreciation charge, is a fair and appropriate estimate of the property's value.



## **The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024**

#### **3 Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements (continued)**

##### **Key Judgement - Donations in kind**

Management has recorded transactions that were donated by external suppliers and corporate partners at fair value. These fair values have been estimated based on the best information available at the transaction date. Donations in kind were mainly of cattery goods and veterinary, administration and marketing services. Disclosures for these transactions have been made in Note 16.

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 4 Revenue and Other Income

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Revenue from contracts with customers		
Revenue from other sources		
- Sale of goods	223,473	242,402
- Provision of services	276,382	244,445
- Bequests	1,649,602	3,356,980
- Donations	567,989	470,771
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>2,717,446</b>	<b>4,314,598</b>
Other Income		
- Interest income	368,845	221,675
- Grants (Commonwealth and State)	475,523	15,500
- Volunteer services and donated goods (Note 16)	558,413	472,806
- Investment income	62,282	87,298
- Other income	-	219
<b>Total other income</b>	<b>1,465,063</b>	<b>797,498</b>
<b>Total Revenue and Other Income</b>	<b>4,182,509</b>	<b>5,112,096</b>

#### 5 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	971,927	2,843,959
Short-term deposits	7,890,091	7,935,341
	<b>8,862,018</b>	<b>10,779,300</b>

#### 6 Trade and Other Receivables

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
CURRENT		
Trade receivables	7,888	-
Deposits	3,369	6,190
GST receivable	18,742	-
Interest receivable	142,928	122,272
Other receivables	8,311	-
<b>Total current trade and other receivables</b>	<b>181,238</b>	<b>128,462</b>

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 7 Other Financial Assets

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
NON-CURRENT		
Equity securities at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income	<u>1,728,274</u>	<u>1,568,429</u>

#### 8 Property, Plant and Equipment

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
LAND AND BUILDINGS		
Freehold land		
At fair value	<u>2,450,000</u>	<u>2,450,000</u>
Total Land	<u>2,450,000</u>	<u>2,450,000</u>
Buildings		
At fair value	<u>4,545,374</u>	<u>3,741,802</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(195,726)</u>	<u>(136,844)</u>
Total buildings	<u>4,349,648</u>	<u>3,604,958</u>
Total land and buildings	<u>6,799,648</u>	<u>6,054,958</u>
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT		
Plant and equipment		
At cost	<u>402,486</u>	<u>364,253</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(195,544)</u>	<u>(177,380)</u>
Total plant and equipment	<u>206,942</u>	<u>186,873</u>
Motor vehicles		
At cost	<u>82,028</u>	<u>38,573</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(39,814)</u>	<u>(33,835)</u>
Total motor vehicles	<u>42,214</u>	<u>4,738</u>
Office equipment		
At cost	<u>158,637</u>	<u>136,519</u>
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(129,844)</u>	<u>(122,265)</u>
Total office equipment	<u>28,793</u>	<u>14,254</u>
Total plant and equipment	<u>277,949</u>	<u>205,865</u>
<b>Total property, plant and equipment</b>	<u><b>7,077,597</b></u>	<u><b>6,260,823</b></u>

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 8 Property, Plant and Equipment (continued)

##### (a) Movements in Carrying Amounts

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Land	Buildings	Plant and Equipment	Motor Vehicles	Office Equipment	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Year ended 30 June 2024</b>						
Balance at the beginning of the year	2,450,000	3,604,958	186,873	4,738	14,254	6,260,823
Additions	-	803,572	38,233	43,455	22,118	907,378
Depreciation expense	-	(58,882)	(18,164)	(5,979)	(7,579)	(90,604)
<b>Balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>2,450,000</b>	<b>4,349,648</b>	<b>206,942</b>	<b>42,214</b>	<b>28,793</b>	<b>7,077,597</b>

Directors have retained the current valuation of land and building at 103 Enmore Road, Newtown as at 30 June 2024, informed by both a formal independent valuation carried out in August 2021 and the Company's own research and experience seeking new premises over several years.

Purchase of the property at 214 Marrickville Road was completed on 18 May 2021 and subsequent development works completed on 18 September 2023. The property is currently deemed to be carried at fair value, informed by the Company's own experience seeking new premises over several years.

#### 9 Right of use assets

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	\$	\$
Balance at start of financial year	60,471	55,056
Additions and adjustments	27,566	87,542
Depreciation charge for the year	(62,309)	(82,127)
<b>Net carrying value</b>	<b>25,728</b>	<b>60,471</b>
<b>Lease Liabilities</b>		
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	\$	\$
Balance at start of financial year	61,458	70,328
Additions and adjustments	27,566	87,542
Payments made during the year	(63,125)	(96,412)
<b>Net carrying value</b>	<b>25,899</b>	<b>61,458</b>
Current	5,141	59,416
Non-current	20,758	2,042
	<b>25,899</b>	<b>61,458</b>

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 10 Trade and Other Payables

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Current		
Sundry payables and accrued expenses	<u>188,005</u>	244,119

Sundry payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

#### 11 Employee Benefits

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Long service leave	39,222	41,803
Annual leave	81,688	78,013
	<u>120,910</u>	<u>119,816</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Long service leave	<u>85,282</u>	60,852

#### 12 Winding up of Gift Fund and Surplus Assets on the Winding up or Dissolution of the Company

If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Company or if the endorsement of the Company as a Deductible Gift Recipient is revoked, there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any funds and property whatsoever the same shall not be paid to or distributed amongst the Members of the Company but shall be dealt with as follows:

- (a) Subject to clause (b), the funds and property of the Company shall be given or transferred to an institution, fund or authority with similar objects to that of the Company and to which income tax deductible gifts can be made, and whose constitution prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their Members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Company, such institution or institutions to be determined by the Members unanimously, and in default thereby the Chief Judge in Equity of the Supreme Court of New South Wales or such other judge of the Court as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter.
- (b) If the Australian Taxation Office or some other authority with requisite powers directs that the assets of the Gift Fund be transferred to a specific recipient, then those assets shall be transferred accordingly.

#### 13 Members' Guarantee

The Company is incorporated under the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and is a Company limited by guarantee. If the Company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$5 each towards meeting any liabilities and obligations of the Company. There were 1,086 members as at 30 June 2024.

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 14 Fundraising Activities

The total gross income from fundraising appeals was more than \$300,000 during the financial period. Details showing how the funds were received and applied are as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>Income</b>		
Fundraising	301,423	309,068
Total fundraising income	<u>301,423</u>	<u>309,068</u>
<b>Expenses</b>		
Fundraising expenses	(9,336)	(8,189)
Total fundraising expenses	<u>(9,336)</u>	<u>(8,189)</u>
<b>Total Surplus from Fundraising Activities</b>	<u><u>292,087</u></u>	<u><u>300,879</u></u>

#### 15 Contingencies and Commitments

In the opinion of those charged with governance, the Company did not have any contingencies or commitments at 30 June 2024 (2023: Nil).

##### Contingent Assets - Interest in property

In 2013, the Company received an interest in a property, as an estate in remainder. Given the uncertainty of when the Company will receive its interest in the asset or residual estate, the Company has not sought a valuation on the property for the end of the reporting period.

#### 16 Volunteer Services

The Board notes and acknowledges the significant contributions of our many volunteers and other donors who provide goods and services at nil or reduced cost. In so doing, the Board has accepted as reasonable the following estimated values of those contributions. The calculated values do not include some contributions for which there is no reliable or reasonable basis of calculation.

The value of these gifts of time and goods is included as "Other income" – Note 4:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Estimated value of the time given by our many volunteers (including the volunteer Board)	203,029	143,897
Estimated value of the discount given on goods and services provided at nil or reduced cost	355,384	328,909
Total value included as other income	<u>558,413</u>	<u>472,806</u>

Offsetting expenses totalling this amount are also recognised in the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income as follows:

Cattery expenses	201,029	151,127
Veterinary services expenses	226,591	217,535
Administrative expenses	83,000	60,816
Public information and marketing expenses	47,793	43,328
Total expenses offset	<u>558,413</u>	<u>472,806</u>

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Notes to the Financial Statements For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

#### 17 Auditor Remuneration

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Auditing or reviewing the financial statements	<u>15,200</u>	<u>14,800</u>

#### 18 Related party transactions

Related parties include key management personnel, who were paid salaries and superannuation in accordance with their employment contracts. No close family members or associates of key management received any payment or other benefits.

The total remuneration paid to key management personnel of the Company, comprising short term benefits, was \$364,195 (2023: \$392,001).

Directors derive no fees or other remuneration for their services. There were no other transactions with any related parties, directors or director related entities during the year with the exception of out-of-pocket expense reimbursements in the normal course of operations.

#### 19 Deferred government grant income

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Equipment grant	-	98,968
Desexing program grant	<u>1,123,445</u>	<u>750,000</u>
	<u>1,123,445</u>	<u>848,968</u>
<b>NON-CURRENT</b>		
Desexing program grant	<u>-</u>	<u>750,000</u>

Two grants that were received in the prior year have been used as at year ended 30 June 2024 as specific performance obligations under the grant agreements have been satisfied. One grant being for the purchase of various items which has been completely used, and the other being for a desexing program has been partially used. Further, as the desexing program is planned for a two-year period ending 30 June 2025, management has classified the unused portion of the grant as current.

#### 20 Subsequent events

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

## The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited

### Responsible Persons' Declaration

The responsible persons declare that in the responsible persons' opinion:

- there are reasonable grounds to believe that the registered entity is able to pay all of its debts, as and when they become due and payable; and
- the financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2024 and the accompanying notes satisfy the requirements of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012*.
- The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited is not required by Australian Accounting Standards to prepare consolidated financial statements and as a result subsection 295(3A)(a) of the Corporations Act 2001 to prepare a Consolidated Entity Disclosure Statement does not apply to the Company.

Signed in accordance with subsection 60.15(2) of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profit Commission Regulation 2022*.

Responsible person   
President  
Nita Harvey

Responsible person   
Vice President  
Petra Dobrijevic

Dated 19 October 2024



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT  
TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CAT PROTECTION SOCIETY OF NSW LIMITED

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial report of The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited, which comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income, the statement of changes in equity and the statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including material accounting policy information, and the Responsible Persons' declaration.

In our opinion the accompanying financial report of The Cat Protection Society of NSW Limited is in accordance with Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* including:

- (i) giving a true and fair view of the registered entity's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- (ii) complying with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and Division 60 of the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Regulation 2022*.

**Basis for Opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Australian Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the financial report in Australia. We have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Responsibilities of the Directors (Responsible Persons) for the Financial Report**

The Directors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards – Simplified Disclosures and the *Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012* and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, Directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Directors either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

The Directors of the company are responsible for overseeing the company's financial reporting process.

***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report***

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the registered entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Directors.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events and conditions that may cast significant doubt on the registered entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in the auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify the opinion. However, future events or conditions may cause an entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with the Directors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

LNP Audit and Assurance Pty Ltd



Chin Ding Khoo  
Director  
Sydney

19 October 2024