

Scrutiny Communications – 26 August 2021

Dear Scrutiny Panel

I am writing in regard to the review of the proposals to require drivers to report RTA's involving cats.

I think that any reasonable person should report an incident with someone's pet, however;

Cats are not required to wear a collar. They are allowed to roam freely day and night but are not required to have identification. This is not permitted for dogs and I consider that cats should be treated the same.

Cats should be registered, licensed and should have to wear a collar identifying the owner, just the same as a dog.

A cat which is identifiable through its collar and which has been harmed, should be reported, but how can a person report an unidentifiable animal and to which authorities should it be reported?

It is not necessary to report an incident with a squirrel or a hedgehog, yet these are animals which are protected by the Wildlife (Jersey) Law 2021, whereas a feral cat is not protected. If a cat is not wearing a collar, then it could be a feral cat, how is a person to know the difference between a feral cat and a pet cat that does not have a collar?.

I consider it to be essential that all pet cats should be required to be registered, licensed and required to wear a collar.

Thank you for your time.

Kind regards

John Pinel