



Can I buy me a social licence?

Understanding risk, trust, social capital and contested science
in the context of domestic cat management

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“

Social licence to operate (SLO) is the degree to which the activities of an organisation / industry meet the current expectations of society

”

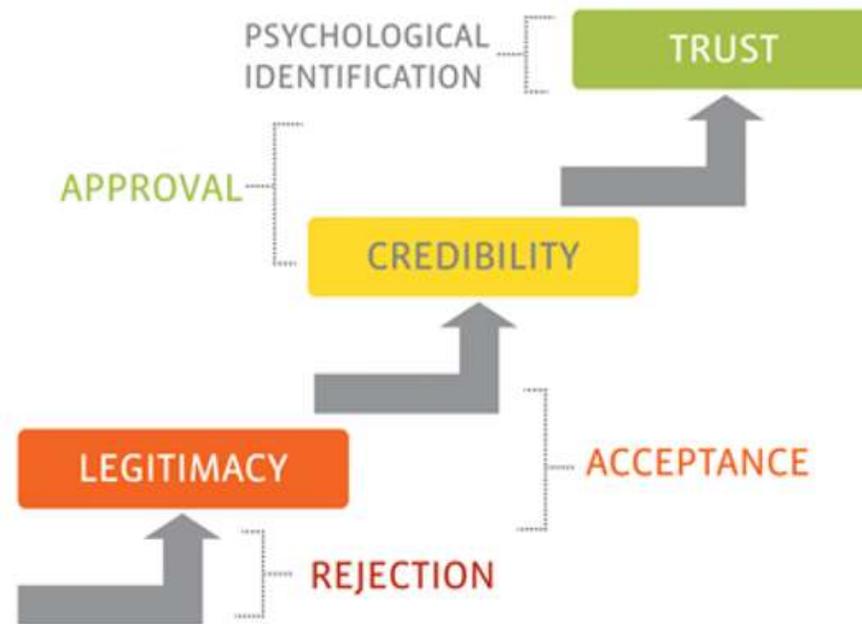
- Not a singular, static entity
- Not to be confused with any regulatory processes / approval
- Multiple stakeholder ‘communities’ with diverse perspectives and expectations
- Different levels - broader strategic level and more local operational level

SLO encompasses a range of overlapping and dynamic social contracts





Gaining the Social License



IAP2'S PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SPECTRUM



The IAP2 Federation has developed the Spectrum to help groups define the public's role in any public participation process. The IAP2 Spectrum is quickly becoming an international standard.

INCREASING IMPACT ON THE DECISION 

	INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GOAL	To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.	To place final decision making in the hands of the public.
PROMISE TO THE PUBLIC	We will keep you informed.	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge concerns and aspirations, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision. We will seek your feedback on drafts and proposals.	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.	We will work together with you to formulate solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.	We will implement what you decide.

Challenges

- Inclusion of all stakeholder communities
 - Engagement model
 - Power, 'status capital', judgements



Challenges

- Gaining and maintaining trust
 - Building relationships
 - Reducing risk
 - Reliability & integrity



Challenges

- Dependence and growing mistrust of science



Challenges

- Handling seemingly contradictory values / world views



Challenges

- Timely response to social expectations
 - Be proactive not reactive
 - Not a PR exercise



To obtain & maintain a SLO:



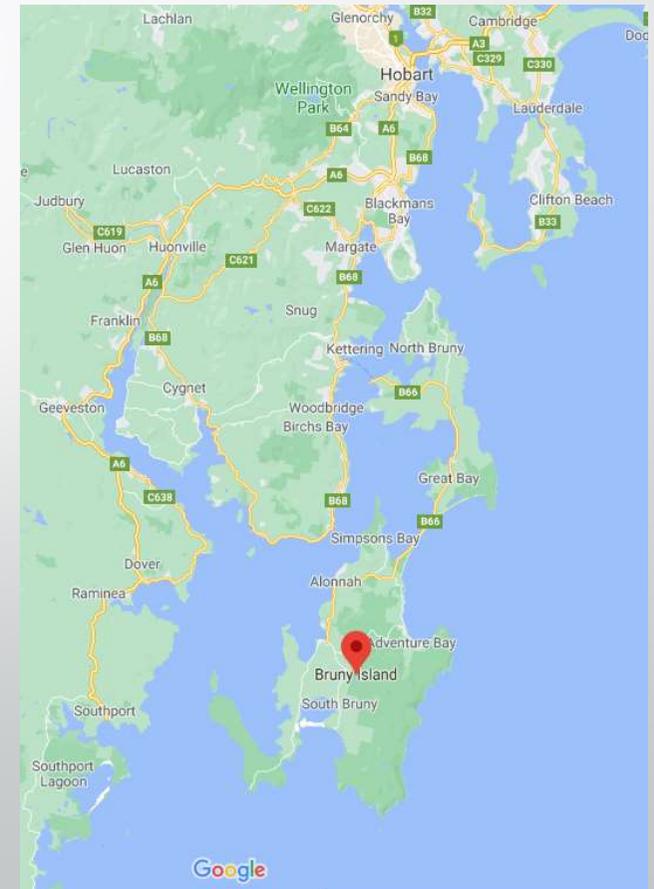
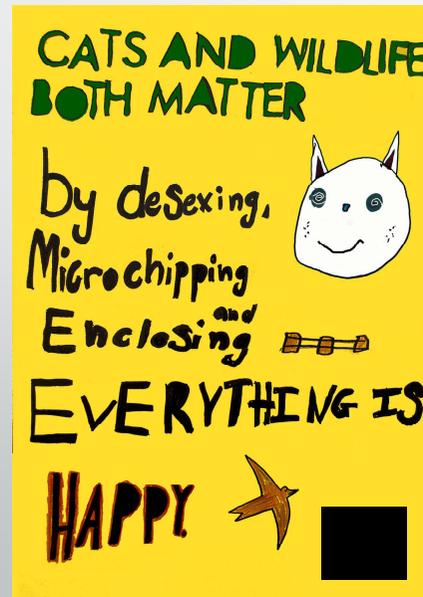
You must have legitimacy, credibility and be trustworthy

- Genuine and respectful collaboration with ALL stakeholders
- Monitor relevant impacts using valid measures
- Maintain transparency with all activities
- Have an open grievance process
- Be proactive



Where cat management has got it right

- Bruny Island - public engagement



Where cat management needs to improve

- Integrate 'feral' or 'stray' cat with the broader cat community
- Engagement and collaboration with ALL stakeholders
- Respect all voices

Port of Newcastle's Stockton breakwall cat cull sparks fury after animals maimed

ABC Newcastle / By Gisele Wakatama, Bridget Murphy and Madeline Lewis
Posted Sun 20 Dec 2020 at 2:38pm, updated Sun 20 Dec 2020 at 2:59pm



Multiple cats were found with serious wounds after the attempted cull. (Supplied: Stray Cats Project)



IGNORE AT OWN RISK

References

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