

Dear Senate Inquiry,

I am writing to ask that you support access to public transport for well behaved pets here in Sydney.

My dog, Alex and I lived in London for three years and were able to utilise public transport there, in particular buses, trains and taxis, including national trains. This allowed us to safely and easily travel around London and the UK without needing to own a car. Pet owners there are expected to ensure that they and their dog are well-behaved and clean, something we took very seriously on our travels. As a side benefit we also had many lovely conversations with people we met on public transport who were excited to travel with a dog. Furthermore, at no point did we inconvenience others or experience any negative interactions with fellow travellers.

Here in Sydney, I would be able to completely avoid owning a car if I could travel with my dog on public transport. That would obviously save me money, but I believe it would also be of benefit to the broader community, for example by reducing unnecessary car trips and urban congestion.

Thank you for considering this proposal. If I can provide any further information please do not hesitate to contact me via email.

Regards,
Kirsten Seipolt.