



Parramatta Council

PEOPLE FOR  
THE ETHICAL  
TREATMENT  
OF ANIMALS

Dear Councilmembers,

Greetings from People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA). As Parramatta prepares to host a community barbecue for King Charles and Queen Camilla, we're writing to point out that – given the royals' interest in subverting climate change and personal experience with cancer – the only sensible move would be to ensure this event features only vegan foods.

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The production of animal-derived foods involves not only [cruelty](#) to sentient beings but also the destruction of the planet. A comprehensive dataset study from the University of Oxford that examined five environmental impacts associated with diet found that vegans had a *quarter* of the impact on greenhouse gas emissions and land use, 27% on water pollution, 46% on water use, and 34% on biodiversity that those who eat 100 g of meat or more per day have.

One of the main environmental issues meat causes is the production of methane, a potent greenhouse gas that today drives 25% of global warming. Happily, our food choices can help prevent the ice caps from melting and the seas from heating – vegans produce an astounding 93% fewer methane emissions than the average meat-eater!

As the issue of bushfires is high on the agenda for the royal visit, we'd like to point out that felling timber – which acts as a carbon sink – drives these devastating fires and Australia is the developed world's only [deforestation hotspot](#), largely as a result of land-clearing for animal agriculture.

Consuming animal-derived foods is also linked to increased risk for cancer. The World Health Organization classes processed meats like bacon and sausages as group one carcinogens – the same category as tobacco and asbestos – and World Cancer Research Fund International warns that red and processed meats increase the risk of colorectal cancer, which is the fourth most commonly diagnosed cancer in Australia.

It would be wildly hypocritical to greet their majesties by grilling the carcinogen-laden flesh of dead animals, the rearing and killing of whom harms the environment and human health. In light of the royal family's health concerns and the environmental focus of this visit, we're sure you'll agree.

Please consider using only vegan meat and delicious, healthy plant-based wholefoods for this event. We appreciate your time and look forward to your reply.

Yours faithfully,

Mimi Bekhechi  
Senior Policy Advisor

Entities

- PETA US
- PETA Asia
- PETA India
- PETA Germany
- PETA Netherlands
- PETA Foundation (U.K.)