

## submissions

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**From:** standards.management@foodstandards.gov.au  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 29 May 2012 1:14 PM  
**To:** standards management  
**Subject:** FSANZ: Applications and Submissions - Submission [SEC=INCONFIDENCE]

**Categories:** [REDACTED]



### **FSANZ: Applications and Submissions - Submission**

Tuesday, 29 May, 2012

- 1. Assessment Report Number:** Proposal P1018
- 2. Assessment Report Title:** Companion Dogs in Outdoor Dining Areas
- 3. Organisation Name:** Linda Harvey
- 4. Organisation Type:** Individual
- 5. Representing:** Linda Harvey
- 6. Street Address:** [REDACTED]
- 7. Postal Address:** [REDACTED]
- 8. Contact Person:** Linda Harvey
- 9. Phone:** [REDACTED]
- 10. Fax:**
- 11. Email Address:** [REDACTED]

**12. Submission Text:** The risk of foodborne transmission of zoonotic agents to humans from companion dogs in outdoor dining settings is considered to be very low to negligible. Personally having owned dogs my entire life, who often sit at my feet whilst I'm eating my dinner, I have never fallen ill from having a dog sitting under my dining table. the presence of companion dogs in outdoor dining areas operated by food businesses such as restaurants, cafés and takeaway food outlets is currently permitted in New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria subject to determination by the owner of the food business. Due to the climate in Queensland, recreational time is often spent outdoors. Companion animals improve the mental and physical health of their owners by encouraging exercise and social interaction. Consumers with dogs would likely benefit from this change. However, some consumers may object to having dogs present while dining outdoors. The owner of the cafe/restaurant should be able to dictate whether they will allow companion dogs to sit in their out door dining areas. They can determine certain sections of their outdoor dining area as pet friendly, giving their customers an option not to sit where dogs are present. At a time when businesses are struggling, allowing companion animals to sit with their owners would increase clientele for the cafes/restaurants. Queensland is highly reliant on the tourism industry, with many New South Wales and Victorian residents migrating north for the winter months. Many bring their family pets and are disappointed to realise Queensland is not as pet friendly as their home states. I believe this puts

Queensland at a huge disadvantage as more accommodation houses are becoming pet friendly in order to attract clientele. Queensland needs a change to this legislation to bring us into line with other States. Tourism is suffering badly and by removing this legislation Queensland could market itself to a wider audience. In closing, people who have dogs sitting at their feet in outdoor dining areas are a lot happier than those who dont. Thank you Linda Harvey.

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