

INSPECTOR NOTE

Building:	
Street:	14A MARIENDAHL AVENUE
Suburb:	NEWLANDS
Postal Code:	7700
Date:	2026-08-05
Time:	07:41
Inspector:	NIKITA SEPTEMBER
Type:	CASE DISCUSSION NOTE
Follow-Up Date:	2026-08-05

Comments:

Anna C.

AUG 03, 20:21

Confidential animal-welfare concern regarding cat kept outdoors (Newlands)

Dear SPCA Team,

I would like to report a welfare concern regarding a cat at the property directly next to ours.

New neighbours recently moved into the house, and I am concerned that their cat is kept outside permanently. I assume their tenancy agreement does not allow animals, that's why the cat is left outside. I have observed the following:

Since I am back from a school break / holiday - every night (and while I am texting) - I have heard the cat crying extremely loudly and persistently from the back of their property. It's a very sad sound... Initially, I mistook the sound for mating behaviour (that's what I simply know from cats being outside at night) but it has continued night after night, always from the same place and with the same distressed tone. No one speaks back to it or no other cat is involved.

Then, I got worried that the cat might be actually trapped or accidentally locked somewhere, so I went to the property and rang the doorbell. I had not met the neighbours before, but all three cars were outside and there appeared to be people at home. (The braai was on) Despite the property having an exterior camera, nobody answered the door. I actually think, I was ignored because they should obviously know what's going on and that all the surrounding neighbours will hear this poor, crying animal.

While standing outside, I saw the cat looking through the wooden panels of the outside gate. It appears to be a Persian cat, which I understand is generally accustomed to living indoors. And, at least we know it's not locked into something...

As I am a stay-at-home mother, I am most of the time at home during the day and can confirm that this does not happen only at night. The cat is outside and crying during the daytime as well. When I am gardening, I sometimes speak gently to it from our side of the wall. It immediately calms down when it hears my voice and receives some attention, but soon begins crying again. It cannot come over the wall because there is security wiring.

I am very concerned because it is winter, the cat appears to be kept outside and its persistent vocal distress strongly suggests that it is unhappy or in need of attention. I cannot confirm whether it has suitable shelter, food or water, as I cannot see the entire area from our property. I would therefore be grateful if the SPCA could conduct a welfare check and advise the owners appropriately. I need to give this cat a voice.

The address is:

Mariendahl Avenue No 14a, 7700 Newlands

Please treat this report and my identity as *strictly confidential*. I live directly next door with two young children and our own pets, and I am very concerned about possible conflict or retaliation if the neighbours discover that I made the report.

Please confirm receipt of this report and let me know whether any further factual information is required.

Kind regards,

Anna

Nakita September 2026-08-05 07:41

Captured By: