



# Cat Neutering

At Hitchin Vets we recommend having cats neutered from 4 months of age, or around 2kg in weight. We offer a pre-op check to all clients, free of charge, to discuss individual pet needs and when the best time would be to book in for surgery.

## **Female Spays**

The surgical procedure involves a general anaesthetic whereby we remove your pet's ovaries, known as Ovariectomy (OVE). If, however we find any abnormalities with the womb during surgery we will undertake a full Ovariohysterectomy (OVH), which possibly has an increased risk with older animals. Both methods of surgery ensure that your cat will no longer be able to have kittens, or come into season. As standard, cats have seasons roughly every 3 weeks which usually has an effect on their behaviour and it can also cause them to become very vocal.

## **Male Castrations**

For males, a general anaesthetic is administered and the testicles are surgically removed from their sacs and the sperm chords tied.

This procedure is carried out at the surgery as a day procedure, whereby we would admit your pet on the morning of the surgery, and complete a full discharge appointment later that same day. You are also welcomed to one free of charge post op check for us to check the wound, roughly around the 7 – 10 day mark after surgery.

After neutering it is indicated that they will be more likely to increase their weight due to the hormone change, which can be more common in some breeds. We would therefore recommend monitoring your pets' weight after surgery to ensure that the weight does not creep up, as if so, we would need to revisit the daily food intake. All anaesthetics carry an element of risk; however, we can offer a pre-anaesthetic blood test to see if there are any underlying health concerns which could compromise the anaesthetic, which would be run before we go ahead with surgery.