# THE FUTURE OF PET FOOD: 2022

As humanisation accelerates, the new generation of pet owners will focus on health, sustainability and shared experiences with their fur babies.





# Report Content

- · Meet Mintel's global pet food expert
- · The now, the next and beyond

#### WHERE WE ARE NOW

- · Pet owners are increasingly scrutinising pet food products for sustainability and health credentials
- What we are seeing

## IN THE NEXT TWO YEARS

Mintel's perspective

# Leverage evolving pet health priorities

- · Pet health priorities are evolving
- · Pet owners are turning to supplements for added nutritional benefits
- Toppers with health benefits have growth potential
- Promote the nutritional benefits of toppers in flexible formats
- · Target the demand for functional pet drinks
- · Anxious owners are seeking help with their anxious pets
- · The pet food industry can support anxious pets
- · Digestive health powers emotional wellbeing

## Make sustainability tangible and transparent

- · Pet food has ramped up on environmental issues, but still has some catching up to do
  - Graph 1: % of food launches with an ethical/environmental claim, by top five claims, 2018-21
  - Graph 2: % of pet food launches with an ethical/environmental claim, by top five claims, 2018-21
- · Focus on the basics of packaging
- · Make sustainable packaging easier to understand
- Rebrand meat by-products and dial up health and sustainability cues
- Raw diets should communicate the environmental benefits of by-products
- · Insect-based pet food is going mainstream
- · Communication around insects is paramount

## **Humanisation meets premiumisation**

- The pet parent phenomenon is accelerating
- · Pet owners are devoted to their fur babies
- · Humanisation lends itself to premiumisation

# The Future of Pet Food: 2022

- Premium humanisation of pets spans pet food, experiences and even home design
- · Sharing is caring
- Dial up palatability cues to attract discerning pet parents
- · Focus on processing techniques

# IN FIVE YEARS AND BEYOND

- Mintel's perspective
- Mintel Trend Ethics Check
- · Lab-grown pet food is edging closer
- Mintel Trend In Control
- Science and data will lead the way
- Mintel Trend Flexible Spaces
- Elevate the in-store experience and build communities
- Do digital differently

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