

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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E-Scooters

Definition

An E- scooter is a electrical motor powered scooter for the purpose of transportation of a person.

Limitations of Use

An E-scooter shall not,

1. be used on any road with a speed limit exceeding 60km/hr
2. being used to carry more than one (1) person
3. be used to also transport an animal
4. be used on any beach, jetty, boat ramps, enclosed shop or shopping complex,
5. exceed 15km/hr on footpaths or shared pathways
6. be ridden on footpaths directly within 3m of any shop
7. be ridden within 20m of any shelter shed , BBQ's, toilets or playground equipment
8. be ridden by a person under the age of 12.
9. be used to tow a trailer.
10. be left parked on a shared pathway or carpark designated for motor vehicles or motorbikes

Congestion and Points of Conflict with Other Users on footpaths and Shared Pathways

Where congestion or conflict occurs between E-scooters and pedestrians and other users of a footpath or shared pathway regardless of whether or not this area is signposted as such ,it shall be the responsibility of the operator of the E-scooter to,

1. sound their horn on approach to the area as a warning and then,
2. to stop and walk past area of congestion before remounting.

An E-scooter User and the Traffic Act

An E-scooter user is subject to the road rules and regulations applicable in the traffic act and subject to fines as per that act.

An E scooter USER

1. shall travel in the area set aside for bicycles in the carriageway when on the actual roadway
2. shall keep to the left on a shared pathway
3. if involved in a accident not leave the scene of that accident..
4. shall wear an approved helmet at all times
5. shall ride on the left hand side of the road
6. shall not ride diagonally cross any street
7. shall use a driving light at night
8. shall not ride continuously from the roadway to the footpath without first dismounting at the edge of the footpath
9. shall comply with the Road Rules
10. shall not use any a mobile phone whilst operating the E scooter
11. shall not tether an animal (either directly or by holding a leach) while using the scooter
12. shall not hold anything in the hands while operating the E scooter eg fishing rod, baskets, food bags ect
13. shall not consume alcohol or drugs or be under the influence of alcohol or drugs while operating the E scooter
14. shall not leave their E-scooter temporarily in a location that is poses a trip hazardous to other users of the road environment including parks and shared pathways ect

Liability – Third Party and Personal Insurance

An E scooter user is liable for cost incurred by when their actions result in the injury to other persons and property Parents shall be equally liable for the injury and damage that occurs from their children using an E scooters. While not mandatory it is recommended that E scooter owners obtain insurance covering the use of their E scooter

An owner of an e-scooter shall ensure the device

1. Complies with all of the requirements of these regulations
2. Is listed as legal to use in Queensland
3. Is in road worthy condition

4. Has been recorded on the Government register.

Failure to Comply

Fines , confiscation and banning from use can apply to any E scooter user (or Parent) who fails to comply with the above rules and or regulations.

Minors Use – Parental Responsibilities

Parents of minors who ride E scooters shall be subject to fines that apply as if they were the user.

Physical dimensions and Envelope Space

The physical dimensions of an E-scooter shall not exceed 500mm in width or 1000mm in height and 1000mm in length.

The dimensions of the envelope of the space that an E-scooter with the operator and any attachments (eg back pack ect) can take up shall not exceed 600mm in width or 2000mm in height and 1200mm in length.

All E-scooters shall be fitted with

1. a horn capable of being heard at a distance of 5m
2. brakes
3. reflector lights front and back
4. driving light for night use

Motor

The motor of an E scooter shall be

1. an electrical battery powered engine
2. meet any applicable Australian Standards
3. not be capable of speeds in excess of 30k

Battery and charging

An E-scooter

1. shall be fitted with an approved battery
2. shall not be recharged within a confined place.

Speed

Motors of E-scooters shall be limited to maximum speed of 30k/hr .