

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

While I appreciate ensuring ebikes are safe, the low restrictions on motor power can result in people not using them. For example, I would love to ride my son to school each day - but the hills around brisbane are too big for me to be able to do so. I would like to get an e-bike, but to get an ebike powerful enough to get my 6 year old son up some of the hills around our area as a smaller woman would mean going over the legal 250-watt motor. I have no problem with the 25 km/h limit, and the pedalling requirements, I think that's good. But with myself and my child (and the weight of the bikes) to get up these hills, even at less than 25km, I need more than a 250-watt motor. In fact, the 250 watt motor restriction can actually be dangerous, if I get stuck part way up a hill and don't have the leg power to keep going. As a result, I don't ride my son to school along the lovely bike tracks we have. I take the car. I think the intended result can be achieved with the speed limitation and higher limit on motor power - particularly given Brisbane's hilly terrain. Just like in NSW where bikes of 500watt are allowed. Or perhaps there needs to be different power limits for bikes vs scooters, particularly for bikes that are intended to be able to carry cargo or more than one person and are in themselves heavier than scooters. I'd love to be able to ride my son to school, and I don't want to go fast, but I can't with the current restrictions.