

## **Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland**

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Peter Terrill [REDACTED]  
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Dear Minister,

I'm a school bus driver in [REDACTED]


I am writing because I am concerned about the influx of e-scooters and e-bikes in my local area, the inexperienced riders, and the disregard for traffic rules.

My immediate concern as a school bus driver is when I approach a bus stop. I look in my left mirror to see if the bike lane is clear, then merge left towards the bus stop. Several times, recently, and back to last year, an e-scooter or e-bike rider will appear and try to overtake my bus on its left side, at speed, regardless of my indicator being on, and the bus merging left.

Whether it be foolishness or the inability to negotiate the situation quick enough and apply evasive action, I don't know, but it is happening more frequently, to myself and my fellow Noosa Shire, and Sunshine Coast bus drivers. Sadly, in July last year, a school bus driver ran over an 11 year old boy and killed him. Every day, my fellow drivers are discussing what countermeasures we can take to avoid killing another E-Rider.

A mate of mine is a paramedic on the Sunshine Coast. He tells me that they are called out to at least one e-scooter / e-bike accident once per night, and several times on weekends. While most are superficial injuries, to broken bones here and there, he said that there is at least one death occurring once per week on the Sunshine Coast, the majority of incidents escape being reported in the media.

In December last year, my dash cam captured 4 school girls riding down Ben Lexcen Drive in Sunshine Beach, on the wrong side of the road, 2 with helmets on, 2 no helmets, all on the same e-bike, and they were flying.



This happened around the same time as the Noosa E-Scooter and E-Bike Safety Day, organised by the Queensland Police Service and other community partners, which took place on December 7, 2024, at Good Shepherd Lutheran College in Noosaville. Needless to say, the genuine efforts of Police and concerned community partners, are falling on deaf ears.

## **THE SOLUTION**

E-Scooters and E-Bikes are MOTORISED VEHICLES.

I'm not sure what has happened in the last 12 to 24 months, but these things are getting faster and faster.

The majority of riders in my local area are teenagers.

I believe the solution lays in licensing and registration.

Years ago when I got my motorcycle license, I undertook a motorcycle safety course which was conducted in the underground carpark at the Brookside Shopping Centre in Brisbane. I found it invaluable as it not only taught me how to avoid dangerous situations, but how to manoeuvre out of them. The course also covered vehicle maintenance and rider attitude.

So, I believe the E-Scooter and E-Bike riders undergo a Rider Training Course, before being licensed to ride these motorised vehicles, and the minimum age be set at 16 year old.

I also believe that the E-Scooters and E-Bikes be registered, and they be regulated to a top speed of 40kmh. This will eliminate those E-Riders from entering traffic and dodging cars and trucks. It will also give Police the ability to identify E-Riders who flaunt traffic rules such as red light running.

Ministers, there is a solution to this problem, my ideas are they are endorsed by my peers and workmates who drive school buses twice a day, 5 days a week, who are having to manoeuvre around the roads with E-Scooters and E-Bikes that seem to be going faster and faster each day.

Thank you for taking the time to review my letter.

Sincerely,  
Peter Terrill

