

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 55
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Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

It is clear some e-bikes can be very easily modified to make the speed governor redundant. I believe the sales outlets/manufacturers give advice freely on how to do this. It is more than reasonable to say e-bike speed is not governed to what I believe to be a 20KPH limit. I am told of an e-scooter that is for sale from an outlet on the Gold Coast can reach 97KPH. Clearly ridiculous. Certain models of e-bikes that reach significant speed on our roads don't even have pedals. They are essentially an electric motor cycle and ridden without a licence or relevant third party insurance. How can this be allowed by Government? Drivers now have to deal with e-bikes on our roads which often are driven in the vehicle lane in competition with cars and trucks etc, and often at the hands of juveniles who act as if they are above the law and also indestructible. History says otherwise. I don't want to be sharing the roads/footpaths with them. As they are not registered, the riders are virtually anonymous so are able to misbehave at their whim, and misbehave they do. Footpaths/ocean ways are now also a danger zone as pedestrians cannot hear them and the bikes are often driven at speed and erratically by juveniles mostly. Some adults need to take a good hard look at themselves as well re their behavior. As e-bikes are not registered, the rider is unidentifiable by authorities. A mobility scooter is required to be registered and I understand are limited to 10 KPH. Why not register e-bikes? At least it would give authorities a chance to identify the owner/rider of the e-bike for prosecution if they disobey the law. Assuming e-bikes are legally permitted by the Government to travel at up to 20kph, which I assume is why manufactures/importers sell them limited to 20kph, any tampering of that speed limiter to allow the e-bikes to travel any faster than that should be illegal and strictly enforced. Lawful seizure and destruction might be a deterrent considering the significant cost of these to purchase. In closing, the Government should not put licensed drivers driving their appropriately registered vehicles at risk of killing or maiming a young person as the Government is allowing havoc to occur on our roads by allowing these "Electric Motor Bikes" to be share the roads or use footpaths. They are way too dangerous in the hands of the young on our public spaces. They should only be allowed on private land, similar to unregistered motor cross bikes and the like.