Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No:	57
Submitted by:	
Publication:	Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments:	See attachment
Submitter Comments:	

E-Bike Safety

As a local resident of Coolangatta, I have witnessed many frequent, concerning incidents re Ebikes around Rainbow Bay and Coolangatta. I own a pushbike, but no Ebike. I am a regular walker around the Coolangatta area.

Regular occurrences witnessed in Rainbow Bay, Coolangatta area include;

- 3 young riders holding 2 surfboards on one E-bike on Marine Pde speeding amongst traffic. No helmets.
- Adults on Ebike speeding on the road with one child in front and one on back of E-bike with no helmets.
- Riders speeding down Pt Danger hill onto Marine Pde, passing traffic into oncoming cars, many near misses causing distress to drivers. Ebikes speeding up Marine Pde to Pt Danger doing wheel stands.
- Numerous teenagers, frequently 3 to a bike carrying surfboards zipping at speed in and out of traffic.
- Young riders with no idea of road rules or total disregard for them.
- Teenagers speeding through Give Way sign on corner Boundary and Hill St in front of oncoming traffic.
- As a pedestrian, many E-bikes speeding on paths and around Greenmount Hill and Snapper Rocks Rd where it has no Bike signs.
- No exercise value for many as they are just using the battery mode to maintain their speed.
- Young riders on the road with no idea of road safety rules riding amongst cars.
- A parent who admitted he had increased the speed to 45km/hr on his 12yr and 14yr old boy's bikes.
- E-bikes speeding on footpaths in front of reversing cars and people exiting their homes.
- Main Concerns

-Excessive speed on roads and paths. Speeding in and out of road traffic, speeding past pedestrians. School holidays greatly increase the whole problem with more children on bikes and increased road and pedestrian traffic.

-Ignoring or total ignorance of road rules

-No helmets

-3 to 4 teenagers on one bike on roads

-Very young age of some riders on roads with no road sense and a dare devil attitude.

-Very little exercise involved

-Pedestrians changing their usual route because of unpleasantness and potential danger where they walk.

People choosing to holiday or sell up and go elsewhere due to the chaos caused by increased Ebikes and motorised skateboards and scooters.

I would like to see registration of E-bikes, reducing speed a bike can travel at, enforcement of helmet wearing, number allowed on a bike, minimum age to ride on road and testing knowledge of Road Safety Rules. Enforcement of no motorised transport in areas already signed as walking only. A motorised E bike is no different to a motor bike. None of what occurs on E-bikes would be legal on a motorbike yet we have no rules at all for E-bikes.