

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

**Submission No:** 120  
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### Submitter Comments:

Following is an email I sent on the 20th May 2024 to Laura Gerber and Karen Andrews. Ladies, as you are no doubt aware the advent of electrically assisted bikes has spawned a new danger to citizens in your electorates who avail themselves of the Oceanway and other pedestrian avenues. I read an article on this topic by Robert Crampton in last weekend's Australian. He lives in London and used to be a cyclist but has ceased as he is no longer proud to identify as one. He articulates the burgeoning e-bike industry and the attendant problems, mainly due to a lack of regulation. He describes these heavy, chunky, near-silent machines as basic motorcycles that are not legally treated as such. They do not require a licence, tax or insurance (I am assuming this the case in Australia). Their batteries are supposed to be speed-restricted but this hurdle is easily overcome. The result is souped-up machines. They, like motor vehicles, can be killing machines. They do kill and will continue to do so. These devices are a clear danger to pedestrians. My wife and I now treat all pedestrian ways as we would roads. I think that's a sad indictment of the irresponsible behaviour of many e-bike riders. I have witnessed the arrogance, sense of entitlement and downright egregious behaviour from riders on numerous occasions. They are almost on a par with motorists who passed over the pedestrian crossing laws in the handbook (that's a separate major cause of concern in these parts). What to do? Short of vigilantism (a bad choice) the only course of action I can suggest is strict, enforceable regulation. I'd be delighted to hear your response to this menacing issue. Looking forward to hearing from you.