

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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I am writing to express my concerns regarding the increasing number of accidents involving e-bikes and e-scooters in pedestrian areas. While these electric devices offer an environmentally friendly and efficient means of transportation, their unregulated use on footpaths and pedestrian zones poses a significant safety risk to riders and pedestrians. The core issue lies in the lack of clear regulations and enforcement. Currently, e-bike and e-scooter users are not required to register or insure their vehicles or held accountable for reckless or negligent behavior. This gap in policy results in pedestrians bearing the brunt of accidents, while riders often evade responsibility. Additionally, local councils that permit these devices on pedestrian pathways without proper regulation inadvertently contribute to the problem. To address this, I strongly urge the implementation of the following measures: Mandatory Registration: All e-bikes and e-scooters should be registered, similar to other motorised vehicles and small motor bikes. Insurance Requirements: Riders should be required to obtain insurance to cover accidents or injuries caused to pedestrians. Strict Enforcement: Local authorities must actively monitor and enforce regulations to ensure rider accountability. Designated Zones: Clearly marked pathways for e-device users to separate them from pedestrian areas, reducing the likelihood of collisions. By adopting these measures, we can protect pedestrians while promoting responsible and safe use of electric mobility devices. I trust that the government will take swift action to address this pressing issue. Thanks