

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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e-mobility safety Unfortunately, e-mobility devices have been unleashed on our public roads and pathways, without any real thought for regulating their use. On a daily basis we see e-scooters, e-bicycles and e-skateboards being ridden on our roads and footpaths, often at excessive speeds and without any or minimal safety equipment being worn, and a complete disregard for the road rules which other road users are required to adhere to. Also the riders are often below the legislated age requirement, and with no licence. In all cases, these e-scooters, e-bicycles and e-skateboards do not have any registration or identification, meaning in the even of an accident or incident, they or their rider are not identifiable and do not have any insurance in the even that they cause damage to other road users or third party property. E-mobility devices such as golf buggies and forklifts are required to have restricted registration making them readily identifiable and insured. They are not permitted on public roads etc, except to a minimal extent. Disability scooters are also not supposed to be ridden on roads, although in view of the proliferation of e-mobility devices, some disability scooter riders seem to believe they are now allowed ride on public roads etc, despite not having registration or insurance. Some consistency in the rules and regulations that apply e-mobility devices, golf buggies and disability scooters is required. All riders must accept some responsibility for their actions and be readily identifiable to all other road users. If safety is the true aim of regulation, e-mobility devices, golf buggies and disability scooters should be limited to bicycle lanes, and also be required to ride single file, unless overtaking another rider.