

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 232
Submitted by: Darlene MacDonald
Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

The number of children now riding e-bikes has grown beyond expectations. The downside is that it is a lethal vehicle and children do not have the maturity to deal with the potential dangers. All e-bikes should be registered in an adults name; the fee doesn't need to be significant but needs to include 3rd party personal injury insurance, the same as Motor vehicles. The rider of the bike (the minor) needs to be listed on the registration and also be signed off as having done a road safety course. Registration plate should be on display on the bike. As part of the road safety course, children need to be made aware of where the bikes can be ridden (road or footpath), speed limits, and how many people can be on the bike. As part of registration, bike needs to be "Roadworthy" lights fitted, helmets for all passengers and speed controls. This doesn't need to be a roadworthy like with MV's but rather the parent has signed off that they declare the bike is safe and that they understand they are personally responsible for any damage caused that is the fault of the e-bike rider. The same fines should apply with e-bike riders as with MV's- heavy fines for Mobile Phone use and also wheel stands on roads. It's not just the children who are at risk but also the MV drivers who could potentially hit one of these children and be blamed because they are the adult, and should have "done better" This can cause immeasurable heartache for the driver. There are also concerns around just how many people can be on an e-bike. One parent with 3 children on a bike- is this safe. Should a father be carrying his new baby in a baby sling while riding an e-bike? You can't do this on a motorbike. I have witnessed these things first hand. I don't have a problem with the e-bikes but just for the lack regulation. Everyone needs protecting