

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 246
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Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Copy of an email recentl sent to our councillor: Good morning, I read with sadness this morning about the death of a 12-year-old e-scooter rider in Queensland and there is a certain inevitability about news of this sort. My wife and I are seniors and walk daily in Broadbeach/Mermaid Beach, particularly along the coastal pathway around Kurrawa Surf Club. Recently, this has become an extremely hazardous pastime with all sorts of electronic bikes and scooters weaving dangerously through the pedestrian traffic at excessive speeds. The Gold Coast roads are now full of these black e-bikes being driven, often in excess of the road speed limit, ignoring traffic signals, and causing traffic chaos. On Thursday last week, there was a pack of about 15-20 travelling along Bermuda St, weaving in and out of traffic, doing wheelies and causing chaos. How can youths aged 12-13-14 be allowed to drive a motorised bike on main roads with no training or license? Yesterday evening we walked along Hedges Ave in Mermaid Beach and passed about 50/60 varying types of bikes on our walk. Only 8 of the riders were wearing helmets, some were doing 30kph and one was carrying a small child on their lap on an e-bike doing about 35 kph. Nobody appears to worry that they are breaking the law because they will not ever be stopped. I am aware that the police have many calls on their services, but this is a problem that is not going away and will only get worse, with potentially more casualties. The Federal, State and Local authorities urgently need to introduce legislation to curb/control these practices and provide the necessary facilities to police and control the users. I would welcome your comments. Regards Fraser and Susan Tait, Broadbeach.