

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

The current situation whereby these alternative forms of personal transport, being battery-powered bicycles, battery-powered scooters and similar devices are using public roads, footpaths and bicycle lanes, often swapping between all 3 of them. The vast majority of them are being driven by unlicensed and underage operators, often without protective gear. These vehicles all have different characteristics of speed, sound, warning devices and maneuverability. When operated at speed they are highly dangerous for pedestrians. It is not unusual to see some of these vehicles carrying 2 or more passengers overtaking passenger vehicles at high speed in suburban 40k speed limits areas. The one that concerns me most are those parents taking their children for high speed races along pedestrian footpaths. An enforceable set of rules should be established to protect all citizens from these types of vehicles. Strict licensing must be applied as to who can operate these vehicles and where these vehicles can operate. My preference would be to restrict them altogether. If that is not possible, then restrict them to bicycle lanes at all times, limit them to single person operator's, disqualify any operator breaching the rules and confiscate the equipment for second time offenders.