

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I am a once a week road cyclist, usually 80km @ 30km/h average on a pedal powered road bike. I also own an e-bike mountain bike but rarely use it. I find it heavy in comparison and it is legal in that the motor only activates when pedalling up to 25km/h. In other words, I find my pedal power road bike faster. If the speed limit was higher, say 30km/h, I'd probably lean towards using the e-bike more, especially as I get older and for longer rides. On the other hand, as a car driver around the urban streets I live, I often see e-bikes and e-scooters zooming along at speeds that match my car speed 40, 50 sometimes 60km/h. Sometimes, the people riding them do so at dusk (low-light) and are wearing dark colour clothing and are difficult to see, especially when they weave on and off the road and sometimes travelling the wrong way up the road, ignoring stop signs, red lights. I especially worry when it appears to be children riding them in a manner that in my opinion is risky and unsafe to themselves and other road users. It seems the majority of e-bikes operate without pedalling required and it seems like at a greater speed than 25km/h and I don't understand why they are allowed to be imported and sold to the public if they are not legal. However, my concern is not so much the e-bikes and e-scooters, but the operators who use them in a dangerous and unsafe manner.