

## **Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland**

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## **Submission for E-Scooter and E-Bike Safety Inquiry**

**E-Scooters and E-Bikes are an excellent conveyance in many respects, clean, efficient and convenient in an ever changing world of transport infrastructure.**

**They do, however pose a significant challenge in terms of road safety for their users, pedestrians and drivers, due to a lack of regulation and abuse of the rules in place. These are openly flouted by a majority of riders, although this generalization is based solely on observations in our region of the Sunshine Coast, it is not statistically supported in this submission. Many riders are under the required age on throttle driven e-bikes, many are helmetless and by observation texting is common practice whilst riding. Any attempt to report such behaviours is pointless because there is no means of identifying rider or bike.**

**I suggest that bikes should be registered thus allowing identification, imposing a duty on parents and adult riders to consider when purchasing and enabling collection of data on a database which would help further make retailers responsible during the sales process. Many retailers enable e-bikes to be programmed illegally to reach much higher speeds than permissible by regulation. Each throttle driven e-bike must thus have some type of registration number with which it could be readily identified. Owners, retailers, parents and all riders of such bikes might then be more accountable for their conveyance. This would also help facilitate more efficient enforcement of the regulations hence making the admirable work of the police less onerous.**

**Much of the above would also apply to unregulated e-scooters.**

**Stewart Cheal**