

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I have lived in Palm Beach (QLD) since December and have never encountered so many issues with e-bikers anywhere else on the Gold Coast. Kids as young as 10 and teenagers are riding fast on the road without knowing the traffic rules, not wearing helmets, their e-bikes are obviously not registered, yet they ride in the middle of busy intersections, roundabouts and Gold Coast Highway. They ride in opposite direction of the traffic expecting oncoming cars to move out of their way, in fast lanes, on pedestrian walkways forcing people off the path, coming around blind corners in full speed and so on. There have been numerous incidents where they smashed into cars and into walking kids and elderly, injuring them, then rode off without taking any responsibility for the injuries and vehicle damages. The e-bikes need to be either outlawed the way they are in the U.K. or the law has to change so that e-bikes have to become registered, riders need to obtain a driver license and ride ONLY on the road in the slow lane. There also need to be more police checks to enforce speed limits and helmet wearing. I am afraid that saying 'they are just kids' won't help in the long run, as they need to take responsibility for their actions. I'm looking forward to see an outcome on this issue very soon, before more injuries and damages happen!