

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Submission No: | 507 |
| Submitted by: | Harry Cramer |
| Publication: | Making the submission and your name public |
| Attachments: | See attachment |
| Submitter Comments: | |

Harry Cramer OAM MAIES

28th May 2025

Hermann Vorster MP
Member for Burleigh
PO Box 2704
Burleigh Warters 4220

E- Bikes and Electric Scooters

Dear Hermann

After receiving your invitation to comment on the e-bikes and the e-scooters, I thought that I should reply to your request.

Having grandchildren, I am aware of the amount and popularity of these bikes and scooters now on the coast. We see the riders making their way to school of a morning and I must say we are also seeing more wearing helmets compared to a few months back. Girls seem to be the worst offenders with their hair flowing in the wind as a helmet would be taking away the glamour of the flowing hair.

We have seen on the news the result of accidents where e-bikes and cars have collided to devastating results to the rider, which has devastating effect on those families .

One problem is the fact that the governor on some of these bikes can be overridden so the bike can now do well over the limit of 25 kph and able to over 60 kph. I understand that the Police are clamping down on these bikes and confiscating them, but they are still being sold.

Last week I saw a rider going up the Pacific Highway through Palm Beach going north traveling on the back wheel for some 200 metres. We then saw him go through a red light. No way to identify the rider.

After speaking to my grand sons who all have e-bikes, they tell me that there are a lot of these illegal bikes around.

One young fellow I know about with a friend on the back, went through a red light and collided with a car. The rider received a broken leg, two broken ankles, wrist and collarbone in the accident and his passenger was very lucky with only a grazed arm. The rider was not wearing a helmet, but the passenger was.

The reason I refer to this incident is the implications that this accident creates.

Who pays for the repair to the car involved. The driver of the car was not in the wrong.

Recommendation.

- I think all e-bikes should be registered. By having registration, the bikes have to be inspected to show they comply with the current regulations.
- By doing this the rider can be identified if doing the wrong thing.
- All e-bikes and e-scooters should have third party property insurance cover.
- Caught without helmet also means you have a demerit point against you when you go for your drivers licence.

I see that NSW have a list of offences and fines attached to these offences

- Non wearing of helmet \$410
- Illegal e-bike or e-scooter \$732 and confiscation
- Mobile3 phone use \$410
- Riding bike recklessly \$544
- There are other fines as well.

I know you have a difficult job to get the right balance when making regulations and the backlash from the few, but they are usually the ones doing the wrong thing. Sometimes you have to bring in regulations to protect them from themselves. As my dad use to say, "You can't put an old head on young shoulders".

I HOPE THIS WILL HELP YOU.

Kind regards

Harry Cramer OAM MAIES

