

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

**Submission No:** 537  
**Submitted by:** [REDACTED]  
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### Submitter Comments:

Helmet Use and Enforcement – A Failure of Adult Responsibility  
Helmets save lives. This is not a debate — it is a well-established fact, supported by decades of medical research and acknowledged in legislation across every Australian jurisdiction. Riding an electric scooter or any other personal electric vehicle (PEV) presents similar risks to riding a bicycle. Accordingly, helmet laws apply — and rightly so. Yet while one group of adults, our medical professionals, continues to highlight the dangers of non-compliance, another group of adults — those responsible for enforcement — appears disengaged. I refer specifically to the Queensland Police. It is vital that this Inquiry seek data directly from the Queensland Police regarding helmet-related interventions and infringements. That data should reflect the level of seriousness with which police regard the act of riding without a helmet. If there is a mismatch between the number of infringements issued and the well-known dangers of unhelmeted riding, we must ask: are our enforcement agencies taking this risk seriously? Blaming children or the rapid uptake of new technology is a distraction. Children are not the problem — lack of adult enforcement is. If police continue to turn a blind eye to riders — particularly young ones — who ignore helmet laws, and hospital admissions increase as a result, then the failure is not with scooters or e-bikes. It is with those who chose not to act. Any claim that police are “too busy” to enforce helmet laws should be supported by data. We do not accept vague excuses when it comes to seatbelts or speeding. The same standard must apply here. Helmet laws exist. The data says they help. The question before this Inquiry is: Do the actions of our police support these laws? If not, why not — and what are we prepared to do about it?