

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

My concern is more a result of observation of larrikin and dangerous behaviour than an accident or incident although we have been engaged in a brief heated exchange with three e bike riders in the National park. This occurred late last year. We were entering the park on a service track where we regularly walk when three e bike riders (early teens) were about to enter the park regardless of the signs advising this was illegal. We pointed out the signs prompting an aggressive response, with one saying that his father was an influential member of the community the community who had given them permission to ride in the park. The exchange was unpleasant and ended there. But it was a sign of the aggressive attitude that has accompanied the adoption of e bikes and e scooters by young inexperienced people who seem to hold registered and legal road users in contempt. Since then I have seen many examples of dangerous behaviour by young e bike and e scooter riders in Hastings St, Park Road, Gympie Tce and other locations. A high rate of serious injury of these riders is now being treated at Noosa Hospital. There have been deaths in other cities. It's just a matter of time before there is a death here. Notwithstanding the congestion busting benefits that adoption of these forms of transport may hold in prospect, I urge you to introduce licensing for these e vehicles similar to that which now applies to low-powered ICE bikes and scooters; licenses for all riders with a minimum age of 16 years; compulsory third party insurance; and a comprehensive education curriculum for schools. Rowland Hill rules and other road users in contempt. Since then I have seen numerous examples of this disregard in and around Hastings St, Park Road and Gympie Tce. It's just a matter of time before there is a serious accident with the likely consequence of an innocent motorist being involved and having to defend their actions. Notwithstanding the benefits of these low cost forms of transport, I urge you to introduce regulations such as registration of these vehicles as is the case with low powered motor scooters and motor bikes; the licensing of riders as is now required for motor vehicles; and the introduction of appropriate safety instruction at schools.