Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 713

Submitted by: Katharine Kelly

Publication: Making the submission and your name public

Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I live in suburban Kuraby on the southside of Brisbane. I regularly drive on the local roads including Beenleigh Road, Underwood Road and Kingston Road. I have witnessed a significant increase in the use of e scooters on these roads in the last six months. I'm very concerned around the safe use of these e scooters, especially their impact on members of the public, as they often seem to be ridden by young people who are travelling at significant speeds and recklessly. In the last six months I have witnessed dangerous situations involving e scooters including:(1) a young man in his 20s travelling at speed down Kingston Road, attempting to "jump" the e scooter over the road island dividing the lanes of traffic, losing control of the e scooter and then falling onto the road into the path of oncoming traffic (fortunately he wasn't hit by an oncoming car and was able to pick up the e scooter to get it off the road)(2) e scooters travelling at speed on pathways past pedestrians who are waiting to cross at traffic lights. It would not take much for someone to step backwards and be struck and badly hurt.(3) young people on e scooters treating the hill on Beenleigh Road like a racing track. Young people on bicycles will go down this hill very fast, but e scooters seem to offer additional speed as well as wobbly instability. Kuraby is an area where there are several schools, daycare centres and many younger families. There are also local aged care homes (such as Bethany Christian Care on Underwood Road) - older people will often go for walk and use wheelie walkers for assistance. We can do without dangerous e scooters in our community. I would urge the government to legislate so that these motorized e-scooters come under the same sorts of controls and licensing requirements as motor bikes.