

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 734
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Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I am a car driver, motor scooter 150cc rider, bicycle rider and electric bike rider and I also own 2 electric scooters. I think that electric scooters and bikes are important evolution to two wheeled transport. It provides users who would have never ridden a bike usually get the opportunity to get some exercise, and everyone who is on an e-scooter is relieving congestion on the roads. I find it difficult to understand why we have helmet laws here when, from what I can see, only about 10% of two wheeled users actually wear them. If it is not going to be policed, then why even have it. I have major concerns about electric bikes that do not need peddling being used by individuals who are either too young to hold a motorbike licence, or have never actually ridden a traditional bike in their youth now allowed to ride at speeds of excess of 60km per hour on our roads and footpaths. The shops and online stores who sell them merely offload their responsibility by telling purchasers to understand the laws in the State you live. Children are often riding the motorbike-like-bicycles going excessive speeds on roads and footpaths in groups, without any understanding of consequences of injury or if a poor road user hits them the long term psychological impacts, and without any real consequences. Policing of road rules for two wheeled 'non-registered' bikes and scooters is non-existent. I do not want more laws around these electric vehicles; I want the laws that currently exist to be actually enforced. We already have laws about speeds, ownership of bikes do not need to be peddled, when one can be on a footpath or road. Why not actually, actively and consistently enforce them. The police have the powers to stop, confiscate and fine... let's see that happening more, once we have effective control over the laws we already have... then let's see if we need new ones. Personally, I would like to see adults off footpaths where there are cycle-paths available, helmets not be compulsory, electric bikes and electric scooters have speed limits and all electric bicycles that do not need peddling destroyed or require motorbike licences. Let's get some education out to parents who seem to think purchasing these mad electric motorbikes for their teenage kids is a good idea. I do not know any 14 year old who has the \$3k in their pocket to purchase one of these things without an adult giving them that money first. We do not need more laws, we need the current ones enforced.