

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I am a 70 year old bicycle rider who uses conventional bike and pedal assist e bikes. I have observed a proliferation of throttle ebikes and e scooters in our area as well as a number of mountain bikes that have been converted to throttle ebikes as well as electric motorbikes. Things I have observed with these include the following*The vast majority are exceeding the speed limit of 25k/h . Some are keeping up with the traffic, 60km/h. * The vast majority of riders are under 16. Many in school uniforms. * No helmets. * Talking on mobile phones. * Two children on the one bike*Riding in the stream of traffic* Negotiating roundabouts with no indication of intent.*Wheelies up the street.If the above isn't a recipe for tragedy I don't know what is.I have been in a local bike shop where the salesman was showing a throttle assist bike to customers and freely admitted that when the bikes leave the shop many customers override the speed limiter.My thoughts on control choices*If any person is caught riding an illegal ebike it is confiscated. No second chances"All throttle assist ebikes should be registered and therefore you need a licence to ride them.*A serious education program, media, schools to educate young people.A final thought that I think would be useful and may to away some of the desire to derestrict the bikes.*Increase the legal speed for pedal assist ebikes to 32km/h. Even my old legs can pedal my conventional bike at this speed. I feel that this is a more realistic speed that allows me to better navigate urban traffic.