Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 787

Submitted by:

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Submitter Comments:

Submission: Dangers of E-Scooters on Public Walkways and RoadsE-scooters present a growing and unacceptable danger to public safety. Frequently travelling at high speeds with riders wearing no helmets, they are often operated with complete disregard for pedestrians, road users, and the law. Riders are unlicensed and engage in reckless behaviour, including riding on footpaths, overtaking dangerously, and carrying multiple passengers — even small children. The hire scooter schemes in our communities have become a blight. Scooters are regularly discarded across footpaths, gardens, and even in waterways. While councils continue to collect licensing fees, the public bears the cost in safety, amenity, and healthcare. Hospital emergency departments are increasingly clogged with scooter-related injuries. There is now an increasing toll of deaths.A personal example illustrates the danger: I was indicating to turn into a parking space when an escooter rider — wearing a Spider-Man mask — sped past on the right, slipped, and collided with the front of my car as I turned into the parking bay. The rider, only slightly grazed, responded with aggression and abuse, highlighting the lawlessness of many users. Cities like Singapore and Paris have banned e-scooters due to similar safety concerns. The message is clear. Despite existing laws, Queensland Police fail to act, allowing this dangerous trend to continue unchecked. For the safety of all, particularly pedestrians and responsible road users, I see no viable path forward other than a complete ban on e-scooters.