

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

I live in Mooloolah Valley and there seems to be more and more young teenagers with e-scooters that ride all over the footpaths and roads (many without helmets) as a form of recreation and amusement to themselves. They have very little respect for pedestrians on the footpaths, or vehicles on the roads. I have had on at least 3 occasions close incidents with these e-scooter riders where they weave all over the road and cut across the front of my car causing me to have to brake and swerve to miss them. They then laugh and race off at speed. There were two older boys in the dark with dark clothing on the other night (again with no helmets on), going down the middle of King Rd. Outside the school, (no lights or reflective clothing on), swerving from side to side, and I didn't see them until they were really close. I wound my window down and said loudly did they have a death wish or something, and they just [REDACTED] and laughed. I also had on another occasion a young boy around 12 years old I would estimate, (no helmet yet again) on an e-bike riding head on directly towards me with his head up in the air, purposely not looking at me, goading me to hit the brakes or swerve or something. I was only doing about 35km and could have jammed on the brakes if necessary, and he swerved at the last moment, still with his eyes averted and his nose up in the air. I have no idea where the parents are in all of this. It seems to be becoming a new form of entertainment for these kids. They are dangerous to others as well as themselves. Their behaviour is just so irresponsible. I truly think they think they are indestructible.

It is of my opinion that anyone under the age of 17 should not be allowed to ride these e-scooters and bikes out in public on the roads or on the footpaths. After all they are pretty much like a motorised vehicle and the kids have seemingly no awareness of how dangerous they can be when ridden so irresponsibly. I wish they had never been invented to tell you the truth. Maybe councils could look at creating some parks and tracks especially designed to accommodate these young people on their e-scooters, so that they can get their thrills that way, but BAN THEM OFF THE ROADS AND FOOTPATHS PLEASE!!!