

## Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

**Submission No:** 858  
**Submitted by:** Melissa Venville  
**Publication:** Making the submission and your name public  
**Attachments:** No attachment

### Submitter Comments:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the current regulation and safety management of e-scooters in Queensland, particularly in relation to pedestrian and road user safety. Personal Experience – A Frightening Near Miss Recently, I was involved in a distressing incident that highlights the urgent need for better oversight. After picking up my daughter from high school, I was driving through a busy intersection when a student on an e-scooter suddenly rode into my vehicle at high speed. The student collided with the side of my car and was thrown across to the other side. In that split second, I feared the worst. I was shaken, my daughter was in shock, and had the circumstances been only slightly different — a different angle, a faster car, a slower reaction — it could have resulted in a serious injury or even a fatality. Fortunately, the student escaped with bruising and grazing, but the trauma of that moment will stay with me for a long time.

**Key Issues Observed**

- High Speed in Inappropriate Areas:** E-scooters are often ridden at unsafe speeds in areas shared with cars, pedestrians, and cyclists.
- Lack of Helmets and Protective Gear:** Many young riders, particularly students, are not wearing helmets or any form of protection.
- Limited Awareness or Training:** Users seem unaware of the road rules or safe riding practices, treating footpaths and intersections as raceways.
- Inadequate Enforcement:** There appears to be minimal enforcement of existing laws or penalties for unsafe e-scooter use.

**Recommendations**

- Mandatory Safety Education:** Introduce school-based education programs on safe e-scooter use.
- Helmet Enforcement and Visibility Measures:** Enforce helmet use and require high-visibility clothing or markings, particularly for minors.
- Speed Limit Reduction in School Zones and High Pedestrian Areas:** Reduce permissible e-scooter speeds near schools, shops, and shared footpaths.
- Stronger Regulation for Private E-Scooters:** Many incidents involve privately owned scooters that exceed speed limits or are modified beyond safe parameters.
- Public Awareness Campaign:** Promote shared responsibility and awareness for both e-scooter users and other road users.

I'm not anti-e-scooter. I support sustainable, active transport options. But what I witnessed was a terrifying example of the dangers that exist when we allow powerful, fast-moving vehicles to be operated by inexperienced or unaware users in public spaces with minimal safeguards. Thank you for considering my submission. I urge the government to act quickly to improve regulation and safety measures before someone else isn't as lucky.

Sincerely, Melissa Venville