

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

**Submission No:** 861  
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### Submitter Comments:

As a person who has had his back broken and hospitalised after being run into by an E Scooter, that was out of control, driven by a 13-14 year old teenager. The scooter was speeding and so not driven safely and could not negotiate a corner of a walking path. The incident was attended by local police and the forensic unit from which I was advised nothing could be done legally re cost or injury compensation. QLD law was inadequate to address culpability or compensation cost. I have since been very aware of E Bike and E scooter use and have noted that dangerous use is in the main confined to unsupervised children and teenagers. Both of these groups tend to take chances and have little concept of danger. Because of "take a chance" the implications of risks and serious injuries that their actions may inflict either on themselves or others is obviously not front of mind. The consequence of these traits is serious injury and this of course also applies to mature riders who will at times take a chance. Any law upgrade needs to not only relate to use of E scooters or bikes in regard to restrictions on speed but very importantly related to location of use. Witnessing teenagers ripping through shopping centers, flying past elderly shoppers, is a recipe for disaster and death. One wrong step and injury cannot be avoided. Mandated Safe use of "E" must be enforceable and can be achieved by restricting use in location types. eg Shopping centers, Street dining precincts etc, Linking use to supervision by adult is unenforceable and ignored even by schools who allow children and young teenagers to use this "E" transport to go to school. "E" Speed in and around confined and restricted areas, frequented by people is a recipe for disaster. This can apply to some busy walking paths such as those along frontal dunes where the complex nature of the path raises risk of injury with immature use. "CLEAR" Signposting and banning use is essential, where the public is placed at clearly unacceptable risk by those who use their "E" transport in an immature fashion. Children and teenagers like some adults, thrive on the adrenalin rush of speed and this unfortunately must be controlled to minimise risk. Area restrictions are essential as are some actions that can be enforced need to be curtailed. Enforcement to minimise injury while still allowing safe or minimal risk riding is very essential. Seeing a child or teenaged riding at speed up on their back wheel riding on a busy road or through a shopping centre is a recipe for disaster. Yes I have seen this dangerous activity regularly. It is one action that can be made illegal in public areas and roadways. Back wheel riding shows little regard for safety to other users of the precinct as avoidance of the unexpected is severely compromised. It places others at serious risk of injury just by being present. New laws must be enforceable and also must be linked to practicality that the user can identify eg Back wheel riding, no shopping centre riding etc.