

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 945
Submitted by: [REDACTED]
Publication: Making the submission public but withholding your name
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

Ebikes concern me as there seems to be no enforcement around speed, use of safety equipment, overloading with multiple passengers, or following any type of pedestrian or road rules, let alone etiquette. Some examples I can give you from my personal experiences: There is a point on Durran Street where a bike path leading to the school ends & if you drive around that bend to Inala Avenue (where I live & drive regularly around school times with 2 school aged children of my own), you have to be ready for anything: •kids in uniforms flying out onto the road in a pack causing traffic to stop •kids in uniforms doing wheelies down the hill on the road •kids in uniforms riding on the wrong side of the road •kids in uniforms riding in the middle of the road Another scary example happened when I was driving north on Golden Four drive, going up the hill after the Tugun Fruit Market. I noted a young girl riding on the footpath with airpods in her ears going almost the same speed as me. I slowed down for no specific reason & suddenly she sped out of driveway straight into the middle of the road without turning her head to check for traffic. If I hadn't slowed down, we would have collided & I would have the injury or worse of a young girl on my conscience that she caused. Finally have you tried to go for stroll recently on one of our beautiful esplanades anywhere on the Coast recently? I have a young oblivious son & my heart is constantly in my mouth because he doesn't remember to look around when he changes direction, meanders, or stops & I'm scared of the speeds these ebikes fly past at with inexperienced riders. It doesn't make for a pleasant experience, it makes me not want to walk the beachfronts – something I've been doing at Currumbin, Tugun & Coolangatta for over 20 years. These esplanades weren't built to be expressways for motorised bikes, scooters etc, but that's what they feel like & I get the appeal – it's a fast way to beat the traffic & parking issues on the Coast. My main complaints are that many ebike riders have no comprehension of basic road rules and/or no consideration for pedestrians. They are a danger to themselves and others going at high speeds and thinking they always have priority both on the road and the footpath.