

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

Submission No: 1050
Submitted by: Whitney Hourigan-Richmond
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Submitter Comments:

To whom it may concern, I'm writing to express my strong opposition to the proposal to ban or allow the impoundment of e-bikes and e-scooters based on road rule breaches. I am a responsible e-scooter rider who relies on my vehicle as a primary mode of transport. My scooter is privately owned and capable of travelling at extremely high speeds, but I always ride with complete respect for road signage and local speed limits. I use my scooter for practical transport—not thrill-seeking—and safety is my top priority. I've taken great care to ensure my scooter is road-ready and visible, including: Front and rear indicators, Brake lights and bright headlights, Reflective materials for visibility in all conditions. When I ride, I wear a full-face helmet, motorcycle jacket, gloves, protective pants, and boots—because I understand the risks and take responsibility for my safety and that of others. Despite my care and compliance, I was once knocked off my scooter by police, resulting in a serious injury to my dominant hand. I spent over six weeks in a cast and have not fully regained the use of that hand. This was a devastating injury, especially considering I was riding responsibly at the time. It hasn't deterred me from riding safely—it's only made me more determined to advocate for better understanding and support for safe riders. What concerns me is that these proposed measures will punish those doing the right thing, while doing little to deter truly dangerous behaviour. Instead of blanket penalties, we should focus on: Clear, consistent laws for e-rideables, Education campaigns around safe and lawful use, Targeted enforcement for those riding dangerously, Encouraging community awareness and respect. I am more than willing to volunteer my own time and energy to educate other riders. Whether it's through workshops, community forums, or online safety content, I am committed to helping build a culture of safe and respectful riding in Victoria. Please don't penalise the entire community of e-bike and e-scooter users for the poor decisions of a few. Many of us rely on these vehicles to live independently, travel affordably, and reduce our carbon footprint—while riding as safely and lawfully as possible. Sincerely, Whitney Hourigan-Richmond