

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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Submitter Comments:

After experiencing interaction with e-mobility transport as a pedestrian & driver, I wish to submit my concerns at the total lack of vicinity awareness exhibited by the majority of users & the danger this contributes to the general public. Most users seem to have the expectation that they have right of way & traverse without regard to safety of others or themselves. The speeds at which they can travel at leaves little time for evasive action from pedestrians , motorists or the rider. Most seem to exhibit a complete lack of road rule knowledge, footpath etiquette or are deliberately ignoring them endangering other users who just want to get to their destination safely. The majority flout the specific current laws for e-mobility in regards to appropriate age use, multiple passengers & safety gear. Combine this with disregard for road rules is a dangerous combination that has, and will continue, result in injuries & possibly death. The emotional toll of victims (yes they are victims of e-mobility users whom intentionally ignore road rules to the detriment of others) whom accidentally collide with these riders needs to be considered. Not only are they traumatising by hitting a person, but also may be charged with a driving offense that was physically impossible for them to prevent. More needs to be done to protect pedestrians & motorists from the increase in use of e-mobility & irresponsible users. As for mobility scooters, e-mobility need to be speed limited. Speed kills - a constant reminder we give to all drivers. Yet e-mobility allows unrestricted speeds with no way of the rider actually knowing how fast they are going. They need to be registered. Any other motorised vehicle on the road have to be registered. So should they. There needs to be more accountability for e-mobility users. Currently there is little accountability. Culprits cannot be easily identified. the general public have to endure it & hope they don't become an e-mobility statistic. They need instant confiscation laws like the hooning laws for individuals found using them unlawfully/dangerously. Forget warnings - the rider will be doing the same thing straight after the police leave. Qld Government have to step up & seriously look at ways to prevent more negative e-mobility interactions. I don't believe banning them is the solution. The minority that use them safely & legally should not be punished for the majority that give them a bad name. Consider introducing regulations that make them accountable for their actions & safer for all involved. Thanks for reading.