


Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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The Honourable Brent Mickelberg
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
E-mobility safety Inquiry

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Dear Sir,

Homemade Motorised Bikes

I would like to suggest that the law not only include e-scooters but also motorised bikes.

Currently in Gympie we are enduring a small group of teenagers doing regular, continual laps around town mainly around Cartwright Road, Pine Street, Pringle Court, Cooinda Street, Old Maryborough Road and Parson Road.

They are riding old BMX bikes that have been modified with whipper snipper motors. I have seen one go pass me while I was on my afternoon walk that had the petrol in a coke bottle attached to the bike with zip lock ties. One teenager is riding a small child's motorbike that has no registration.

There is actually one going up Cooinda Street right now as I am typing this letter.

They are driving all over the road, often on the wrong side of the road. Once one of the bikes stopped in the middle of the road and the teenager was standing there pulling on the cord several times to restart the bike. There are often two individuals on one bike. They usually wear dark clothing, the bikes have no lights, and they drive around at all hours of the day and night. These are school aged children.

Being whipper snipper motors these bikes make a ridiculous amount of noise. I have been woken up in the early hours of the morning many a time now. They at times go back and forth past the Gympie West State School during school hours making lots of noise. I have reported it to police link and a lovely police officer did contact me and he said they have had numerous reports, and they have spoken to a group of children but unfortunately there was not much they could do about it as it does fall under e-scooter laws.

I am concerned that any changes in the law that parliament is considering will still provide a loophole for these kids to continue doing what they are.

Gympie West State School is on the corner of Cartwright Road and Cooina Street so the area can get very busy on weekday mornings and afternoons. There is also a nursing home in Cooina Street. On afternoon one of the boys drove up into the aged care home driveway, I contacted the police immediately. I have lived in [REDACTED] for 26 years and these kids are making a real menace of themselves and affecting people's quality of life in the area, and I am amazed that no one has been hurt yet.

Please advocate to have these homemade motorised bicycles outlawed. They are dangerous and are being used by very young, inexperienced drivers on our roads.

I have dash cam footage of a teenager being doubled on a small, unregistered child's motorbike in the middle of Cartwright Road and then jumping off, at 3:30pm on a school day. I have also downloaded some recordings from a home security camera of the noise they make, unfortunately you cannot see them most of the time, but you can hear the noise the bikes make. I am happy to provide all of these recordings if they are required.

Yours sincerely

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