

Inquiry into e-mobility safety and use in Queensland

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To: [State Development, Infrastructure and Works Committee](#)
Subject: E-Mobility Safety Meeting held on Wednesday, 23 July
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Dear Members of the Committee,

I am writing to share my thoughts following the Public Hearing on E-Mobility Safety held on Wednesday, 23 July, at the Robina Community Centre. Given that there was no Q&A session during the hearing, I felt it essential to submit my feedback and insights to the committee. After engaging briefly with the Secretary and Chairperson after the proceedings, I gained additional context that highlighted some critical safety concerns surrounding E-Mobility initiatives. I believe it is crucial for the committee to consider the various perspectives of community members as we move forward in ensuring safe and effective E-Mobility solutions.

I would also like to bring to your attention an important issue regarding the classification and regulation of Motor Vehicles in Queensland. As per the definition, "a motor vehicle is broadly defined as a vehicle with wheels designed to be propelled by a motor." This encompasses all vehicles powered by motors, whether they utilise fossil fuels or electricity, classifying them uniformly as "motor vehicles."

It has come to my attention that the current regulations concerning motor vehicles create an imbalance between different types of powered vehicles. I strongly believe that any motor-powered vehicle that operates on public areas should be subject to the same requirements for registration, insurance, and operation by licensed individuals, irrespective of its power source. If motor vehicles powered by fossil fuels are mandated to adhere to these restrictions, then electric vehicles should be equally held to the Motor Vehicle Act, ensuring a fair and consistent framework.

If I proposed that any petrol-powered vehicles regulated to travel between 12 to 25 kph should not require registration or insurance, aligning their treatment with that of electric vehicles, and if these vehicles were allowed on footpaths, park-lands, and shopping centres, permitting them to transport passengers without restriction there would be an outcry. For this reason I urge electric vehicles face the same strict regulations as petrol-powered vehicles, including penalties for non-compliance.

This matter aligns with the principles of the "Broken Windows Theory." It highlights how neglect and inconsistency in regulations can lead to larger societal issues over time, similar to the growing concern surrounding vaping. By addressing these discrepancies now, we can prevent further issues down the line.

I also would like to express my concern regarding a recent observation that raises serious issues about child safety and appropriate parental supervision.

I have taken a photo that shows four family members riding an e-bike together, which I believe illustrates a troubling form of neglect. While I understand that cycling can be a fun family activity, this situation is particularly dangerous. Should an accident occur, the consequences could be devastating, potentially resulting in severe injuries or even fatalities for all family members involved, especially the children.

I am attaching the photo for your review and consideration. I believe it is critical for guardians to be aware of the risks associated with such activities, particularly when children are involved in situations that could lead to harm. I hope that this message will

prompt a discussion about ensuring the safety of all children in our community.

Thank you for considering this perspective. I look forward to your thoughts on this matter.

Kind regards,

Michael Beattie





