

## TEN QUESTIONS FOR MINISTER HAYLEN RE e-RIDEABLES

1. How can a two-year Share-Hire e-Scooter trial be the basis for allowing every imaginable private e-Rideable onto our roads and footpaths?
2. Queensland recently dropped the speed for e-Scooters on paths to 12km/h because of the explosion of trauma crashes. Victoria is 10 km/h. This was omitted from the "Road Safety Advisory Council Briefing Paper". After a two year trial at 10 km/h, the reason given for wanting to increase the speed limit to 20 km/h was (quote): "some riders felt a bit wobbly at 10 km/h". An increase from 10 km/h to 20 km/h increases the risk of serious injury five times between vehicles and pedestrians. What is the scientific evidence provided for recommending a speed limit of 20km/h on Shared Paths? (The word "pedestrian" was not mentioned anywhere in this seven-page briefing paper).
3. What speed limit did the safety experts from the NSW Centre for Road Safety recommend for e-Scooters on Shared Paths?
4. There were more than 1,200 e-Scooter presentations to hospitals last year in Queensland alone; this is now more than bicycle riders. Does it follow that in NSW there will be at least 1,800 additional hospitalisations, which is how many bicycle riders that were hospitalised last year. How will this help achieve the government's 25% reduction target for serious injuries?
5. The Royal Melbourne Hospital alone, reported that the costs for e-Scooter injuries exceeded \$2 million in 2023. Has the NSW Minister for Health raised any concerns about the potential blow-out in costs – and in particular the proven threat to the enormous health benefits derived from the Active Transport modes of walking and cycling?
6. More than half the trauma related crashes from the abandoned Victorian e-Scooter trial were from drink riding (not including illicit drugs). Will NSW Police be permitted to conduct random breath tests on riders. Or will they have to arrest them and take them for blood tests as they currently have to do for bicycle riders who drink and ride bicycles and e-Rideables; many of whom do so to avoid RBT?
7. There are some suggestions that the CTP scheme will break under the financial pressure if trauma from e-Scooters is added to the scheme. Will e-Scooters be defined as motor vehicles and therefore be part of the scheme? Will they be covered by the Nominal Defendant safety net in the scheme? Will this mean CTP costs will have to go up in order for the scheme to remain financially sustainable?
8. Police have done minimal enforcement to control the illegal use of private e-Scooters and e-Rideables (especially FatBoy e-Bikes and Food Delivery Riders), and we've tragically seen at least four fatalities on e-Scooters that can travel at high speeds on our roads. How many fatalities does Minister Haylen estimate NSW will experience? NSW has a population 1.5 times greater than Queensland which has already experienced seven e-Scooter fatalities so far this year after only two for the whole of 2023. How is this consistent with the State Government's commitment to reduce fatalities?
9. NSW Police have dramatically reduced RBT operations due to staff shortages. As they only issued two penalty notices for e-Scooter offences during the entire two-year trail, have they informed you that they do not have the resources to enforce e-Scooter and e-Rideable offences. What has been their formal response to your proposal to legalise hundreds of thousands of e-Rideables onto NSW roads and footpaths?
10. You can judge a society by the way it treats people with disabilities: Vision Australia's survey has found that over 90% of their members feel less safe when going for a walk due to e-Rideables. Australia has signed and ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and as such is bound to promote, respect and uphold the rights that it asserts. Domestically, the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) makes it unlawful to discriminate against (treat less favourably) persons on the basis of disability in key areas of life, including access to premises. Has Minister Haylen received legal advice on this vitally important issue?

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