

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF E-SCOOTERS, E-BIKES AND
RELATED MOBILITY OPTIONS**

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 7 July 2024

Partially
Confidential

Over the past 2 years there has been an explosion in high powered e-bikes such as 'Fat Boy' and similar. This is on top of the increase in scooters.

Living in a beachside suburb, Cronulla, the e bikes have become a significant safety risk. These bike, usually (but not always) ridden by teenagers or younger are being ridden with little or no regard for pedestrians. There have been a number of near misses and actual collisions involving elderly pedestrians and very young children. More often than not, existing basic bicycle rules are not being adhered to including lack of helmets, more than one pillion passengers, adults riding on footpaths, ignoring most road rules including at traffic and pedestrian lights and not dismounting in the Cronulla Mall as required despite this being extensively signposted.

Council rangers and police seem completely unwilling to pull up offenders which just emboldens reckless riders and normalises poor behavior.

Some of these e bikes now have comparable power and acceleration to small motor scooters which require registration and licenses to operate and must be ridden in accordance with road rules. The time has come for the same rules to apply to e bikes.

If nothing is done to significantly reign in poor e bike and scooter riding practices it is just a question of when not if an elderly person or child is killed.