

**Submission
No 53**

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

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I wish to make the following submission to the inquiry into e-scooters and e-bikes.

To say the least **THEY ARE DANGEROUS AND A MENACE TO PEDESTRIANS.**

Riders of e-scooters and e-bikes and related mobility options do not care about pedestrians and have no regard for road rules. They regularly ride on footpaths and expect pedestrians to move out of their way; they make very little noise and consequently pedestrians can not always hear them coming; they regularly ride through red pedestrian lights and just as dangerously they regularly ride through red vehicle lights; they wear masks so that they can not be recognised if and when they cause a nuisance and/or ride in a dangerous manner; and so often they are not wearing helmets and/or using lights at night.

Riders expect, and are able, to ride with impunity on footpaths and break road rules because they know that very little, if any policing, occurs and the chances of being stopped by police is so small that they don't worry. In short they are thumbing their noses at society in general and doing just what they want, when they want, where they want and how they want.

Action **MUST BE TAKEN** before someone (most likely an elderly person) is severely injured and /or killed.

Police (and Council Rangers if necessary) must be given the power to stop and take action against these dangerous members of society. Police in particular must be directed to actively and regularly ensure that this anti-social and illegal behaviour is not tolerated and that effective deterrents (fines, jail) are imposed. Licensing of e-scooters and e-bikes and the like must be implemented as a matter of urgency. This will enable members of the public to identify and report illegal and dangerous behaviour to police. The impact these individuals has on society is of far greater concern than that of a driver driving 5km/hr over the speed limit, yet policing of this action (while necessary) is of a higher priority than cracking down on the dangerous and loutish behaviour of the e-bike/scooter fraternity.

A crack down must be implemented as soon as possible.