

**Submission
No 81**

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

Organisation: Pyrmont Action Incorporated

Date Received: 17 July 2024

Pyrmont Action (PA) is a community group attempting to assist our local area maintain good amenity and safety for all residents, workers and visitors.

Pyrmont was one of the first trial areas for hire bikes and we continue to receive significant complaints regarding hire bikes.

Most complaints fall into 2 categories_

The hire bike companies are allowing large numbers of bikes to be left in our area. The sheer volumes means they are clutter as well as being left by the companies or riders in dangerous locations, creating trip hazards, obstructions to the disabled, as well being just ugly on our clean roads, gardens and footpaths.

These hire companies are not being proactive in identifying fallen bikes or bikes in dangerous locations (close to street corners reducing driver views) (close to the harbour meaning a risk of being pushed into the harbour, dumped in gardens - as well as just random bikes of too many in one spot creating excess bikes e.g. 10 or so bikes in a station.

The bike companies should be using their software and proactive collecting bikes -- which at present they are not!

These bike companies have poor complaints management -E.G. Lime seeks to know what City and Country in which their bikes are located which the general public finds an affront when attempting to get bikes in their area removed.

These bike companies have no licence obligations, no penalties enforceable by Council meaning they are dismissive and are abusing their privilege - meaning our streets and footpaths are cluttered with excess bikes.

Secondly there are no rules or penalties for riders who dump bikes, leave them in dangerous positions creating risks to the community.

FYI - we are noticing a number of people who regularly complain as they maybe outside their homes or blocking pathways - particularly those who are disabled

I commend The City of Sydney in attempting to push for timely legislation.

From the Pyrmont community these hire bikes appear to indicate that the community, City and NSW Govt don't care - meaning we are all losing goodwill.

There must be prompt changes around, caps, penalties, no go areas, with fines and forced removal by companies and riders who are multiple offenders.

PA seeks your support and introduction of regulations ASAP

