

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 11 August 2024

Partially
Confidential

Hello,

Finally someone appears to be taking this problem seriously.

This scourge of random E-bike dumping by riders has been perplexing and aggravating for a number of years now. This whole E-bike system of operation seems to have stemmed from a lack of moderation, rules, governance and control from the outset so now the Genie is well and truly out of the bottle. It has really been a complete carte blanche.

What is now the accepted norm is that these E-bikes can just be dumped after use on footpaths, nature strips, outside shops, bus stops and half the time not even be left standing properly but rather be just tipped over like junk rubbish -- just left wherever, often blocking pedestrian walkways. Just try lifting a tipped over bike to shift it out of the way - they are very heavy to move.

I can guarantee that on any daily walk or run around my local area which takes in Dover Heights, Rose Bay, Watsons Bay and Vaucluse and sometimes North Bondi I will encounter at least a dozen to twenty abandoned E-bikes around the area. Be it in back streets, parkland or on main roads. The users do not discriminate. Anywhere will do. Nearly always left somewhere where they will be an obstruction. There is little disposal care ever exercised once the bike user has finished with their ride.

It's the same around all the other suburbs in the Woollahra and Waverley Council areas.

Usually the offending bike colour is Lime but they also come in Purple and Light Blue varieties.

It's not just limited to this local area. The CBD and CBD fringe areas have the same problem as my work office is in Pyrmont so I see it around there also. It has been happening for many years. The outrage is not just recent.

I have previously corresponded with the Waverley Mayor, other councillors plus the State MP for Vaucluse Kelly Sloane about this - having sent them photos as examples of some the parlous bike abandonments. I recall one classic instance of 6 Lime E-bikes all scattered, tipped over in a group on the footpath on Campbell Parade directly opposite the North Bondi Surf Club a few months back. Just ridiculous. And I went past that same spot about four hours later and the bikes were still there - unmoved. Nobody does anything. You couldn't just leave your unwanted domestic goods out on the footpath like that for a day without action.

So that's my submission.

Hopefully this inquiry goes somewhere and has an impact that will punish users and the bike provider companies in future for their operational sins. To put in place an authoritative system of control and regulations to abide by or else. They have been getting away with it for far too long.

Thank you,