

Submission  
No 125

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

**Name:** Name suppressed

**Date Received:** 14 August 2024

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Partially  
Confidential

My interest in this Inquiry, which was advised to me by Mark Speakman, is purely about e-bikes and the dangers endemic with them to both the public and their riders. I have written in the past to many levels of NSW Local, State and Federal Government that I believed may be stakeholders on the e-bike issue including Sutherland Shire Council, NSW Transport minister, NSW Police Minister, Cook State and Federal members and except for the latter two, all other responses have been put in the too hard basket with a "thank you for your interest" response. I would happily make this correspondence available if asked.

It's unfortunate the horse has already bolted but it is not too late to take decisive but hard action that ensures e-bikes are sold and purchased meeting the existing laws of the State. The fact is these UNINSURED bikes are no different to a motor bike (which I personally ride recreationally on a regular basis) given the flagrant breaches of existing laws by both the seller and purchaser which we all see on a daily basis with no speed governors, no helmets, multiple riders on single e-bikes (without helmets), riding on footpaths and roads in a dangerous manner.....and the list goes on. The single biggest threat to injury and/or death is the unregulated speed of these machines (up to 60 kmph); again, which we all see on a daily basis. Think if you will whether e-bikes have the stopping capacity at speed the same as cars or motor bikes. I guarantee you they do not. A recipe for disaster.

This inquiry needs to review the positive actions taken in some jurisdictions (some European and USA States) to bring in laws that generate enforcement and confiscation rules. The latter ability of authorised Local Government and Police Officers to act and confiscate is key. Additionally, sellers of these machines need to be held accountable, prosecuted and their businesses shut down for sale of illegal machines. It is not that hard to make this happen, and I would go so far as to say that almost without exception (bar the sellers and purchasers) the people of NSW would applaud timely action on the E-BIKE issue with no political fall-out. It is also a sad fact that there are many e-bike riders that comply with existing laws, and I feel they too would applaud some firm action by all levels of Government.

SIMPLE

Thanks for listening