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

Name:Name suppressedDate Received:9 August 2024

Partially Confidential

Thank you for reviewing my submission. I believe that ebikes are dangerous for the rider, pedestrians and drivers. There has been no enforcement of existing laws, and many ebike riders flaunt common courtesy customs.

I think that:

- electric 2-wheel vehicles which are powered by a motor as a means of propulsion should never be referred to as an ebike. This type of vehicle should always be referred to as an electric motorcycle in all communications created by government organisations.

- ebikes which have been modified to remove the "pedal assisted" limitation should be considered electric motorcycles, and that motorcycle rules should automatically be applied (unregistered vehicle, unlicensed driver)

- ebike riders should be required to pass a basic test to obtain a permit. There should be an age limitation and "classes" of ebike for each age group.

- ebikes are either on the road or on a footpath, not whichever suits the rider the best.

- ebikes need to be banned from certain arterials roads, due to the effect that they create with conjection. Often there are alternative surface roads or corridors that are better suited.

- ebikes need to be banned from certain footpaths, like outside primary schools or shopping areas. ebike free zones need to be established and enforced by police.

I've personally witnessed a few close calls where:

- a mob of ebike riders leaving a high school, speed past a primary school where children were exiting. I child was nearly killed.

- A driver nearly hit an ebike rider that was on the road with no lights and dark clothing.

- An ebike that was weaving between the road and a footpath (to take advantage of a zebra crossing), nearly caused a collision between two cars, after a driver had to suddenly stop to avoid a collision with the ebike using the zebra crossing.

I hope this brief submission helps the committee.