

**Submission  
No 213**

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

**Organisation:** Central Coast Council

**Date Received:** 27 August 2024

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Dear Sir/Madam,

Council officers have reviewed the "Terms of Reference" for the inquiry and generally support the enquiry with the following comments for consideration:

Ref	Topic	Comment
1.	Implementation	Implementation of any options regarding e-transport should consider what has been implemented in other states and other countries. This may include a review of what has worked well, what has not, why it has / has not. The review would then look at how these experiences and learnings could be best applied within NSW without 'reinventing the wheel'.
2.	Funding	<p>When considering how e-transport options will be implemented in the future, consideration should be given to the funding of any additional infrastructure requirements (including footpaths, shared paths or additional designated e-paths) as well as future maintenance burdens/costs which would be required as part of any new legislation / requirements.</p> <p>Where possible, existing infrastructure should be used. If new infrastructure is required to support any new legislation, this would need to be funded through State / Federal funding.</p>
3.	Education and Information	Any new legislation around e-transport would need to be communicated to the general public and relevant groups / communities in a consistent manner, and would likely require significant educational campaigns to advise of new legislation, laws, regulations, changes to the use of public assets (roads, footpaths) etc. This will likely require significant funding, and to remain consistent should be undertaken by the State.
4.	Parking and storage demands	Consideration should be given to understanding of parking demands at points of interest and subsequently if parking is adequate and safe. Additionally, consideration for transporting on public transport. I.e, will provisions be made on trains and buses to accommodate e-transport.
5.	Enforcement of rules and regulations	<p>Local Police have advise Council that enforcement is very difficult and often not possible due to their levels of resourcing and prioritisation of jobs. Any new legislation and laws will need to be somewhat self policing.</p> <p>Similarly, the 25kph limit placed on these devices is currently very easy to navigate around, with many people offering services to remove the limit on an e-device (mainly e-scooters and e-bikes). Policing these impacts – including both the illegal removal (if it is illegal) and policing speeds of these vehicles would likely be very labour intensive and low priority. Any future policy decisions should consider the fact that many of these devices will travel above 25kph – unless it can be policed in some way.</p>
6.	Licencing	Will licenses be required, if so – who? Are there proposed to be age limits, will different devices have different requirements and age limits etc etc

7.	Definition of electrified active transport	Consideration should be given to a definition of electrified active transport and what this includes/excludes. I.e, hybrid motorbikes – in or out? How will this be Policed?
8.	Shared schemes	Consideration should be given to the visual amenity and local approvals for shared schemes.
9.	Community Expectations	Consideration should be given to the safety of pedestrians and concerns for mixed use. For example, Council receives several enquiries / complaints regarding the use of e-transport on its shared path network – which also accommodates pedestrians, parents with prams, kids on push bikes etc.
10.	Lighting	Consideration of additional lighting in areas (if not provided on device) and subsequent costs for installation and future maintenance, if required. What lighting should be included on these devices needs to be considered.

Should you require any further information or clarification, please contact

Regards



Project and Technical Officer  
 Engineering Services  
 Central Coast Council



PO Box 20 Wyong, NSW 2259

*"We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which we live, work and play. We pay our respects to Darkinjung country, and Elders past and present. We recognise the continued connection to these lands and waterways and extend this acknowledgement to the homelands and stories of those who also call this place home. We recognise our future leaders and the shared responsibility to care for and protect our place and people."*



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