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

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

AUSRALIA HAS BEEN SLOW TO MAKE REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS FOR BATTERY BIKES AND SCOOTERS. (the opinions of Alan Nicholas aged 75 years)

- 1. No Au standard for batteries and chargers. (Hence cheap non-compliant causing fires) Easily bought online.
- 2. All bikes /scooters should be sold with E-bike Identification: Placed by supplier a clear label on your e-bike indicating its conformity to regulations, displaying the manufacturer, the nominal voltage, and the maximum continuous rated power. If compulsory Police ,council rangers would at glance see if rider was on an illegal bike .
- 3. All ebike riders to carry ID. (UK have a free official photo UK ID proof of age card with photo 3 categories 18+,16-17, and Under 16.)
- 4. Age limit for ebikes at least 14 yrs.
- 5. All ebikes/Scooters on shared paths only allowed to use lowest mode (15km limit) Commonly there are 3 modes 15kmh, 20kmh and 25kmh.
- 6. Throttle bikes to be classified as Mopeds (hence at least 16 yrs old with licence, registration and insurance.) Same as UK legislation.
- 7. All shared bike paths to have a speed limit of 15km and slow areas marked at areas when considered appropriate, also designated dismount areas.
- 8. All shared bike paths to have a centre line.
- 9. Educate police, council rangers and the public on all rules, regulations and fines.
- 10. Educate pedestrians on behaviour on shared pathways ,keep left ,no standing on path and dogs on short lead.

E-bikes/scooters are the future and Australia must embrace it now with standards and regulations. Their use will see less use of cars for short trips, less traffic congestion, more parking spaces, good for the climate and good for our health and wellbeing.

E-scooters regulated properly are essential for our future. I am 75 yrs old with vascular problems and to walk any distance I need the aid of a walking stick. My family in Canberra have bought me an electric scooter. I am now able to accompany my granddaughters walking around the lake in Canberra. I feel am not ready for those big heavy mobility scooters. The escooter was easy on easy off and easy to put in the back of the car . I kept it in the lowest mode which would not exceed 15km. I would like to see e-scooters legal in NSW and limited speed on SHARED PATHWAYS to be 15km.

In NSW, riding your bike on a footpath is legal if you are: Under the age of 16. OR Have a medical exemption that stipulates you can ride on a footpath. I would like this regulation to add "riding your bike on a footpath is legal if you are over 65 years and not exceeding 15kmh".

NEW WORRY FOR AUSTRALIA e BIKES FOR TODDLERS

You can buy throttle controlled electric balance bikes on eBay. Advertised for 3 to 8 yrs I have recently seen a preschooler on one on a shared pathway.

People of all ages especially older Australians need to be educated on the need for our future to be with e-devices and usured that governments will implement and enforce safe regulations.

Just a reminder of the NEW South Australian laws relating to e-scooters and mobility scooters.

Under the proposal, e-scooters would be allowed to ride on streets with a posted limit of up to 50km/h, as well as in bicycle lanes and on footpaths.

The government has proposed a speed limit of 25km/h for e-scooters and personal mobility devices when travelling on roads, bike lanes, or separated paths.

When travelling on footpaths, shared paths, and within pedestrian areas, users of the electric devices will be restricted to 15km/h. . And the blanket 15km speed limit on shared pathways.