

Submission
No 223

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

Name: Name suppressed

Date Received: 9 August 2024

Partially
Confidential

Electric bikes are a wonderful mode of transport for young people allowing additional freedom in an era where most parents work. For this and environmental reasons I would hate to see electric bikes banned, I just think better regulation and education is required.

My primary concern about electric bikes and scooter is the intersection between electric vehicles (particularly the fatboy bikes carrying more than one passenger) and pedestrians.

I don't think it is practical (or even desirable) to try to ban electric bikes or scooters but more can be done to better regulate their use. Currently in NSW you must be 12 to drive a boat and must successfully complete a general boat licence knowledge test and carry a photographic licence when out on the water in charge of a boat. Perhaps a similar scheme could be developed for electric bikes to ensure those riding these bikes understand road rules and any specific rules regulating the use of e-bikes.

If riders had to carry and produce a photographic licence this will also assist NSW Police or council officers charged with enforcing regulations.

In addition, I think children from 12 to 15 should not be permitted to carry a passenger and where the bikes are being ridden on pedestrian footpaths (unless it is a specific cycleway) the speed should be reduced to 10km per hour. For riders 16 and over they should be restricted to 1 passenger (there should never be 3 children on a bike) and if carrying a passenger they should be riding on the road. This would provide greater protection for pedestrians.

Thank you.