



## Minister for Transport and Main Roads

Our ref: MC149301

29 April 2025

Mr Alton Twine  
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Dear Mr ~~Twine~~ *Alton*

Thank you for your letter of 12 March 2025 about illegal e-bikes. My Department is hard at work supporting disaster recovery in the wake of Ex-Tropical Cyclone Alfred, as well as our business-as-usual priorities. While it could have been much worse, I am pleased Queenslanders were well prepared.

I sincerely appreciate your passion and commitment to road safety in Queensland. I value the great working relationship between my Department and Bicycle Queensland (BQ). I am aware that BQ is represented on Department of Transport and Main Roads' (TMR) e-Mobility Safety Reference Group and plays an active role in advising on how to improve e-mobility safety in Queensland.

As you would agree, legal e-bikes provide a legitimate mobility benefit and help to encourage more people to ride bikes by making riding up hills or in the heat more comfortable. I am not aware of any significant safety issues with legal e-bike use. Unfortunately, the current issues regarding illegal e-bikes undermine public perspectives on legal e-bikes, putting these benefits at risk.

I am very concerned about the increasing number of illegal devices, purporting to be e-bikes, available for sale and use in Queensland. As you rightfully point out, even though these devices are fitted with pedals, they are not bicycles. Instead, they are considered illegal motorcycles and are banned from use in any public place in Queensland, including on paths and roads.

There are significant community concerns about illegal e-bike use and it is totally unacceptable that pedestrians, including children, have been injured by these devices. My Department has been inundated by community members calling for action to make our pathways safer and this is something I intend to deliver on.

Under current regulations illegal e-bikes cannot be used in any public place in Queensland. Users caught riding an illegal e-bike can face significant penalties. This can include fines of more than \$1580 and three demerit points for offences such as riding an unregistered and uninsured vehicle, not wearing a motorcycle helmet, not holding a motorcycle licence, and riding a motor vehicle on a path. Some of these fines can also be issued directly to the person who permits the use. For example, a parent that allows a child to ride an illegal e-bike in public can be fined. Queensland Police Service officers also have the ability to impound and confiscate devices for repeat offences.

I support BQ's advocacy at a federal level as something must be done to prevent illegal devices flowing into the country so easily. The ultimate solution to this problem is to stop the importation of illegal devices as they have no place on our roads and paths. I intend to raise this matter with my Commonwealth colleagues at the first available opportunity.

My Department is currently developing a package of actions to address the use of illegal e-bikes, which includes:

- Clarifying community and industry confusion about what e-bikes are legal and which are already banned.
- Distributing educational materials to schools, retailers, police, and other community and stakeholder groups.
- Working with police to support active enforcement of the current rules and requirements.
- Promoting the current rules and any enforcement activities in the media to ensure messaging receives a broad audience.

If you require further information, please contact Mr Nick Mackay, Manager, Road Rules and Emerging Technology, TMR, by email at [nicholas.l.mackay@tmr.qld.gov.au](mailto:nicholas.l.mackay@tmr.qld.gov.au) or telephone on 3066 2840.

I trust that BQ will remain a strong partner in this work and thank you again for your interest and support on this issue.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brent Mickelberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

**BRENT MICKELBERG MP**  
**Minister for Transport and Main Roads**