



Local Government Association
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Please Ask For: David Gill
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Date: 7 July 2022

Dear Sirs

Re: Potential Dangers to Pedestrians from E-scooters.

I am instructed to write to you on behalf of the Licensing and Regulatory Committee of Oadby and Wigston Borough Council.

At its meeting on 16 June 2022, members expressed their concerns about the proliferation of the use of E-scooters and the rising number of accidents that are attributable to their use. This concerns extends not only to the use of E-scooters but also the use of E-bikes.

The government's own statistics show that based on provisional data in 2021:

- there were 1,280 collisions involving e-scooters, compared to 460 in 2020
- of all collisions involving e-scooters, 309 included only one e-scooter with no other vehicles involved in the collision (single vehicle collision), compared to 83 in 2020
- there were 1,359 casualties in collisions involving e-scooters, compared to 484 in 2020
- of all casualties in collisions involving e-scooters, 1,034 were e-scooter users, compared to 384 in 2020
- there were 9 killed in collisions involving e-scooters (all of whom were e-scooter riders) compared to 1 in 2020
- our best estimate, after adjusting for changes in reporting by police, is that there were 390 seriously injured and 960 slightly injured casualties in 2021, this compares to 129 and 354 respectively in 2020

Recent cases in the area include the death of a 71 year old woman in Nottingham in June and accidents involving E-bike's in Leicestershire involving a man in his 30's and a man in his 80's who both sustained serious injuries.

Members are aware of Government proposals announced in May to introduce legislation to legalise the use of E-scooters on public roads and urges you to lobby government to ensure that safety



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is at the forefront of any proposed legislation and that the legislation is extended to include E-bikes as well.

The legislation should also impose minimum standards to ensure that any fire risk when an electrically assisted vehicle is being recharged is mitigated given that there were at least 72 fires in London alone directly attributed to the charging of E-scooters and E-bikes.

Members would appreciate your support in this matter and look forward to receiving your comments.

Yours faithfully



David Gill
Monitoring Officer
(Head of Law and Democracy)



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From: Kamal Panchal <Kamal.Panchal@local.gov.uk>
Sent: 11 July 2022 14:37
To: David Gill <david.gill@oadby-wigston.gov.uk>
Cc: Info, LGA <info@local.gov.uk>; Simon Jeffrey <Simon.Jeffrey@local.gov.uk>
Subject: RE: 220706 - Letter to LGA re E-scooters

Dear David

As transport policy lead for the LGA I would like to thank you for sharing the views of Oadby and Wigston District Council members on the rise of e-scooters and e-bikes. Feedback and insights from member councils is valuable and an important source of information for the LGA.

The LGA shares the concerns you raise regarding the aim to ensure that e-scooters and e-bikes can provide affordable and environmentally friendly improvements to mobility without threatening the safety of users or other road users, pedestrians in particular. We have welcomed the focus on safety and local control through the e-scooter trials underway successfully in 31 areas. These are providing important information to feed into the evidence base for any legislation that would expand the use of e-scooters.

The LGA is aware of and concerned by the widespread illegal use of potentially dangerous private e-scooters. We want urgent action to be taken - to address this in communities but also in legislation. The lack of government policy, or resources for enforcement of current law, has enabled growth to nearly 1 million private e-scooters in use, leading to increasing concern from local authorities. We welcome proposals to set out new regulations and laws regarding e-scooters in the upcoming Transport Bill. The LGA has been talking to officials about the e-scooter elements of this Bill for some time.

To directly address your members' requests:

- * Safety will be at the centre of the LGA's lobbying if government, as expected, pushes towards the legalisation of private e-scooters. Reducing the risk to riders and other road users, especially pedestrians, will see LGA recommendations to our members likely to align with those set out by PACTS, including, amongst others, banning e-scooters from pavements, limiting speeds and requiring minimum ages
- * Product standards and regulations to ensure e-bikes and e-scooters to be as safe while charging as it is to recharge a laptop or mobile phone.

Please do get in touch if you have further views to share. There are other aspects of the Transport Bill that we wish to look at and we are waiting for the Bill to be laid - the timing of which is currently unknown.

Best wishes

Kamal

Kamal Panchal
Senior Adviser
Local Government Association