

E-SCOOTERS, E-BIKES AND OTHER ELECTRIC VEHICLES



A guide for parents, carers and professionals

Where can you use an e-scooter and non road legal e-bike



Only on private land with the landowner's permission



Not on roads, pavements, cycle lanes, car parks, or any public space.



Only e-bikes that conform to EAPC regulations can be used on a road.



Did you know?

Thousands of illegal two-wheeled vehicles have been seized through Operation Gears, helping to tackle crime and antisocial behaviour, including drug supply, theft and violence.

The law and consequences

- E-scooters and e-bikes that don't follow EAPC regulations, are classed as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988.
- They require a valid driving licence and insurance to be used legally on public roads.
- No licence or insurance? Your e-scooter/e-bike can be seized under Section 165a of the Road Traffic Act 1988.
- Allowing a child to use an e-scooter or illegal e-bike in public could result in penalty points or disqualification for parents and carers.



If you are prosecuted

- Riding with no licence? You'll receive 3 penalty points and a minimum of a £100 fine.
- Riding with no insurance? You'll receive 6 penalty points and a minimum of a £300 fine.
- If you ride an e-scooter/e-bike while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, you could face prosecution for driving offences, including drug-driving or drink-driving.
- If you don't hold a driver record, penalty points will be held on a 'Ghost Licence' by the DVLA. These points will carry over to your future licence.
- Your insurance costs may significantly increase for years and you may be sent to court.

TYPES OF E-BIKES AND E-SCOOTERS



E-SCOOTER

Personal Light Electric Vehicle (PLEV)



Includes powered unicycles and skateboards, go peds, segways and hoverboards – these cannot legally be used on roads, pavements or other public spaces.

There are two types:

- Privately owned
- Rented through an authorised scheme

Privately owned e-scooters cannot be used on public roads, pavements or cycle lanes.

An e-scooter is legal for use on the roads only if rented through a government trial scheme in a designated area. Riders must be 16+, hold a provisional GB licence and not carry passengers.



EAPC

Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycle (EAPC)



No insurance, tax, MOT or driving licence is required if you comply with the legal framework for the EAPCs. An EAPC can be ridden anywhere a standard bicycle can legally be used.

Some EAPCs have a 'Twist and Go' throttle, known as 'walk assist', which can propel the bike without pedalling at speeds of up to 3.7mph. This feature is legal if the EAPC meets the required regulations.

Only legal for use on the roads if:

- Propelled by pedals
 - Doesn't exceed max output of 250w
 - Cuts off electric assistance over 15.5mph
 - The rider is at least over 14 years old.
- The bike must also display the manufacturer's details and power output on the motor.



OFF ROAD ELECTRIC MOTORCYCLES



You may hear these motorcycles also referred to as 'scrambler bikes'

Not legal on roads unless:

- Registered with the DVLA and displaying a number plate
- Fitted with indicators, mirrors, lights, speedometer and other features required by law
- Tax, insured and MOT'd
- The rider has a full motorcycle licence or has completed CBT (Compulsory Basic Training) and rides on a provisional licence with L plates displayed.
- The rider must be wearing a motorcycle helmet.

The lack of pedals, a large motor and battery, and the absence of indicators or a speedometer are strong signs that a vehicle is an electric motorcycle.

Know the rules before you ride

A road is classed as a:

- Highway
- Footpath
- Cycle lane
- Bridleway
- Grass verge
- Car park

KEEPING MERSEYSIDE SAFE

OPERATION GEARS

