

Media Release

Gabrielle Williams MP

Minister for Government Services

Minister for Consumer Affairs

Minister for Public and Active Transport



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PERMANENT E-SCOOTER RULES IN PLACE ACROSS THE STATE

E-scooters can now operate permanently in councils where agreements are in place with share hire operators with the Allan Labor Government's two-year trial finishing today.

Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams today announced a new advertising campaign in partnership with TAC to promote safe riding and reinforce the tough new penalties that come into effect today.

Fines are increasing for riding without a helmet to \$395, riding on a footpath to \$296 and carrying a passenger to \$247.

E-scooter passengers will also face a new fine of at least \$247, and this sum will increase to \$642 if they are also not wearing a helmet.

Riders caught riding under the influence of drugs or alcohol are subject to the same rules as motorists and will also have their vehicle license automatically suspended and have an interlock fitted to their vehicle for at least six months.

The main road rules will remain unchanged, with riders needing to be at least 16 years old, not travel at more than 20 kilometres per hour and only ride on roads with a maximum speed limit of 60 kilometres per hour or less.

Share hire e-scooters are only legal in council areas that have an agreement with an operator – while private scooters can still be used across Victoria.

E-scooters have proven popular option for thousands of Victorians to travel home safely – and the advertising campaign will improve awareness of the law and consequences of unsafe riding.

The Department of Transport and Planning will continue to work closely with councils and e-scooter hire operators to introduce additional safeguards for share e-scooter schemes to further improve safety for riders and pedestrians.

Next year, new laws will set minimum standards for share-hire e-scooter companies. These companies will need to be prequalified to operate in Victoria, including installing new safety technology on their e-scooters

To learn more about the e-scooter rules, visit transport.vic.gov.au/Road-rules-and-safety/E-scooter-road-rules.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Public and Active Transport Gabrielle Williams

"E-scooters have proven popular option for Victorians to travel home safely and we are improving awareness of Victoria's strengthened laws to keep riders safe."

"We know there have been safety concerns, and that's why we're introducing some of the toughest new laws in the country, alongside a new education campaign to make them safer."