

Before You Buy an E-Bike, E-Scooter or Off-Road Bike



**POLICE
SCOTLAND**
Keeping people safe
POILEAS ALBA

Dear Parent/Carer,

Across Lanarkshire we continue to receive reports of e-bikes, e-scooters and off-road bikes being used in a manner that causes concern within our communities.

Many parents and carers may be unaware that some e-bikes and e-scooters sold cannot legally be used on public roads, pavements, parks, or other public places.

Before purchasing an e-bike, e-scooter, or off-road bike we would encourage you to consider the following:

Is the vehicle legal?

- Has it been modified?
- Where will it be used?
- Are you aware of the risk associated with its use?
- Have you discussed safe and responsible use with your child?

Why Does It Matter?

The use of illegal or modified vehicles can:

- Place riders and members of the public at risk of injury.
- Cause fear and alarm within local communities.
- Result in anti-social behaviour complaints
- Lead to police involvement and vehicle seizure.
- Have significant financial implications for families.

What Is Legal?

- Using a legal e-bike that complies with current regulations.
- Riding on private land with the permission of the landowner.
- Using vehicles safely and responsibly.

What Is Illegal?

- Using a privately owned e-scooter on roads, pavements, parks, or other public places.
- Using modified e-bikes that exceed legal speed or power limits.
- Using an off-road bike in public spaces where it is not permitted.
- Riding in a dangerous, careless or anti-social manner.

What Can Parents and Carers Do?

- Talk openly with your child about the risks.
- Understand what type of vehicle is being purchased.
- Encourage safe responsible behaviour.
- Supervise use where appropriate.
- Contact Police Scotland if you require further information or advice.

Support and Advice

Our aim is to work with young people, parents, schools and partner agencies to promote safe and responsible use while reducing the impact in our communities.

Education and engagement remain key to preventing harm and helping young people make more informed choices.

Please see attached (Appendix 3) Before You Buy parental letters.

Thank you for your support.

Police Scotland

Lanarkshire Prevention Team.