

E-Mobility Device Hire Scheme Policy

Local Government Act 2009

1. Policy Statement

Road rules in Queensland permit the use of e-mobility devices to operate on local streets and paths. Townsville City Council (Council) believes that e-mobility hire sharing services should be permitted to operate on public spaces which are zoned for e-mobility hire operations.

2. Principles

Council fulfils its legal obligation as Road Manager of local roads, in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidelines by restricting e-mobility devices hire operations to zoned public spaces that minimise the risks and maximise safety for the public.

The five key principles in the E-Mobility Strategy are as follows:

- **Safety** - the risk of incidents and crashes is minimised, and the community has confidence in the safety of e-mobility devices, the users and of others.
- **Accessibility** - coverage of sharing schemes reaches as many people as possible. E-mobility options have potential to complement the role of public transport and provide short distance transport options within communities so people can conveniently access local services, creating opportunities for local businesses.
- **Mobility** - maximising the number of travel choices for all users of different ages and abilities. The convenience and flexibility of e-mobility devices provides a more attractive travel option than private vehicles.
- **Agility** - the infancy of the industry and rapid technological change requires regulation and infrastructure provision that is adaptable to rapidly changing circumstances.
- **Infrastructure** - supporting e-mobility sharing schemes with appropriate infrastructure will improve safety and public confidence in e-mobility.

3. Scope

This policy applies to the operation of e-mobility devices that are hired from an e-mobility device hire sharing services company. This policy does not apply to privately owned e-mobility devices.

4. Responsibility

The Chief Executive Officer, Director Infrastructure & Operations, General Manager Engineering & Asset Infrastructure Planning and Team Manager Technical & Asset Planning Civil & Open Space are responsible for ensuring this policy is understood and adhered to by all Council workers.

5. Definitions

E-Mobility Device - Electronic Mobility Devices include Personal Mobility Devices (e-scooters, self-balancing 1 or 2 wheeled devices) and electronic bikes.

E-Scooter Road Rules - For rules applying to riding e-scooters in Queensland, please visit [Rules for personal mobility devices](#).

Local Streets - means a road under the control of local government that has a posted speed limit of 50km/h or less and has no dividing line or centre median.

Operator - means the commercial entity that holds a current commercial permit issued by Council to operate e-mobility devices in Zoned Public Spaces.

Paths - means footpaths, shared paths, separated paths and bicycle paths.

Road Manager - While all land in a road is owned by the state, the responsibility for day-to-day management, control and regulation are as follows:

- State-controlled roads: responsibility of the Department of Transport and Main Roads under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994*; and
- Local roads: responsibility of Local Governments under the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Workers - includes employees, contractors, volunteers and all others who perform work on behalf of Council.

Zoned Public Spaces - means the public areas that are under the Council's control and upon which the Council will allow the e-mobility hire operator to provide services.

6. Policy

Council will initiate a Request for Proposal process to seek proposals from interested e-mobility device hire sharing companies to operate devices in zoned public spaces.

Council will use the outcomes of the Request for Proposal process to establish a contractual agreement with e-mobility operators for the provision of e-mobility services. E-mobility operators must ensure that their services are provided in accordance with the relevant Terms and Conditions of the agreement entered into with Council.

7. Legal Parameters

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Transport Infrastructure Act 1994

Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Road Rules) Regulation 2009

8. Associated Documents

Nil.