

Electric Scooters

An Electric Scooter (E-Scooter) falls under the category of a powered transporter and is classed as a motor vehicle under the Road Traffic Act 1988. This means the same rules that apply to motor vehicles also apply to E-Scooters. This includes licencing, MOT, Tax and insurance.

OWNING AND USING AN E-SCOOTER

It is not currently possible to get insurance for privately owned E-Scooters. This means it is illegal to use them on any public land including roads, pavements, cycle lanes, bridleways, beach fronts, or any other public areas such as parks and carparks.

OFFENCES YOU MAY BE COMMITTING

Driving without insurance, driving without a licence, driving on a pavement, using a handheld mobile device whilst driving, driving whilst under the influence.

WHERE CAN A PRIVATE E-SCOOTER BE USED

Currently E-Scooters can only be used on private land with the landowner's permission. It is effectively illegal to use them on any public road, pavements or any other public land.

If you use a privately owned E-Scooter on public land, you risk it being seized under section 165 of the Road Traffic Act or Section 59 of the Police Reform Act. If serious injury is caused to a person whilst using an E- Scooter, the incident will be investigated in the same way it would be if you were driving a motorcycle or motor vehicle.

RENTAL E-SCOOTERS

You can rent E-scooters in certain parts of the UK through rental trials. Where there is a rental scheme in place, rental E-scooters can be used on public roads, some cycle lanes and other public places. Relevant road traffic Laws must still be followed. There are currently no rental trials in Cornwall.

If you want to hire an E scooter through the schemes mentioned above, you **MUST** hold a valid full or provisional driver's licence.

