Electric Scooters



What is the current law?

You can legally buy an e-scooter but it is against the law to ride an e-scooter on public roads or pavements, including cycle lanes. It is only legal to use on private land with the permission of the landowner.

Why is this?

E-scooters are classified as Personal Light Electric Vehicles (PLEV's), so they are treated as motor vehicles and subject to the same legal requirements, such as:

- MOT
- Licensing
- Tax
- Insurance

As e-scooters do not have number plates, signalling ability and do not always have visible rear lights, they cannot be used legally on the roads.

What happens if the police stop me?

- If you use an e-scooter on public roads, the police may ask you to take your scooter home or they may seize it from you because they are classed as illegal vehicles on public roads
- You risk receiving a fine, penalty points, and could be reported to court for driving without any insurance or having an appropriate licence to ride them or other traffic offences

How do I store and charge safely?

- Do not store and charge an e-scooter where it could prevent you from safely leaving your home if a fire breaks out.
- Use only the charger supplied with the e-scooter or a replacement authorised by the manufacturer.
- If you charge or store your e-scooter inside your property, ensure you install suitable fire detection. Fire and rescue services recommend heat alarms rather than smoke alarms for garages or kitchens. Ensure you have working smoke alarms in other rooms.

Responsible Ownership

- Only ride on private land with permission
- Store and charge safely

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