



**HEDDLU**  
**GOGLEDD CYMRU**  
**NORTH WALES**  
**POLICE**



# Don't get caught out by riding e-bikes and e-scooters **illegally**

We understand that buying an e-scooter or e-bike can be tempting, especially as you can get them from many popular retailers.

**But it's important you know the law.**



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## e-bikes

An e-bike is an electrically assisted pedal cycle equipped with an electric motor to assist riders when they pedal. You need to be at least 14 years old to ride an e-bike, but you don't need a driving licence.

To classify as an Electrically Assisted Pedal Cycle, it must be fitted with pedals which can propel the bike, a maximum power output of 250 watts which cannot propel the bike at more than 15.5mph. If the rider isn't pedalling, 'twist and go' throttles are only permissible up to a speed of 6 kph (or 3.7 mph). The bike must display the motor's power output, or manufacturer's name and show either the battery voltage or maximum speed.

It's illegal to modify an e-bike, the motors maximum power output should be no more than 250 watts and not able to propel the bike when it's travelling more than 15.5mph.

By law, an e-bike cannot propel a rider unless they are pedalling as well. Otherwise, it is classed as an electric motorcycle and they have much stricter rules. You wouldn't ride a motorcycle with a petrol engine when you didn't have a licence or insurance - the rules are exactly the same with an electric motorcycle!

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## e-scooters

You may be considering an electric scooter (e-scooter), particularly if you have seen others riding them locally.

However, it is illegal to use a privately owned e-scooter on public roads, pavements or cycle lanes. In fact, the only place to legally ride an e-scooter in Wales is on private land with the permission of the landowner - everywhere else it is against the law.

Some people may not appreciate the effect that riding illegally has. For someone with sight or hearing loss, it could have such an effect on them that they feel unable to go out on their own, hampering their mobility options and perhaps even resulting in the loss of their independence.

Unfortunately, people have already been killed and seriously injured when riding inappropriately and illegally. Nobody wants to see other families having to cope with the aftermath of similar heartbreaking incidents.

Please don't get caught out by riding illegally. Make sure you know the law on e-bikes and e-scooters.