

# e-scooters in Victoria

Summary of trial findings  
March 2023



For more information about e-scooters in Victoria visit:  
[vicroads.vic.gov.au/escooters](https://vicroads.vic.gov.au/escooters)



Department  
of Transport  
and Planning



## What we heard

The desire to use micromobility devices including e-scooters is growing among Victorians.

The trial in metro Melbourne and Ballarat was very popular with riders and some stakeholders.

While their use was illegal on public roads, private e-scooter ownership is widespread with approximately 100,000 across the state.

Those who want to use e-scooters told us they want rules for their safe use. Benefits of e-scooter use include:

- reduced emissions and congestion
- increased transport connectivity
- and enabling economic activity.

## You're excited about micromobility and said allowing e-scooters will

- improve first and last-kilometre connections
- improve activity levels in neighbourhoods and precincts
- reduce congestion and carbon emissions
- enhance security and safety for some users
- deliver economic benefits, jobs and local business.

## We heard your concerns, and will address these through new regulations

- safety of e-scooters for riders
- safety of e-scooters alongside other road users
- safety of pedestrians on footpaths
- poor parking of trial e-scooters on footpaths
- what happens when rules are not followed and enforcement by police.

## What you asked

### Why are you extending the e-scooter trial?

In Victoria, there are about 100,000 e-scooters that are privately owned.

Over the next six months, we will monitor how hire and private e-scooters are being used.

This is being done to make sure that the rules and regulations that are in place are fit-for-purpose and can effectively handle any safety concerns that may arise.

The trial found that e-scooters are a popular way to get around and there is a high demand from Victorians to be able to use them.

Although the trial gave us a significant amount of information, we need to ensure that e-scooters can be safely incorporated into the transport network on a long-term basis.

Extending the trial will provide this additional data to evaluate and inform future regulations.

Our number one priority is the safety of everyone who uses roads in Victoria.

### What have you learnt so far from the trial?

We now better understand how e-scooters can operate here in Victoria – both in a metropolitan and regional city environment. The trial also gave stakeholders and communities a chance to see and try e-scooters firsthand.

We also identified concerns related to the use of e-scooters, which we have addressed through new rules to ensure their safe and practical use.

### What safety concerns were raised?

Safety concerns included high speed riding, riding on footpaths, not wearing a helmet and carrying a passenger.

Safety risks increased when riders did not observe safety-based rules.

## How are you responding to safety concerns?

During the extended trial period, the trial rules and regulations will apply to both privately owned and hire e-scooters, with a primary focus on safety for riders, other road users, and pedestrians.

We will also work with key stakeholders to ensure appropriate safety standards are applied to e-scooters and safety equipment.

### What are you doing to address the safety concerns of pedestrians?

We have banned e-scooters on footpaths, and riders who disobey this rule will face penalties

## What's next?

From 5 April 2023, the legal use of privately owned e-scooters under trial conditions will be in effect.

To evaluate the safety of e-scooter usage, we are reducing the minimum age to 16 years, allowing riders to use them on roads with a speed limit up to 60 kilometres per hour.

Younger Victorians are interested in using e-scooters during the trial period, and we noted that restricting riders to roads with a speed limit of 50 kilometre per hour had limitations on where riders could travel.

All e-scooter riders must comply with the following rules:

- Do not ride on footpaths
- be 16 years and over
- use a helmet while riding
- ride in a single file only
- do not carry passengers or animals
- do not use a mobile phone
- do not ride while under the influence of drugs or alcohol
- adhere to a maximum speed limit of 20 km/h
- ride only on roads with a speed limit up to 60km/h, in bicycle lanes on these roads, on bicycle paths or separated and shared-use paths
- not ride a high-speed e-scooter – capable of more than 25km/h (this is considered an unregistered vehicle and penalties apply).