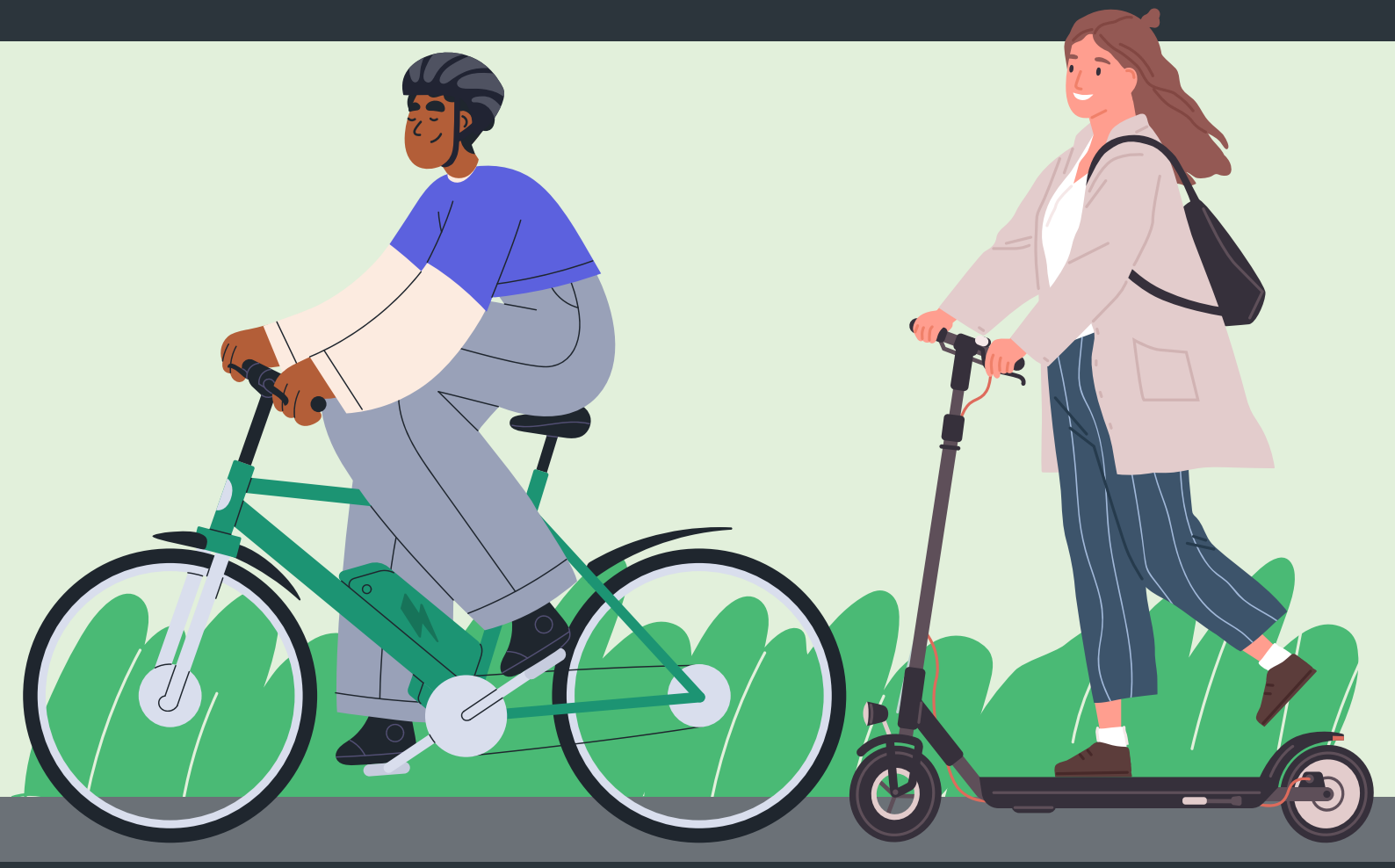
IS YOUR E-BIKE ROAD LEGAL?



If your e-bike does not meet current UK law for road use, it will be classified as a moped.

This means you need a driving licence, insurance and vehicle registration to use it on the road.

If you don't have these, you could be fined and receive penalty points. Your e-bike could be confiscated and crushed.

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

E-BIKES (PEDAL ASSIST)

- The power must be 'pedal assist' meaning the pedals must be in turn to make the e-bike go.
- E-bikes are allowed a maximum continuous motor output of 250w. Peak power used for starting and hill climbing can be higher for short periods.
- An L1e (low powered moped) certificate is needed to use throttle only above this speed. Speed is limited to 15.5mph.
- Throttle use must cut out at 3.7 mph (6kmh)
- Some suppliers sell e-bikes that are legal, but also give instructions on how to reset to a higher speed. Doing this makes them illegal for road use.
- The rider must be at least 14 years old.
- A parent who provides an illegal e-bike for their child can be held liable, facing fines, penalty points and potential civil liability for accidents.

E-SCOOTERS

- E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988. This means you need a driving licence and insurance to ride an e-scooter on the road or in public places.

WHAT COULD HAPPEN IF YOU'RE CAUGHT WITH AN ILLEGAL E-BIKE OR E-SCOOTER

- £300 fine and six penalty points on your licence for no insurance.
- £100 fine and three to six penalty points for riding without the correct licence.

Other penalties can include:

- £50 fine if you are caught riding on a pavement.
- £200 and six penalty points for using a mobile phone or other handheld mobile device while riding:
- £100 fine and possible penalty points for riding through red lights.
- Your e-bike or e-scooter can be confiscated and crushed.



DRINK AND DRUG DRIVING:

Riding an e-bike or e-scooter under the influence of alcohol or drugs (including nitrous oxide), is the same as if you were driving a car. You could face court imposed fines, a driving ban and possible imprisonment.

For any queries, please email:
roadsafetyeducation@royalgreenwich.gov.uk

ROYAL borough of GREENWICH