

Dear all,

We have received numerous reports of e-scooters and e-bikes being ridden in an anti-social manner within our community. Please note that the public use of private e-scooters and e-bikes is unlawful on public roads, paths, and pavements.

Sussex Police have launched a new operation called 'Operation Scramble' dedicated to tackling the illegal use of e-bikes and e-scooters. You can find more details on their website <https://www.sussex.police.uk/news/sussex/news/force-news/new-operation-launched-to-disrupt-illegal-e-bike-and-e-scooter-use/>

Please report illegal or dangerous riding to Sussex Police; your information helps officers identify offenders and take action.



# E-SCOOTERS



**KNOW THE LAW**

In most of Sussex\* it's currently **against the law** to ride an e-scooter on a public road or pavement.

\* In Brighton & Hove, rental e-scooters are available through an approved scheme and can be used legally in designated areas.

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

**However, the current law states:**  
You can buy one, but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place a privately owned e-scooter can be used is on private land with the landowner's permission.



### Why is this?

E-scooters are classed as motor vehicles under the Road Traffic Act 1988. Which means the rules that apply to motor vehicles, also apply to e-scooters including the need to have a licence, insurance and tax.

It's not currently possible to get insurance for privately owned e-scooters, which means it's illegal to use them on the road or in public spaces.

**Your e-scooter may be seized and destroyed by police if used illegally or anti-socially.**

Report online at [www.sussex.police.uk](https://www.sussex.police.uk) or call 101.  
In an emergency always call 999.

Find us on social media    

### What happens if I get stopped by Sussex Police?

**We are committed to working with communities across Sussex, to ensure the roads are safe for everyone.**

Education and advice will be shared when talking to the public on e-scooters, but we will take action against anyone breaking the law. The e-scooter may be seized, and the officer may penalise you further, depending on the seriousness of the offence. Please make sure you keep your e-scooter on private land, so this doesn't happen to you.

Drink and drug driving laws apply to e-scooters too. If you're caught over the limit while riding, you could be arrested, lose your e-scooter and face a driving ban, even if you don't yet have a driving licence.

Photo: © Sussex Police / Alamy and Corbis via Getty Images

Kind regards,

Bettina

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