

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

However, the current law is clear

You can buy one but you can't ride it on a UK public road, cycle lane or pavement. The only place an e-scooter can be used is on private land.

Why is this?

Electric scooters are classed as motorcycle as defined in Section 185 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 and, because of their low speed, within the subclass of moped. This means that electric scooters must abide by the same road traffic legislation as mopeds and motorcycles, such as

- MOT
- Licensing
- Tax
- Insurance

What happens if I've been stopped by Leicestershire Police?

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Road Safety Partnership and Leicestershire Police understand the public's support for environmentally friendly modes of transport. We want to work with the public to make sure the roads are safe for everyone.

The UK Government is currently taking part in 'Future Transport Zone' trials for e-scooter hire, with a view to making them legal to use on the roads.

All local authorities can apply to take part, but at the moment, Leicestershire are not part of the trials.

Section 165 of the Road Traffic Act 1988 provides the power to seize privately owned e-scooters for driving without insurance or a driving licence.

If you are stopped while riding an e-scooter, you may be given a warning by an officer and your details will be recorded.

If you are stopped a second time your e-scooter will be seized and retained by police.