

**LEICESTER, LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND POLICE AND
CRIME PANEL – MONDAY 24 MARCH 2025**

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The following question has been put to the Police and Crime Commissioner:

Question by Mr. B. Walker CC:

“What action has the Police and Crime Commissioner taken to hold the Chief Constable to account in relation to Leicestershire Police’s approach to the illegal use of E-bikes and E-scooters on pedestrianised areas thought Leicestershire?”

Reply by the Police and Crime Commissioner:

- 1. The Commissioner is aware of the concerns surrounding E-scooters. It appears to be a problem across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Cyclists with no lights in the hours of darkness, cyclists riding on pedestrian footways and now the dangers associated with e-scooters and e-bikes are national matters causing concern to all Road Safety Partnerships.*
- 2. The production and sale of e-scooters is NOT illegal and therefore retailers can legitimately sell them without restriction. This presents a significant issue in so much as there are a vast number of e-scooters in the public domain and the reality is that police resources are limited to match this growing use. However, despite the operational challenges, the police continue to enforce with regular, dedicated police operations on them.*
- 3. Road Safety is one of the Commissioners priorities within the new Police and Crime Plan, due to commence from April 2025.*

Campaigns

- 4. The Commissioner continues to support the Force’s campaigns to educate the public around the legality of e-scooters and modified e-bikes and will take action to enforce where necessary. This has been publicly supported by the Commissioner across his networks numerous times.*
- 5. The Force awaits further guidance from the Government regarding legislative changes in relation to e-scooters or e-bikes, something*

campaigned for by the Commissioner but in the meantime, he will continue to support the Force with local operations, education and enforcement with the available resources.

- 6. The Commissioner has written to all of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland's MPs, urging them to use their influence in Westminster to obtain assurances from the government that action will be taken to minimise the potential dangers of e-scooters on road users, all while benefiting from the accessible and environmentally friendly mode of transportation they offer. This letter was sent on 20th June 2022.*

Community Engagement

- 7. The Commissioner has met with the local policing Inspector/s across the force area, but most notably North-West Leicester and the City Centre to discuss the number of local operations under Op Pedalfast that have taken place to tackle the growing use of e-scooters and modified e-bikes. Local officers regularly publicise the outcome of their enforcement online to deter others.*
- 8. The latest instance of this was as recent as February, in which the Commissioner was briefed by an Inspector in the City Centre, on the latest targeted operation where 29 e-scooters were seized in 1 hour.*

Funding

- 9. The Commissioner has funded a programme to increase the safety of young drivers and road users and curb anti-social behaviour, including the use of E-scooters, providing grant funding worth £5,704 to youth organisation Young Leicestershire Ltd to support the delivery of The Road Revolution Programme.*

Corporate Governance Board

- 10. The Commissioner has worked with the Chief Constable to ensure there is a robust policing response to the anti-social use of vehicles such as e-scooters and illegal bikes.*
- 11. The e-scooters policy and force approach was discussed at a CGB in November 2022, and the Commissioner was satisfied that this provided a strong and clear response as to how the use of e-scooters would be policed across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.*
- 12. This policy was also presented to the Police and Crime panel in March 2023.*