



## E-Scooter and E-Bike Memo

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The University is committed to reducing our environmental impact, and as we develop our Net Zero strategy, we encourage staff and students to travel more sustainably to and from campus.
- 1.2 As a result of reducing our environmental impact, the use of E-bikes and E-scooters is becoming increasingly popular, as they offer an emission-free and economical method of travel.

### 2 E-Bikes

- 2.1 Although E-bikes are legal in Northern Ireland, there are certain conditions which must be met for them to be considered as such. Further information can be found by following the link: [Electric bikes \(electrically-assisted pedal cycles\) | nidirect](#).

### 3 E-Scooters

- 3.1 E-scooters, however, are illegal in Northern Ireland and cannot be used on public roads, footways, or footpaths under the Road Traffic (Northern Ireland) Order 1995. Therefore, the use of E-scooters on the University campus is not permitted. Please also note that the PSNI has advised that operation contrary to regulations may result in a significant fine or seizure of the E-scooter. It is worth noting that conventional push scooters do not fall under the E-scooter regulations and the University welcomes the safe use of the push scooter around campus.
- 3.2 The increased use of E-bikes and E-scooters creates a corresponding increase in fire risk associated with storage and charging inside University buildings. Fires involving personal electric vehicles such as these are becoming increasingly common due to defective and damaged lithium batteries, and the use of charging equipment that is unregulated or unsafe. Lithium batteries release large quantities of highly toxic smoke and are difficult to extinguish. Such fires present a significant risk of harm to people and property.

### 4 Lithium Battery Type Vehicles

- 4.1 As a result of this increased fire safety risk, the University has taken the

decision to implement an immediate ban on charging and storing large lithium battery type vehicles which include E-scooters, E-Bikes, E-Hoverboards, E-Skateboards and E-Unicycles inside any of our buildings. This ban applies to both students and University staff.

- 4.2 E-bikes and E-scooters found inside University buildings will be required to be immediately removed by the owner. Failure to do so will be considered as a breach of the Portable Appliance and Testing Policy and Procedure ED-PO-26 and the owner may be subject to disciplinary proceedings.

## 5 Note

- 5.1 This guidance is not intended to discourage staff and students from using E-bikes on campus. If you would like further information regarding sustainable travel choices, including access to secure cycle parking, please click [here](#).
- 5.2 The information contained above will be subject to review in line with any changes to government guidance.