

E-Bike Policy for Cowley Estate

Cowley Estate supports sustainable and eco-friendly transportation, including the use of electric bicycles (e-bikes), both privately owned and those available through public hire schemes such as Lime. This policy aims to ensure all residents' and visitors' safety, security, and well-being while accommodating the growing popularity of e-bikes.

Usage and Parking

- E-bikes, whether privately owned or hired through schemes like Lime, are welcomed on the estate. They must be used with care, respecting the safety of pedestrians and property.
- All e-bike riders are expected to follow estate pathways, adhere to signage, and observe designated pedestrian zones and speed limits.
- E-bikes should only be parked in designated areas to avoid obstructing pathways, entrances, exits, and emergency access points.

Storage

- Privately owned e-bikes should not be stored in communal areas to reduce fire risks and maintain clear emergency exits. Designated bike storage areas or the owner's property are recommended for storage.
- Users of public-hire e-bikes are encouraged to return them to designated docking stations or areas approved by the hire scheme provider, ensuring they do not obstruct communal spaces or pathways.

Charging

- Privately owned e-bikes must be charged following the manufacturer's guidelines to prevent fire risks. Charging in communal areas is prohibited. Safe charging within the owner's premises, away from flammable materials, is essential.
- Public-hire e-bikes should be charged and maintained by the provider. Residents and visitors are urged not to attempt charging these e-bikes themselves.

Safety and Maintenance

- Owners of privately owned e-bikes are responsible for their maintenance and safe operation. For public-hire e-bikes, users should report any maintenance issues to the service provider directly.
- Wearing helmets and appropriate safety gear is strongly recommended for all e-bike riders on the estate.

Compliance and Enforcement

- Non-compliance with this e-bike policy may result in actions such as the removal of the e-bike at the owner's or user's expense and potential further restrictions.

- Cowley Estate reserves the right to update this policy as needed, including adapting to public hire e-bike regulations or estate policy changes.

Liability

- E-bike use is at the rider's own risk. Cowley Estate is not liable for incidents involving e-bikes, including theft, damage, or injury, whether the bikes are privately owned or hired through public schemes.

This inclusive policy aims to ensure that Cowley Estate remains a safe and welcoming environment for all forms of sustainable transportation, fostering a community that values both safety and environmental responsibility.

This policy is subject to review and amendment to reflect changes in legislation or estate management policies. Residents will be notified of any updates or changes to this policy.

By adhering to these guidelines, we can ensure that Cowley Estate remains a safe, accessible, and environmentally friendly community for everyone.