

**Electric Scooters/Bikes**

**E-Scooters**

**The University does not permit the use or storage of e-scooters on any of its sites including all accommodation**

Within England and Wales, it is unlawful to ride e-scooters on public roads and footpaths in accordance with the Highway Act 1835. It is also an offence under the Road Traffic Act 1988 for E-scooters to be allowed on public roads unless they meet the same strict criteria as motor vehicles (e.g. in terms of insurance, tax, licence, registration and vehicle construction.)

At time of writing, the sole exception for e-scooter use is for those who wish to participate with local council trials to test the viability of e-scooters as a safe and effective transport. Allowance of these official e-scooter trials has been afforded due to removal of requirements for vehicle registration and licensing within the Road Vehicles (Registration and Licensing) Regulations 2002 and exemption for vehicle type requirement from the Road Traffic Act 1988.

**E-Bikes**

The university recognises that E bikes provide a cost-effective form of travel for individuals. E-Bikes should not be stored indoors in any University property (including accommodation) or charged at the university. Charging should be done at home. Some useful tips are available from Hereford & Worcester Fire and Rescue Service [here](https://www.hwfire.org.uk/news/06-10-2023-take-care-when-youre-charging-the-battery-for-your-electric-bike-or-scooter). In the event that a student has a personal E-bike and resides in University accommodation, they should contact [safety@worc.ac.uk](mailto:safety@worc.ac.uk) to discuss arrangements for storage and charging.

**Fire Risk**

The fire risk from equipment such as E-scooters and E-bikes has been widely reported, particularly related to issues with lithium-ion batteries, charging of the equipment and possibly faulty or non-compliant plugs, cabling and cut-off switches. This increases the risk of the device overheating, exploding or catching fire when charging or when not actively being charged.

Additionally, these devices can unintentionally obstruct circulation routes due to their size and prove a trip hazard. They may also impede egress in the event of a fire alarm evacuation especially in accommodation blocks. The university have locations throughout the University where you can store your bicycle and the vast majority are Sheffield type hoops.  There are also secure bicycle storage locations located across the campuses that can be found [here](https://www.worcester.ac.uk/documents/bike-storage-maps-2023.pdf). Please note if you are residing within university halls, your bicycle is not covered by the university contents insurance policy.