

MOPEDS, MONKEY BIKES, MOTORISED SCOOTERS & MOTORBIKE MENACE

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR
A guide for the public



VEHICLE CONFISCATION

Advice to the Public

Reading Borough Council and Thames Valley Police would like to advise Reading consumers about the legal position on motorised scooters*.

Some companies that sell scooters are telling customers that these can be used on roads and pavements - but this is not the case.

It is illegal to use motorised scooters, mini motorbikes or similar forms of motorised transport in a public place, or on the road.

The High Court has confirmed that a motorised scooter, whether powered by an internal combustion engine or an electric motor is a motor vehicle within the meaning of the 185 Road Traffic Act. This means that all scooters would have to meet all the construction and use requirements. They would be required to have European Whole Vehicle Type Approval, be registered with the DVLA, taxed and fitted with a number plate.

The rider must

- ◆ Hold a valid driving licence
- ◆ Be insured for the vehicle
- ◆ Wear a proper motorcycle helmet

If a trader intentionally misleads a consumer about where these scooters may be used the trader might be committing a criminal offence but also the consumer may be entitled to their money back if the goods were wrongly described.

Police now have powers to seize motor vehicles used to cause a nuisance within neighbourhoods.

Under the Police Reform Act 2002 (section 59 & 60), the Police were given extra powers to deal

with anti-social behaviour, and in particular those relating to vehicles being used in a manner causing alarm, distress or annoyance. If a motor vehicle is being driven on land without permission or without due care and attention, the Police can:

- ◆ order a person to stop driving the vehicle
- ◆ seize and remove the vehicle
- ◆ enter a premises where they have reasonable grounds to believe the vehicle may be present.

Police can seize the vehicle if the following has taken place

- ◆ The person has been previously warned by the Police
- ◆ The warning has been given within the previous 12 months
- ◆ The person riding the vehicle is warned even if they are not the owner of the vehicle
- ◆ The warning does not have to be in respect of the same vehicle

Riding Offroad

You are not allowed to ride any motorbike, scooter, quad bike or mini motorbike on a footpath, towpath or in a park, open space or woodland anywhere in Reading.

* This leaflet is aimed at the problems caused by people riding mopeds, scooters, motorbikes, quad bikes, mini motorbikes, go-peds, or similar bikes inappropriately. It does not affect people using mobility aids or using any of the above vehicles lawfully.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR ORDER

Reading Borough Council and Thames Valley Police can apply for an Anti-Social Behaviour Order against any person responsible for behaviour that causes alarm or distress. The use of motorised vehicles and mopeds ridden in a dangerous and illegal manner is evidence of this behaviour and can be used in court proceedings.

The detail of the Anti-Social Behaviour Order could ban the perpetrator from entering certain parts of the area, driving or riding on any type of motorbike and/or behaving in a manner that causes alarm to other residents. If this order is breached it could result in up to 5 years in prison (dependent on age).

TENANT EVICTION

If you are a Council or Housing Association Tenant you could be evicted. Your landlord will not hesitate to enforce the tenancy of those responsible for anti-social behaviour. Riding motorised vehicles in an illegal or dangerous manner is classed as anti-social behaviour and will be counted as a breach of tenancy.

Your tenancy may be enforced if you, a member of your family or a visitor to your address behave in an anti-social manner.

**REMEMBER -
Anti-Social Behaviour may result in:**

- ◆ **Vehicle confiscation**
- ◆ **An Anti-Social Behaviour Order**
- ◆ **Tenant eviction**

If you experience problems of anti-social behaviour and motorised vehicles please contact Thames Valley Police on 0845 8 505 505