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Dear Editor

Your report of the conviction of a disqualified driver for using an e-scooter whilst banned from driving raises interesting issues (Oxford times 23 September). His defending barrister says that using the e-scooter was ‘something that he thought was legal and which lots of other people clearly think is legal’. Judging by the number of people I see around Headington illegally using private e-scooters on our roads, pavements and cycle tracks, she is correct.

The only e-scooter which can legally be used within the trial area, and then only on the roads and cycle tracks, not on the pavements, are the bright orange hire e-scooters. It is illegal to use a private e-scooter anywhere other than on private land. Even if you have a driving  license there are three major differences between private and hire e-scooters: private e-scooters are not insured and have no speed limiters; nor do they have a lock which stops them when they leave the permitted trial area.

Please not, it’s illegal to use private e-scooters on public roads, cycle tracks and pavements

Yours faithfully

Hazel Dawe

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