



An Bille um Thrácht ar Bhóithre (Leasú) (Trialacha Scútar Leictreach), 2021
Road Traffic (Amendment) (Electric Scooter Trials) Bill 2021

Mar a tionscnaíodh

As initiated



**AN BILLE UM THRÁCHTAR BHÓITHRE (LEASÚ) (TRIALACHA SCÚTAR
LEICTREACH), 2021**
ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (ELECTRIC SCOOTER TRIALS) BILL 2021

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CONTENTS

Section

1. Definitions
2. Electric scooter trials
3. Role of local authorities in electric scooter trials
4. Safety Standards for electric scooters
5. Prohibition of removal of speed limitation device
6. Speed limits for electric scooter users
7. Driving without reasonable consideration
8. Implementation and oversight of electric scooter trials for electric scooter rental schemes
9. Short title and commencement

ACTS REFERRED TO

Local Government Act 2001 (No. 37)

Road Safety Authority Act 2006 (No. 14)



**AN BILLE UM THRÁCHTAR BHÓITHRE (LEASÚ) (TRIALACHA SCÚTAR
LEICTREACH), 2021**
ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) (ELECTRIC SCOOTER TRIALS) BILL 2021

Bill

entitled

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An Act to make provision for time-limited trials of electric scooters through approved rental schemes and to require the Minister for Transport to regulate their use for the period of the trials, and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Oireachtas as follows:

Definitions

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1. In this Act—

“Department” means the Department of Transport;

“electric scooter” means a device with no more than two 25 centimetres or smaller diameter wheels that has handlebars, is designed to be stood upon by the operator, and is powered by an electric motor that is capable of propelling the device with or without human propulsion at a speed no more than 35 kilometres per hour on a paved level surface; 15

“local authority” has the meaning assigned to it by the Local Government Act 2001;

“Minister” means the Minister of Transport;

“Road Safety Authority” has the meaning assigned to it by the Road Safety Authority Act 2006; 20

“speed limitation device” means a device whose primary function is to limit the vehicle speed to the specified value.

Electric scooter trials

2. (1) The Minister shall, upon the passing of this Act, introduce regulations to permit a time-limited electric scooter trials for electric scooter rental (shared) schemes only. 25
- (2) The period of the trial will be 24 months, commencing from the first day of operation of the trial.
- (3) The regulations for the trial shall be published by the Minister and the Department, following consultation with the Road Safety Authority, within 60 days of the passing of this Act. 30

- (4) Electric scooters used in a trial as provided for in this Act, shall be covered by a motor vehicle insurance policy.

Role of local authorities in electric scooter trials

3. (1) Upon the passing of this Act, the Minister shall publish guidance for local authorities to apply to participate in the electric scooter trials for electric scooter rental schemes, setting out the timeframe and approval process in use by the Department. 5
- (2) Each local authority shall decide whether they wish to apply to participate.
- (3) Individual local authorities shall determine, in consultation with the Department, the number of electric scooters to be provided in the trial, and if they have a requirement for geo-fencing areas to prevent electric scooters being used in specific areas or streets. 10

Safety Standards for electric scooters

4. (1) Section 4(4) of the Road Safety Authority Act 2006 is amended by the insertion of the following new paragraph after paragraph (b):
- “(c) make guidelines concerning the safe operation of time-limited electric scooter trials for electric scooter rental schemes, in Ireland.”. 15
- (2) The minimum technical requirements for electric scooter operators participating in trials shall be set out in regulation by the Road Safety Authority and shall include the following categories: 20
- (a) general safety measures;
 - (b) anti-tampering measures;
 - (c) audible warning mechanism;
 - (d) braking capacity;
 - (e) mass and dimensions of electric scooters; 25
 - (f) electrical safety measures;
 - (g) lighting and reflectors;
 - (h) manufactures label and unique vehicle identifier;
 - (i) vehicle stands;
 - (j) tyres; 30
 - (k) stability test.

Prohibition of removal of speed limitation device

5. (1) All electric scooters shall be required to bear a speed limitation device which limits the scooter to speeds of 25 kilometres per hour.
- (2) It shall be an offence for a person to remove or tamper with the speed limitation device on an electric scooter. 35

- (3) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
 - (a) on summary conviction for a first offence a class D fine, and
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine.

Speed limits for electric scooter users

6. (1) It shall be an offence for a person using an electric scooter to exceed a speed limit of 25 kilometres per hour. 5
- (2) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
 - (a) on summary conviction for a first offence, a class D fine, and
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine.

Driving without reasonable consideration

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7. (1) A person shall not drive a vehicle in a public place without reasonable consideration for other persons using the place.
- (2) A person who contravenes *subsection (1)* commits an offence.
- (3) A person found guilty of an offence under this section shall be liable for—
 - (a) on summary conviction for a first offence, a class D fine, and 15
 - (b) on summary conviction for a second or subsequent such offence, a class C fine.

Implementation and oversight of electric scooter trials for electric scooter rental schemes

8. (1) The Minister shall make regulations for the general purpose of this Act and may, by regulation, provide for any matter referred to in this Act as prescribed or to be prescribed. 20
- (2) The regulations set out in this Act shall be introduced within 60 days of the passing of this Act.
- (3) The Minister shall, upon the passing of this Act, establish an advisory group, called the “Implementation and Oversight of Electric Scooter Trials Group”, referred to in this section as “the Group”. 25
- (4) The Group shall be appointed by the Minister and shall consist of not less than 6 members and no more than 15.
- (5) The Minister shall appoint a Chairperson of the Group.
- (6) All positions on the Group shall be unremunerated.
- (7) Secretariat to the Group shall be provided by the Department. 30
- (8) Membership of the Group shall include representatives of the Road Safety Authority, the Department of Transport and An Garda Síochána. The Minister may appoint representatives from the local authorities, the disability sector, public transport and transport sector, cycling and mobility representatives.
- (9) The group shall meet quarterly to review the operation of the trials and provide an 35

update to the Minister, which shall be published on the website of the Department.

(10) The Group may provide an update to the Minister at any other time, as determined by the Group.

(11) The group shall cease to exist on a date set out in regulations by the Minister under *subsection (1)*.

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Short title and commencement

9. (1) This Act may be cited as the Road Traffic (Amendment) (Electric Scooter Trials) Act 2021.

(2) This Act shall come into operation on the date of its passing.

An Bille um Thrácht ar Bhóithre (Leasú)
(Trialacha Scútar Leictreach), 2021

BILLE

(mar a tionscnaíodh)

dá ngairtear

Acht do dhéanamh socrú maidir le trialacha scútar leictreach, is trialacha a mbeidh teorainn ama leo, trí scéimeanna cíosa ceadaithe agus dá cheangal ar an Aire Iompair úsáid na scútar sin a rialáil ar feadh thréimhse na dtrialacha, agus do dhéanamh socrú i dtaobh nithe gaolmhara.

An Teachta Seán Ó Laibheartaigh a thug isteach,
24 Márta, 2021

Road Traffic (Amendment) (Electric Scooter
Trials) Bill 2021

BILL

(as initiated)

entitled

An Act to make provision for time-limited trials of electric scooters through approved rental schemes and to require the Minister for Transport to regulate their use for the period of the trials, and to provide for related matters.

Introduced by Deputy John Lahart,
24th March, 2021

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