

## **Electric Assisted Pedal Cycles (EAPCs) – Need to know facts**

### **What counts as an EAPC?**

- An EAPC must have pedals that can be used to propel it.
- It must show either:
  - the power output
  - the manufacturer of the motor
- It must also show either:
  - the battery's voltage
  - the maximum speed of the bike
- Its electric motor:
  - must have a maximum power output of 250 watts
  - should not be able to propel the bike when it's travelling more than 15.5mph
- An EAPC can have more than 2 wheels (for example, a tricycle).

### **Licensing, tax and insurance**

- You do not need a licence to ride one and it does not need to be registered, taxed or insured.
- The law states you must be 14 years of age or over to ride an e-bike on public roads. However, someone under 14 can ride an e-bike off road. Sixteen years is the minimum age to ride a moped in the UK, but this was reduced to 14 years for e-bikes, taking into account their lower levels of power.

### **Where you can ride**

- If a bike meets the EAPC requirements it's classed as a normal pedal bike. This means you can ride it on cycle paths and anywhere else pedal bikes are allowed. This includes both roads and off-road rights of way such as bridleways and byways.
- Unregistered and uninsured e-bikes that do not conform to regulations can only be ridden on private land where the public doesn't have access, with the permission of the landowner.

### **Other kinds of electric bike**

Any electric bike that does not meet the EAPC rules is classed as a motorcycle or moped and needs to be registered and taxed. You'll need a driving licence to ride one and you must wear a crash helmet.

### **Getting vehicle approval for your electric bike**

- An electric bike must be 'type approved' if either:
  - it can be propelled without pedalling (a 'twist and go' EAPC)
  - it does not meet the EAPC rules
- Approval should have been done by the manufacturer or importer before you bought it. If it's been type approved it will have a plate showing its 'type approval number'. Individual Vehicle Approval (IVA) is the process of approving each individual vehicle against national technical requirements.