

## DAMAGE AND DISPOSAL

- Batteries can be damaged by dropping them or crashing e-bikes or e-scooters. Where the battery is damaged, it can overheat and catch fire without warning. Check your battery regularly for any signs of damage
- If you need to dispose of a damaged or end of life battery, don't dispose of it in your household waste or normal recycling.
- Re-cycling - The good news is that yes, lithium batteries can be recycled. However, it is vital that they are recycled in a safe and specialist way. To recycle your lithium batteries, you will need to take them to a specialist recycling centre. Or, to dispose of them, you will need to go to a hazardous waste collection site.
- UK suppliers must offer free collection ('takeback') of waste or used batteries if they sell or supply 32kg or more of portable batteries per year.
- The Free app for licensed waste removal & Fly-tip reporting should be used when disposing of lithium batteries. [www.clearwaste.com](http://www.clearwaste.com)

## Buying

- Buy e-bikes, e-scooters and chargers and batteries from reputable retailers.
- Register your product with the manufacturer to validate any warranties – batteries are usually included in warranties. Registering makes it easier for manufacturers to contact you in the event of safety or recall information.
- Check any products you have bought are not subject to a product recall. You can do this but checking Electrical Safety First's website or the government website.



For further information, please go to our website [www.esfrs.org](http://www.esfrs.org)

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service would like to ensure you are all safe from fire in your own home so why not book a Home Safety Visit with us to ensure you are given the correct advice around your home.

Call 08001777069 or email [homefire.safetyvisits@esfrs.org](mailto:homefire.safetyvisits@esfrs.org)



## E-Scooter & E-Bike Fire Safety Leaflet



**East Sussex**  
Fire & Rescue Service



**E-bikes, e-scooters and e-skateboards are becoming increasingly popular. Most are powered by lithium-ion batteries which can be charged in the home.**

**It is important when charging e-bikes and e-scooters, you do so safely to avoid a risk of a fire starting and putting your families and homes at risk.**

**With an increased use of e-bikes and e-scooters, comes a corresponding fire safety concern associated with their charging and storage. The use of these products is expected to continue to rise.**

## Charging

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when charging and always unplug your charger when it's finished charging.
- Ensure you have working smoke alarms. If you charge or store your e-bike or e-scooter in a garage or kitchen ensure you install detection, we recommend heat alarms rather than smoke detectors for these areas.
- Charge batteries whilst you are awake and alert so if a fire should occur you can respond quickly. Don't leave batteries to charge while you are asleep or away from the home.
- Always use the manufacturer approved charger for the product, and if you spot any signs of wear and tear or damage buy an official replacement charger for your product from a reputable seller.
- Do not cover chargers or battery packs when charging as this could lead to overheating or even a fire.
- Do not charge batteries or store your e-bike or e-scooter near combustible or flammable materials.
- Do not overload socket outlets or use inappropriate extension leads (use un-coiled extensions and ensure the lead is suitably rated for what you are plugging in to it).
- In the event of an e-bike, e-scooter or lithium-ion battery fire – do not attempt to extinguish the fire. Get out, stay out, call 999.

## Storage

- Avoid storing or charging e-bikes and e-scooters on escape routes or in communal areas of a multi occupied building. If there's a fire, it can affect people's ability to escape.
- Store e-bikes and e-scooters and their batteries in a cool place. Avoid storing them in excessively hot or cold areas.
- Follow manufacturer's instructions.



A damaged Electric skateboard that caught fire while stored under a bed in a child's bedroom.