

## › What about insurance?

Although currently there are no legal requirements to take out insurance, it is strongly advisable to do so. Policies are available for around £50 a year, which covers loss, damage and theft as well as third party claims.

## › Does the Highway Code apply to me?

Yes. When using a mobility scooter on the road, traffic signs must be obeyed according to the Highway Code.

## › Do pedestrians have the right of way?

Yes, you must give way to pedestrians. However, you are able to use crossings to cross from one pavement to another when in 4mph mode.

## › Where can I park?

Class 3 scooters have to obey normal parking restrictions on a road. If the user is entitled to a Blue Badge, it may be used on the scooter. The scooter should not be parked on the pavement where it could cause obstruction to pedestrians, including those who need to pass with wheelchairs or prams.

For further information on mobility scooters including servicing and training please contact:

**Disability Essex (EDPA)**  
Moulsham Mill  
Parkway  
Chelmsford  
Essex CM2 7PX  
Telephone: 01245 253400  
Helpline: 0870 8736333

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The Essex Casualty Reduction Board

The information contained in this leaflet can be made available in alternative formats: large print, braille, audio tape or disk. We can also translate the information into other languages.

# HOW SAFE IS YOUR SCOOTER?



Simple safety advice when buying or using a mobility scooter



**Mobility scooters share the highway with other road users. This leaflet sets out advice and information from scooter users to share the road safely.**

### › What types of Mobility Scooter are there?

There are three main classes of mobility scooter:

- **Class 1** wheelchairs should only be used on the pavement.

- **Class 2** scooters may be used only on the pavement.

These have a maximum speed of 4mph.

- **Class 3** scooters may travel on the road.

These have a maximum speed of 8mph. They may be used on the pavement when fitted with a restrictor switch that limits the speed to 4mph – the same speed as Class 2.



### › Can anyone drive a scooter?

Only a person affected by a physical disability may use a scooter. Additionally, you must be over 14 years of age to use a Class 3 scooter.

### › How can I use my scooter in a safe and legal way?

First of all, remember to 'Be Seen – Be Safe'. Wear bright clothing or a high visibility fluorescent jacket. There are the following legal requirements:

In order to use a Class 3 scooter on the road, you need front and rear lights so that you can be seen when using it between sunset and sunrise. Reflectors and direction indicators must be used as appropriate. The horn, rear-view mirror and brakes must all be fitted and working properly. The horn should be used to warn other road users that you are there and should not be used when the scooter is stationary. Don't sound the horn between the hours of 11:30pm and 7:00am. Only use the horn if other moving vehicles pose a danger to you.

Remember that it is common sense and legally necessary to have your scooter regularly checked and serviced. Steering and braking need to be maintained. Details for recommended service dealers can be obtained from the EDPA. (See reverse for details)

### › What should I do if I use the scooter at night?

Ensure that you can be seen by other road users by wearing reflective clothing or displaying reflective materials on your scooter.

### › Do I need a licence?

No, there is no requirement for the user of a Class 3 mobility scooter to have a driving licence. However, we would recommend some initial training or instruction.