

E-scooters and E-bikes Policy

Policy Category:	Estates & Facilities
Subject:	E-scooters and E-bikes policy
Approving Authority:	Senior Vice President (Operations)
Responsible Officer:	Director of Estates & Facilities
Responsible Office:	Safety & Compliance – Infrastructure & Fire Safety
Related College Policies:	Health, Safety, Welfare and Fire Safety Policy
Effective Date:	July 2025
Supersedes:	N/A
Next Review:	July 2027

1. Purpose & Scope

1.1 Purpose

This policy sets out the University's position on the use of e-scooters and e-bikes on its campuses. The University encourages sustainable travel methods by students, staff, tenants, and visitors, while ensuring the safety and comfort of the wider community.

1.2 Scope

This policy applies across all King's College London campuses – Strand, Guy's, St Thomas', Waterloo, Denmark Hill, University residences, and sports grounds. It supplements, but does not replace, broader campus transport or conduct policies.

2. Definitions

2.1 E-scooters: Two-wheeled motorised scooters, which may also be manually propelled. This policy uses "e-scooters" to refer to all powered transporters.

2.2 Manual scooters: Non-motorised scooters propelled by the user.

2.3 Mobility scooters: Seated three- or four-wheeled electric vehicles designed to assist individuals with mobility challenges.

2.4 E-bikes: Electrically assisted pedal cycles (EAPCs), combining manual propulsion with motor support.

2.5 Powered transporters: A UK government term encompassing various motorised personal transport devices including e-scooters, Segways, hoverboards, go-peds, and powered unicycles.

3. Policy

3.1 E-scooters

E-scooters fall under UK legislation for motor vehicles. It is illegal to use e-scooters:

- On public roads unless they meet specific legal requirements (which are difficult for private owners to satisfy)
- On pavements, cycle paths, or any space set aside for pedestrians and cyclists
- On private land without the landowner's explicit permission

Given that King's College London campuses are private property, the University does not permit the use of e-scooters on any of its premises, including campuses, residences, or sports grounds.

3.2 E-bikes

Unlike e-scooters, e-bikes are legally permitted on UK roads under certain conditions. The University allows the use of e-bikes on its premises, provided the following principles are adhered to:

- E-bikes must be parked in designated outdoor bike storage areas.
- Our campuses are shared spaces – users must be considerate of pedestrians and other road/path users.
- Pedestrians have right of way over all other forms of transport on footpaths.
- Bicycles and manual scooters may use footpaths only where there is no alternative road route.
- Between dusk and dawn, bikes and scooters must be equipped with working lights.
- Electrical assistance on e-bikes must not be used on footpaths.
- Mobility scooters and powered wheelchairs used by disabled persons are allowed throughout the campus and indoors and have priority over bikes and scooters.
- Bikes and scooters (including e-bikes/e-scooters) must not be brought into university buildings.

3.3 Charging Restrictions

Due to fire risks associated with lithium-ion batteries:

- Charging of e-scooters or e-bikes is strictly prohibited in all university buildings and residences.

- Users are strongly advised to follow the manufacturer's charging guidance, as incidents of fire from improper charging have been reported.

4. E-bike Storage Locations

Designated storage areas are available across campuses. A full list of locations is provided

4.1 Academic Campuses:

- 4.1.1 **Bush House:**
 - External racks at the front of the building
 - 4.1.2 **Denmark Hill Campus:**
 - Far space outside 1 Windsor Walk building
 - 4.1.3 **Guy's Campus:**
 - Corner bike rack by the memorial
 - 4.1.4 **St Thomas' Campus:**
 - Location: Dunhill Gym (behind St Thomas' House – GSTT secure store)
 - Note: May be subject to change due to hospital estate developments.
 - Access: GSTT access card required.
 - 4.1.5 **Strand Campus:**
 - Middle of Strand Lane bike store
 - 4.1.6 **Waterloo Campus:**
 - External bike rack
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4.2 Residences:

- 4.2.1 **Great Dover Street Apartments:**
 - Eight bicycle sheds available across the residence
 - Additional small designated area in the courtyard
 - E-bikes and e-scooters are not permitted inside the residences
- 4.2.2 **Stamford Street Apartments:**
 - Bike shed and tools station at the end of the parking lot (not specifically designated for e-bikes, but available for use)
- 4.2.3 **Wolfson House:**
 - No bike storage available
 - Residents directed to use Guy's Campus bike racks

4.3 Bike security information is available on the Estates & Facilities intranet:

<https://internal.kcl.ac.uk/about/ps/estates/reception-security/bike-safety-security>

5. References

- **5.1 Powered Transporters – GOV.UK:**
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/powered-transporters>
- **5.2 E-bikes in Great Britain – GOV.UK:** <https://www.gov.uk/electric-bike-rules>