Safer Stockton Partnership

Off Road Bikes, E-bikes and Scooters



Operation Endurance

Supt John Wrintmore



The legal position – what must be in place

To ride a bike on a road you must have:

- Driving licence (or provisional) and you must have completed your CBT
- Insurance for the bike
- Road Tax
- Number Plate
- Lights (headlights, tail lights, brake lights, indicators)
- Reflectors
- Horn
- The bike must meet legal restrictions of an MOT



The legal position regarding Electric – in summary

- Electrically assisted pedal Cycles must be fitted with pedals that are capable of propelling it and the electric motor must not exceed 250 Watts. The electrical motor must also cut-off when the vehicle reaches 15.5 mph. Any bike with a motor that does not comply with this definition is a motor vehicle. Just as an electric car is still a car, an electric motorbike is still a motorbike.
- A fully electric motorcycle is not road legal and cannot be used on a road, pavement, or any public place without first being registered with the DVLA, taxed, passing an MOT and must be fitted with features necessary to make it safe for road use. The rider would require a licence and insurance to use the bike and must wear a helmet.
- Bikes such as these are in the same category as any other off-road bike and can only be used on private land with the permission of the landowner.
- If you use an off-road bike on a road or public place and is not registered, taxed, and insured then or you don't have a licence to ride it then you are committing multiple criminal offences and may be prosecuted and have your bike seized.

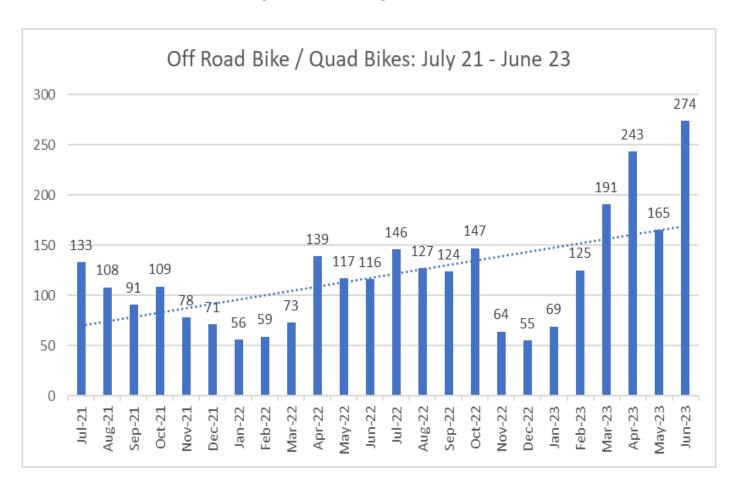
The legal position – power to seize

S19 Police and criminal evidence act 1984 This gives officers the power to seize property which may be relevant as evidence in the investigation of the offence. This power is often used when vehicle are suspected to be stolen or used in crime.

S165a Road Traffic Act 1988 An officer may seize the vehicle if they have reasonable grounds to *believe* that the vehicle was being used on a road or public place and the rider did not have a licence or insurance.

S.59 Police Reform Act 2002 can be used by the police if they have reasonable grounds for *believing* that a motor vehicle has been used in contravention of s.3 or s.34 RTA 1988 (careless and inconsiderate driving and prohibition of driving on footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways and on land not forming part of a road) **and** is causing, has caused or is likely to cause, alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public. The vehicle can be seized if a S59 notice has been issued in the preceding 12 months.

Stockton Monthly Analysis



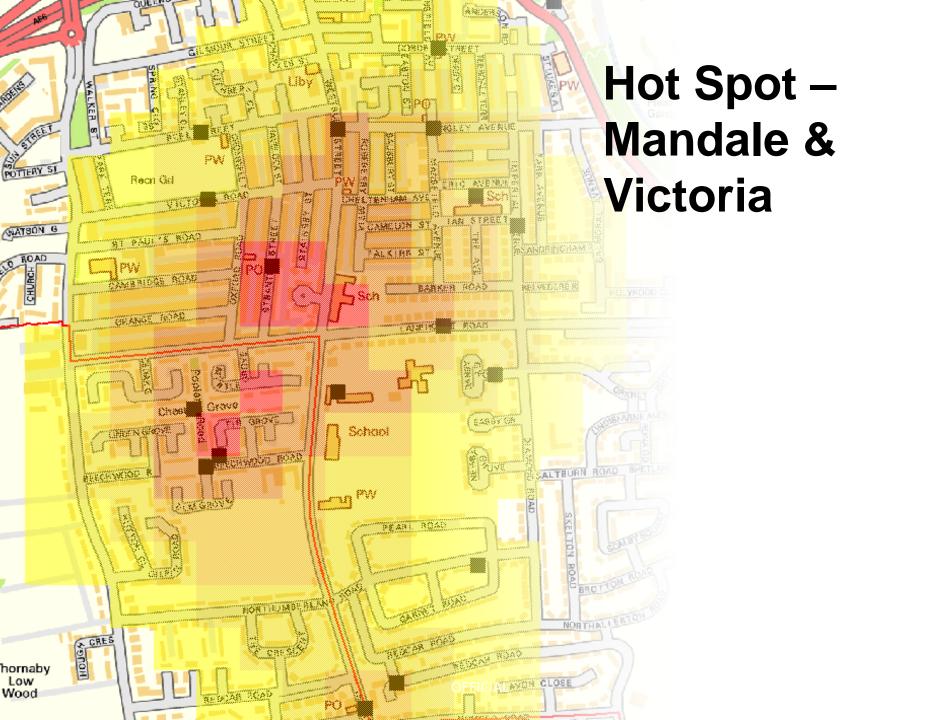
Current activity

- Operation Artemis
- Monthly Days of Action Sgt Cookland
- New tactics stinger, drone, DNA, spray

It's important to note

This needs to be balanced against many competing demands





What can partners and the community do to help

- Community Intelligence this is key
- Housing visits and enforcements
- Infrastructure
- Education

