



Scoot On?

Green Light for Scooters in the UK?

Electric scooters are hitting roads and cycle paths in Germany. Now, people are wondering if they could be allowed on UK roads.

The upper house of the German parliament has approved the use of electric scooters. They will have a speed limit of 12mph and you need to be 14 years old or over.

So what is an electric scooter? They're just like a scooter but they have a small electric motor. They can be rented in cities, such as San Francisco and Paris, using an app.

Supporters have welcomed the news. They claim that electric scooters have many **benefits**. At the moment, there is a big debate about pollution levels in cities around the world.

Pollution occurs when harmful gases get mixed with the air we breathe. Diesel and petrol cars produce these **toxic** gases.

Electric scooters don't and some believe they could improve air quality in our cities. Others say that the electric scooter is a **convenient** and more affordable way to

Should electric scooters be allowed on British roads?

- **Germany says electric scooters are allowed on their roads and cycle paths.**
- **Some think they are good for the environment. Others say they put people at risk on the roads.**

Photo: Two boys riding an electric scooter.

travel and they can be folded up easily.

Not everyone, though, is so excited about them. In fact, they have deep concerns and say the scooters could be dangerous for both riders and other people on the road.

In France, electric scooters are not allowed on pavements. If you break this rule, you are fined around £120.

At the moment, the UK government says a lot of work needs to be done. It's **reviewing** how transport could change in the future.

However, it's not certain that they will definitely be allowed on British roads.

Glossary

benefits Positive things about an idea.

toxic Poisonous or extremely bad.

convenient Fitting in well with someone's needs, activities and plans.

reviewing To study something with the chance of introducing a new idea.

Questions

1. Which country has said people can ride electric scooters on their roads and cycle paths?
Tick one.

- Germany
- UK
- Ireland
- Canada

2. How much can people be fined in France for riding an electric scooter on the pavement?
-

3. 'However, it's not certain that they will definitely be allowed on British roads.'
Find an adjective and adverb that show no one is totally sure that electric scooters will not be allowed on roads in the UK.

1. _____

2. _____

4. What are the arguments for and against letting people ride electric scooters on roads?
-
-
-

5. Complete the table by adding a tick in each box to show whether a statement is true or false.

	True	False
Electric scooters do not cause pollution.		
Everyone welcomes this news.		
It's likely that people will be allowed to ride an electric scooter on the roads in the UK soon.		
In San Francisco, an app lets you find electronic scooters.		

6. Do you think electronic scooters will be allowed on British roads? Explain your answer.
-
-
-

Answers

1. Which country has said people can ride electric scooters on their roads and cycle paths?
Tick one.

Germany

UK

Ireland

Canada

2. How much can people be fined in France for riding an electric scooter on the pavement?
Around £120

3. 'However, it's not certain that they will definitely be allowed on British roads.'
Find an adjective and adverb that show no one is totally sure that electric scooters will not be allowed on roads in the UK.

Accept 'certain' and 'definitely'.

4. What are the arguments for and against letting people ride electric scooters on roads?
Some people say electronic scooters are great for the environment, they're affordable and they are convenient. Others say they are dangerous on for riders and other people on the road.

5. Complete the table by adding a tick in each box to show whether a statement is true or false.

	True	False
Electric scooters do not cause pollution.	✓	
Everyone welcomes this news.		✓
It's likely that people will be allowed to ride an electric scooter on the roads in the UK soon.		✓
In San Francisco, an app lets you find electronic scooters.	✓	

6. Do you think electronic scooters will be allowed on British roads? Explain your answer.
Accept any answer which refers to the story, e.g. I think they will be introduced as they could reduce air pollution and they are a more affordable way for people to travel.