

Advice for parents and bike owners

Legal responsibility

If you own a motorbike, quad bike or other vehicle for use on or off the road and you allow someone else to ride it, knowing that they will use it in an anti-social way or commit motoring offences, **you could be prosecuted** for causing or permitting the rider to commit those offences.

Advice for residents or landowners

Kent Police, local councils and other partner agencies work together to deal with crime and anti-social behaviour where you live.

If you see it, report it

If you are affected by nuisance vehicles, call Kent Police on 101 with details including:

- The dates and times that you have been affected by nuisance vehicles
- The location of the vehicles and what they were doing
- Descriptions of the vehicles and people involved
- Whether the vehicles were ridden to the area, or whether another vehicle was used to transport them.

The information you provide will help us to identify those responsible and take action to prevent them causing problems in the future.

For more advice on:

- anti-social behaviour, visit www.kent.police.uk/asb
- road safety, visit think.direct.gov.uk



Contact us

Report a crime:

-  Call **101** to report a non-urgent crime or to contact your local officer
-  Call **999** if a crime is in progress or life is in danger
-  If you are deaf or speech-impaired, text '**police**' and your message to **60066**
-  Visit your nearest police front counter to report non-urgent crime

News, information and advice:

-  Speak to an officer – at a police surgery, at a front counter or by calling **101**
-  Visit our website – www.kent.police.uk
-  Follow **@kent_police** or your district account on Twitter
-  Find us on **Facebook**
-  Chat to officers online – www.kent.police.uk/onlinemeeting
-  Sign up for your district e newsletters – www.kent.police.uk/enews

For details of all the ways to contact us, visit www.kent.police.uk/contactus

For other information guides in this series, visit www.kent.police.uk/yourguide

If you would like a copy of this leaflet in large print, another format or language, call us on **01622 652158** or email us at communications@kent.pnn.police.uk

Motorbikes, quad bikes and mini motos



Your guide to riding safely and reporting nuisance behaviour



Kent Police

Advice for riders

The use of all motorised vehicles, including go-peds, mini motos, quad bikes and motorbikes, must comply with section 185(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1988.

What the law says

It is against the law to use a go-ped, mini moto, quad bike or motorbike in public parks, open spaces or on footpaths, pavements, cycle routes and bridleways.

It is also an offence to use a go-ped, mini moto, quad bike or motorbike on a footpath to pass from one piece of private land to another.

Under 16 – The **only** place that you can ride a go-ped, mini moto, quad bike or motorbike is on private land but you must have the permission of the land owner.

Over 16 – You can use a go-ped, mini moto, quad bike or motorbike on the road if you meet certain legal requirements, or on private land if you have the land owner's permission.

Riding legally on the road

You can only ride a go-ped, mini moto, quad bike or motorbike legally on the road if you have:

- a **full driving licence** and Compulsory Basic Training (CBT) certificate – a provisional driving licence and CBT certificate is sufficient to ride a motorbike up to 125cc with 'L' plates
- a **valid insurance policy** with minimum of third party cover
- an **MOT test certificate** to ensure your vehicle is roadworthy, with all lights and mechanics in good working order



- **registration and tax** obtained from the Driver and Vehicle Licensing Agency (DVLA)
- an **approved protective helmet** (mini-motos and motorcycles).

Safety on and off the road

On the road – if you ride without lights, brake lights, indicators, mirrors or a helmet, you significantly increase the chance of being in an accident.

Off the road – if you ride on land that is not designed for off-road vehicles, there may be unknown hazards such as potholes that could cause you to have an accident and seriously injure yourself.

Inconsiderate or careless riding

If you ride a motorbike, quad bike or other vehicle on or off the road in a careless or inconsiderate way that causes alarm, distress or annoyance to members of the public, you could receive a **warning** and your vehicle could be **seized**.

These warnings are recorded on the Police National Computer. They last for 12 months and apply to you **and** the vehicle you were using at the time.



If you receive a warning:

- the police can seize your bike if you use it again in the same way, or if someone else uses it in a careless or inconsiderate way, even if they have not previously received a warning
- you will have to pay the cost for recovery if your bike is seized, as well as a fee for each day your bike is in storage
- you can be prosecuted for causing alarm, distress or annoyance and any other related offences.

Criminal offences

If you:

- **don't have a licence or CBT** you can be prosecuted and have your vehicle seized – you can still get points without a licence
- **don't have insurance** you can be prosecuted and have your vehicle seized, which could result in six points on your licence and a £200 fine
- **ride anti-socially** after receiving a warning the police and council can use this as evidence to apply for an Anti-Social Behaviour Order against you
 - **cause criminal damage** by riding on fields belonging to the council or private owners without permission, you could be arrested and sued for the damage caused and the cost of repair
 - **cause noise nuisance** when riding off the road, the council can serve you with a legal notice – if you ignore this notice, the council can seize your vehicle and prosecute you.

