



High standards: The vehicles have built-in speed limits and lights that are always on

E-scooter trial begins

TFL AND LONDON COUNCILS LAUNCH A TRIAL OF RENTAL E-SCOOTERS IN LONDON

THE planned trial of an e-scooter rental scheme began on Monday, following the Government's announcement to legalise rental trials of e-scooters that are run by local authorities.

The trial has initially launched in Canary Wharf, Ealing, Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington & Chelsea and Richmond, with Tower Hamlets acting as a 'ride through' area. It will begin with this core group of boroughs, with more expected to join throughout the summer.

The e-scooters will be priced at between £3.25 and £3.40 for a 15-minute ride – and they are only allowed on roads, not on pavements. Each operator will charge a fee to unlock the e-scooters, as well as a 'per minute' fee for each ride.

OPERATING WITH CARE

Following an open and competitive procurement process for the trial, operators Dott, Lime and TIER were selected for their ability to meet strict safety requirements and high operating standards.

The trial will last for up to 12 months and have safety at its heart. TfL, London Councils and participating boroughs have actively engaged with people with accessibility needs throughout the process, including TfL's Independent Disability Advisory Group.

Rental e-scooters can only be parked in specified parking bays in participating boroughs and areas, not obstructing the pavement, and cannot be taken in certain areas, such as tunnels. There will also be a unique identification number on every vehicle. Private e-scooters remain illegal and the police will continue to enforce against the use of privately owned e-scooters on the highway and on footways.

SAFETY FIRST

The safety standards required will go much further than those set out at a national level, by requiring a lower maximum speed of just 12.5mph, compared to the 15.5mph which has been set nationally.

In addition, lights at the front and the rear of the vehicles are always on, and the scooters will have larger

wheels – at least 12 inches in diameter – so they can navigate road surfaces more easily.

The operators will also have additional safety mechanisms in place, including 'first ride policies', meaning riders must take an e-learning safety course before they hire an e-scooter for the first time, with lower maximum speeds in place for their first ride.

TfL, London Councils and the operators have also launched an extensive safety and awareness campaign to promote the importance of safety during the trial. It will be regularly monitored and reviewed to make sure it is safe for everybody, with changes made to its operation where necessary.

For more information on the trial, visit tfl.gov.uk



In safe hands: Operators Dott, Lime and TIER will take part in the trial



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Extra entrance for Ilford



Improved access: A new entrance and ticket hall

A NEW southern entrance and ticket hall is now open at Ilford station, paving the way for easier access from nearby homes and bus stops, as well as a ramp to Platform 1.

It provides another way for TfL Rail customers travelling from Ilford into central London and Essex to access the station. It will also save time for customers alighting from buses to the south of the station, as they will not have to walk around to the front entrance on Cranbrook Road.

In addition, the entrance provides further capacity to support the expected rise in passenger numbers when the Elizabeth line opens.

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