

# Mobility Scooters on the right path

Less mobile people use mobility scooters to help them get to everyday places such as the local shops and appointments.

## ***Under the NSW Road Rules:***

- mobility scooter users are classed as pedestrians
- you do not need a NSW driver licence to operate a mobility scooter
- mobility scooters must not travel at more than 10km/hour.

## ***To use a mobility scooter, you need these basic skills:***

**Strength** – for steering

**Balance** – to stay upright on hills and uneven ground

**Coordination** – to change between the accelerator and the brake, while steering

**Good Eyesight** – to avoid obstacles, people and vehicles

**Perception** – to judge your speed and distances to obstacles, people and vehicles.

## ***Safe riding by:***

- planning a safe route on the footpath or shared path wherever possible
- riding at walking speed (2-3km/hour) in busy pedestrian areas.

## ***Stay left, give way to other pedestrians and:***

- travel away from shop-fronts to make it safer for pedestrians exiting the shops
- cross the road at safe places, such as pedestrian crossings and refuges
- approach kerb ramps straight-on, never on an angle
- slow down before turning
- avoid hills if possible; they drain the battery and can strain brakes
- slow down when crossing driveways
- make sure you're visible to cars and pedestrians; use a flag, reflectors and wear bright clothes
- ensure any parcels or bags you are carrying will not over-balance your scooter, and will not interfere with controls or vision
- the load capacity, performance and stability of your scooter may change depending on the type of ground the scooter is used on (check with suppliers and manufacturers)
- health and medications may affect your ability to use your scooter; check with your doctor or pharmacist.