

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

15 February 2011

APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE

REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

Contact Officer: Carol Stefanczuk Tel No: 01962 848 188

RECENT REFERENCES:

None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Mr Stuart Pinnock has applied for a licence to drive a private hire vehicle and has also applied for a private hire vehicle licence for a 2005 Expertise Tricycle, also known as a Tuk Tuk. This vehicle would be used for pre-booked novelty rides, rather than the usual type of private hire work.

The Tuk Tuk does not meet the current policy for licensing private hire vehicles. The Sub Committee are therefore asked to consider whether to licence this type of vehicle as a private hire vehicle.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1 That the Sub Committee grant the application for a private hire vehicle licence for a six month trial period, subject to the condition recommended in paragraph 1.8 of the Introduction below.
- 2 That, if the venture is a success and no problems arise during the course of the trial period, the licence be extended to 12 months and thereafter be renewable in accordance with normal procedure.

LICENSING SUB COMMITTEE

15 February 2011

APPLICATION FOR A PRIVATE HIRE VEHICLE LICENCE

REPORT OF HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

DETAIL:

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Mr Pinnock wishes to licence his Tuk Tuk as a private hire vehicle to provide novelty, pre-booked journeys for special occasions such as proms and birthdays. Mr Pinnock's business plan including photographs can be found at Appendix 1.
- 1.2 The vehicle has three wheels and a 660cc engine. It was first registered in 2005. It has a driver's seat and a bench seat to accommodate three passengers facing forwards behind the driver. The current policy is that a private hire vehicle must carry a minimum of four passengers and by law must not carry more than eight. This vehicle could carry a maximum of three passengers.
- 1.3 The other requirement of the policy is that the vehicle must have four doors and an engine size no less than 1600cc. This vehicle does not have any doors and the engine size is below 1600cc.
- 1.4 The maximum speed is approximately 50 to 60 miles per hour and it is understood Mr Pinnock does not intend to drive the vehicle at more than approximately 25 miles per hour to provide passengers with a more comfortable, enjoyable and unique journey.
- 1.5 A vehicle of this description has not been licensed by this Council in the past. However, Licensing officers have inspected this vehicle and consider that licensing it as a private hire vehicle would allow the Council to ensure that the vehicle is safe, clean and tidy.
- 1.6 Licensing officers consider that with the correct standards and conditions in place, this form of transport will not provide any unacceptable risk to fare paying passengers. This assumes a 'common sense' approach from each passenger.
- 1.7 The vehicle would be subject to a full MOT and mechanical inspection check at the Council's nominated testing station and Mr Pinnock would be required to produce comprehensive insurance to include the carrying of passengers for hire and reward.

- 1.8 It is understood that all seats currently have seatbelts. If a licence is granted for this vehicle, it is recommended that an additional condition be attached to the licence, that Mr Pinnock should encourage all passengers to wear a seatbelt. However, it would remain the legal responsibility of the passenger to wear the seatbelt.
- 1.9 Licensing officers do not believe this venture will have any significant effect on the current private hire trade because of the type of business Mr Pinnock is proposing.
- 1.10 If the Sub Committee were to grant a private hire vehicle licence for this vehicle, Mr Pinnock would be required to fulfil the requirements for a licence to drive a private hire vehicle and obtain a private hire operator licence with this Council.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:

2 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND CORPORATE BUSINESS PLAN (RELEVANCE TO):

- 2.1 This report covers issues which relate to Safe and Strong Communities.

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 3.1 It is anticipated that an appropriate level of officer attendance will be provided within the existing budget.

4 RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

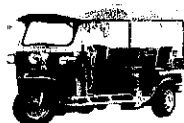
- 4.1 None.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 Business plan including photographs of the Tuk Tuk



TUKTUK4U

Stockbridge road
Winchester
Hampshire
SO21 2NA
Tel: 07595 761542
Email infotuktuk4u@yahoo.co.uk

Date 18/10/10

Business Plan For Private Hire Licence

I would like to apply for a limited private hire licence to run from April to October for my Tuk Tuks so that people in the U.K can hire

Initially I would like to run 2 Tuk Tuks a 3 seater & 6 seater as me as only driver, and assess the viability over one season.

I would run this on a non-metered basis for individuals

No children under the age of five years old

Festivals, weddings, picnics, promotional & advertising, events. Special occasions. Proms, Private bookings, charity events

These would be charged on an individual basis.

I have been involved amongst the thai community using the Tuk Tuk to promote their tourism & culture and have attended various cultural festivals & events

The Tuk Tuks are genuine Thai models, not the Indian inferior models, They are fully serviced & MOT to UK standards, they are not 2 stroke engines but four stroke car engines running on unleaded fuel & I am also looking to converting them to LPG

I would very interested in working with the city council to use the Tuk Tuks to promote the city, culture & tourism.

Other councils within the UK have given limited private hire licence for Tuk Tuks Winchester city council was good in given the pedal tricycle an opportunity to try something new. I hope I could have a equal opportunity to do the same

I am currently unemployed & would like to use this venture to get back into employment

Thank you



WINCHESTER



SOUTHAMPTON THAI FESTIVAL



LONDON TRAFALGAR FESTIVAL