

NOTES FOR GUIDANCE

Licensing - Tuk Tuks and Pedicabs

Over recent years, the licensing service has received a number of enquiries concerning the licensing of tuk tuks and pedicabs as private hire vehicles or hackney carriages. The legislation and the council's policies relating to private hire vehicles and hackney carriages do not specifically concern itself with tuk tuks and pedicabs as a means of transport.

The legislation states that non-motorised vehicles cannot be licensed as private hire vehicles (Section 48 (1) (a) Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. The council has a policy relating specifically to hackney carriages, which can be motorised or non-motorised. In order for hackney carriage applications to be determined, applicants will need to demonstrate how they propose to comply with the council's Hackney Carriage Vehicle Policy (as far as practicable). There are a number of issues in respect of hackney carriages that need to be considered including wheelchair accessibility and the refusal of fares, which is particularly relevant for non-motorised transport. The Council also has a cap of 420 hackney carriages.

If an applicant wishes to apply for a private hire vehicle licence for a tuk tuk, all work must be pre-booked with a licensed operator.

The drivers of hackney carriages and private hire vehicles need to hold an appropriate drivers licence issued by the council. Applicants for such licences need to satisfy the council's Enforcement, Convictions and fitness policy, which includes a topography test, a safeguarding course, DBS check and a group 2 medical.

Currently the council do not have a policy that specifically relates to the licensing of tuk tuks or pedicabs in Nottingham. Therefore, applicants are required to consider the existing policies in respect of private hire and hackney carriages and to demonstrate to the Regulatory & Appeals Committee how they propose to comply with the relevant policies. If the committee were minded to depart from existing policies and grant licences for tuk tuks or pedicabs appropriate conditions would need to be attached.

For further information please contact the Taxi Licensing Team either via email to taxi.licensing@nottinghamcity.gov.uk , on 0115 915 6571 or at Commercial & Operations, Licensing, Central Police Station, Byron House, Maid Marian Way, Nottingham, NG1 6HS.