



**Report of the Head of Licensing and Registration**

**Report to the Licensing Sub Committee**

**Date: 12 March 2012**

**Subject: Certification of Films**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):		
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

**Executive Summary**

To advise Members of an application for the certification of films to be shown at the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Leeds Young People's Film Festival between the 26<sup>th</sup> March and the 5<sup>th</sup> April 2012. The films are to be shown at various venues throughout the Leeds City Council area.

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

1.1 This report informs Members with the background, history and issues of an application made under the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") for the certification of films that do not currently have a BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) certification. Finally, this report informs Members of the options available to them when considering an application for the certification of films.

**2.0 Background Information**

2.1 The Licensing Act 2003 applies to premises which provide film exhibitions. At present there are a total of 7 cinemas and 101 other premises licensed for the exhibition of films in the Leeds District.

2.2 The majority of films shown in these premises will carry a Certificate from the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC), the categories of which are as follows:

Category 'U'            Passed for general exhibition

Category 'PG'        Passed for general exhibition but parents/guardians are advised that the film contains materials they might prefer children under fifteen years not to see.

Category `12`	Passed as suitable only for exhibition to persons of twelve years and over. When a programme includes a `12` film, no persons under twelve years can be admitted.
Category `12a`	Passed as suitable for children under the age of 12 if accompanied by an adult.
Category `15`	Passed as suitable only for exhibition to persons of fifteen years and over. when a programme includes a `15` film, no persons under fifteen years can be admitted.
Category `18`	Passed as suitable only for exhibition to adults. When a programme includes an `18; film no persons under the age of eighteen years can be admitted.

2.3 In addition to licensing premises for film exhibitions, the Licensing Authority has a duty under Section 20 of the Licensing Act 2003 to categories a film which is absent of a certificate from a film classification body such as the BBFC. The Licensing Authority may also reject or modify a film which has received a Certificate from the BBFC.

### **3.0 Main Issues**

3.1 A request has been received from the Leeds Young People's Film Festival Programme Manager for the certification of films which have not been certified by a film classification body in the United Kingdom.

3.2 A synopsis of the films is attached hereto for Members attention at Appendix 'A'. This includes suggested categories based on the content of the films.

### **4.0 HISTORY**

4.1 This is the 13<sup>th</sup> year of the Leeds Young People's Film Festival.

### **5.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance**

5.1 There are no implications for Council Policy and Governance in respect of determining this application.

### **6.0 Recommendations**

6.2 Members are requested to consider this request for the certification of the films as attached hereto.