
Report of the

Licensing Sub Committee

Date: 18 September 2006

Subject: CERTIFICATION OF FILMS

Electoral Wards Affected:
City Wide

Specific Implications For:

Ethnic minorities

Women

Disabled people

Executive Summary

To advise Members of an application for the certification of films to be shown at the Leeds International Film Festival

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 licensed in the Leeds District.

2.2 The majority of films shown in Cinemas 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 categorise 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 International Film Festival Office to have a number films certified by the Licensing Panel.
- 3.2 Details of the films which require certification are attached hereto for Members attention at Appendix 'A'.
- 3.3 The Festival Film Director Mr C Fell will attend the meeting to give members additional information in respect of the proposed films.

4.0 HISTORY

- 4.1 This is an annual request for the Leeds International Film Festival. The initial request of this nature was in 1986.

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.