

Category PG **Parental Guidance. General viewing, but some scenes may be unsuitable for young children.**

A PG film should not unsettle a child aged around eight or older. Unaccompanied children of any age may watch, but parents are advised to consider whether the content may upset younger or more sensitive children.

Category 12A/12 **Suitable for 12 years and over.**

Films classified 12A and video works classified 12 contain material that is not generally suitable for children aged under 12.

No one younger than 12 may see a 12A film in a cinema unless accompanied by an adult. Adults planning to take a child under 12 to view a 12A film should consider whether the film is suitable for that child. To help them decide, the BBFC recommend that they check the ratings info for that film in advance.

No one younger than 12 may rent or buy a 12 rated video work.

Category 15 **Suitable only for 15 years and over.**

No one younger than 15 may see a 15 film in a cinema.

No one younger than 15 may rent or buy a 15 rated video work.

Category 18 **Suitable only for adults.**

No one younger than 18 may see an 18 film in a cinema.

No one younger than 18 may rent or buy an 18 rated video work.

Category R18 **To be shown only in specially licensed cinemas, or supplied only in licensed sex shops and to adults only.**

The R18 category is a special and legally restricted classification primarily for explicit works of consenting sex or strong fetish material involving adults. Films may only be shown to adults in specially licensed cinemas, and video works may be supplied to adults only in licensed sex shops. R18 video works may not be supplied by mail order.

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 certification from the BBFC.

2.4 A copy of the current BBFC Classification Guidelines is available at **Appendix A** for Member's consideration.

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 An application has been received from Film Oxford, on behalf of Festival Republic, to have a number of short films certified as they are not currently certified by the BBFC. The films are to be shown in the Cinema Tent of the Leeds Festival site, within the grounds of Bramham Park, Leeds, LS23.
- 3.2 A list detailing the films that request certification, including links to view the films online, a synopsis, the applicant's recommended rating, can be found at **Appendix B**. The document includes redactions as the supplied links direct the observer toward unclassified content that some viewers may find offensive. The original copy of this list has been provided to Members of the Licensing Sub Committee in advance of the hearing.
- 3.3 To assist members with their deliberation officers of the Licensing Authority have viewed each available film and provided comments in accordance with BBFC guidelines. These comments are available in the document attached at **Appendix C**.
- 3.4 A representative from Oxford Film will attend the hearing to give additional details of the films and to answer any questions the Licensing Sub Committee may have.
- 3.5 Members may wish to note that Leeds Festival, Bramham Park, do have the benefit of a premises licence authorising the exhibition of films, as per the following timings for this year:

Thurs 25 th August 2022	19:00 until 03:00 the following day
Fri 26 th to Sun 28 th August 2022	12:00 until 06:00 the following day

4.0 Implications for Council Policy and Governance

- 4.1 There are no implications for Council policy and governance in respect of determining this application.

5.0 Legal and Resource Implications

- 5.1 The applicant can appeal any decision made by committee. Any appeal would be to the Magistrates' Court.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 Members are requested to consider this request for the certification of the films as attached hereto.
- 6.2 Members may take the decision to view any of the films prior to the issue of a Certificate.

7.0 Options Available to Members

- 7.1 The Licensing Authority has the authority to categories a film which is absent of a Certificate from the BBFC.