

Report of: Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory

Report to: Licensing Sub Committee

Date: Tuesday, 17th October 2023

Subject: Certification of a Film – Sambizanga

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s): Headingley & Hyde Park		
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 the Licensing Sub Committee Members of an application for the certification of a film titled, ‘Sambizanga’, to be screened as part of Cinema Africa. The Screening is scheduled to take place on the 29th October 2023, at Hyde Park Picture House.

With no advance screening being made available the request is made for the film to be awarded an 18 rating, subject to a declaration provided by the distributor. Further information on this element is detailed at 3.3 of this report.

1.0 Purpose of this 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 a film that does 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 8 cinemas licensed in the Leeds district.

2.2 The majority of films shown in cinemas will carry a certificate from the BBFC, the categories of which are as follows:

3.0 Main Issues

- 3.1 An application has been received from Hyde Park Picture House to certify the film titled, 'Sambizanga'. The Screening is scheduled to take place on the 29th October 2023, at Hyde Park Picture House.
- 3.3 The distributor has been unable to provide an advance screener for Members of the Licensing Sub Committee to view.
- 3.4 There is no requirement for the Committee to view the film as the request is to award an 18 rating subject to a written declaration confirming that the trailers do not contain any content which would more likely than not, render them liable to be classified as R18 if considered in accordance with the BBFC Classification Guidelines.
- 3.5 A report provided by the distributor includes the synopsis, further details on the screening and the declaration referred to above. A copy of this report is available at Appendix A.
- 3.6 A representative of Hyde Park Picture will be contactable by phone should Members of Licensing Sub Committee have any questions.

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 There is no right of appeal to the Magistrates Court against this decision of the Committee.

6.0 Recommendations

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