

**Report of:** Chief Officer, Elections and Regulatory

**Report to:** Licensing Sub Committee

**Date:** Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025

**Subject:** Certification of a Film – Sudanese Film Group Shorts

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 number of Sudanese Short Films to be screened 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025, at Hyde Park Picture House, 73 Brudenell Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6 1JD.

The applicant’s request is made for the films 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 a number of Sudanese short films due to be screened on 29<sup>th</sup> January 2025, Hyde Park Picture House, 73 Brudenell Road, Headingley, Leeds LS6.
- 3.2 There is no requirement for the Committee to view the films as the request is to award an 18 rating subject to a written declaration confirming that the films 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.
- 3.3 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**.
- 3.4 A representative of Hyde Park Picture House 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 categorise a film which is absent of a Certificate from the BBFC.