

Arts Representative

Warwick District Council, Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Leamington Spa, CV32 5HZ

22nd February 2016,

Dear Sir or Madam:

My name is Charlie Lyne and I'm a filmmaker based in London. I'm hoping to release my new film *Fear Itself* in select UK cinemas later this year, and one of the venues I'm considering is the Vue Leamington Spa, which lies within your local authority.

As I intend to release the film without a certificate from the British Board of Film Classification, I need permission from the council before I can show the film in Warwick. I would therefore like to request this permission.

Please don't hesitate to contact me using the contact information above. If you would like to watch *Fear Itself*, you can do so online at vimeo.com/142058424 with the password 'blindbeast'. Alternatively, I can send you a DVD copy of the film upon request.

Yours,

Charlie Lyne



Fear Itself

Constructed entirely from existing films, *Fear Itself* is a journey through fear and cinema that asks whether horror movies know us better than we know ourselves. Encouraging viewers to interrogate a diverse range of images and sounds sampled from a hundred years of global cinema, *Fear Itself* informs and unnerves in equal measure, changing the way you watch horror movies for good.

88 minutes

Written, directed and edited by Charlie Lyne

Narrated by Amy E Watson

Produced by Catherine Bray, Anthony Ing and Daniel O'Connor

Executive produced by Janet Lee and Victoria Jaye

Original music by Jeremy Warmesley

Sound mix by Peregrine Andrews

Director's biography:

Charlie Lyne is a filmmaker and film critic living in London. His first film, *Beyond Clueless*, premiered at SXSW 2014 and went on to play at more than fifty international festivals including Rotterdam, CPH:DOX and HotDocs. *Fear Itself* is his second film.

Director's filmography:

Beyond Clueless — 2014

Copycat (short) — 2015

Fear Itself — 2016



bbfc

Age Ratings You Trust

Guidelines





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Introduction

The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) is an independent, non-governmental, not-for-profit, co-regulatory body. We are funded through fees charged to those who submit films and video works for classification.

We classify:

- films, trailers and advertisements on behalf of local authorities who license cinemas
- video works under the Video Recordings Act 1984
- video works which are distributed over the internet under a voluntary, self-regulatory service
- commercial and internet content distributed via mobile networks under a voluntary, self-regulatory service

Our Classification Guidelines follow extensive public consultation, as well as other research, expert advice and our accumulated experience over many years. The Guidelines, and our practice in applying them, pay particular attention to changes in public taste, attitudes and concerns, and changes in the law. They also take account of new evidence from research or expert sources. The Guidelines are reviewed periodically, and how we apply them is reviewed when necessary.

We take responsibility for the Guidelines and for their interpretation. This responsibility is subject to normal considerations of fairness and reasonableness.

Here, and throughout the Guidelines, video works are taken to include films and programmes released on DVD or Blu-ray, or distributed by means of download or streaming on the internet.

The Guidelines cannot be a comprehensive account of everything that may at any time be of concern. If issues arise which are not specifically covered here, they will be dealt with by us on their merits and in line with the standards expressed and implied in these Guidelines. The Guidelines are not a legal document and should be interpreted in the spirit of what is intended as well as in the letter.

We will provide guidance on the interpretation of these Guidelines on request.

Guiding Principles

Our guiding principles are:

- to protect children and vulnerable adults from potentially harmful or otherwise unsuitable media content
- to empower consumers, particularly parents and those with responsibility for children, to make informed viewing decisions

We fulfil these roles by providing age classifications and publishing advice (known as BBFCinsight) for individual films and videos. We do this without infringing the right of adults to choose what they view provided that it remains within the law and is not potentially harmful. We seek to ensure that films and videos reach the widest audience that is appropriate for their theme and treatment.

Media effects research and expert opinion on issues of suitability and harm can be inconclusive or contradictory. In such cases we must rely on our own experience and expertise to make a judgement as to the suitability of a work for classification at a particular age category, taking into consideration whether the availability of the material, to the age group concerned, is clearly unacceptable to broad public opinion. Our extensive research into public opinion guides us as we seek to ensure that classification decisions generally reflect public sensibilities and expectations as these change over time.

In relation to harm, we will consider whether the material, either on its own, or in combination with other content of a similar nature, may cause any harm at the category concerned. This includes not just any harm that may result from the behaviour of potential viewers, but also any moral harm that may be caused by, for example, desensitising a potential viewer to the effects of violence, degrading a potential viewer's sense of empathy, encouraging a dehumanised view of others, suppressing pro-social attitudes, encouraging anti-social attitudes, reinforcing unhealthy fantasies, or eroding a sense of moral responsibility. Especially with regard to children, harm may also include retarding social and moral development, distorting a viewer's sense of right and wrong, and limiting their capacity for compassion.

We will not classify material which is in conflict with the criminal law, or has been created through the commission of a criminal offence.

We act as a regulator across the United Kingdom. However, the United Kingdom does not have a single legal system, and so we take account of the different legal systems that coexist in the UK. Further details about the applicable legislation can be found in the Annexe.

General Classification Considerations

There are general factors that may influence a classification decision at any level and in connection with any issue. These factors are of particular importance when a work lies on the borderline between two age categories.

Context

Context is central to the question of acceptability of film and video content. When considering context therefore, we take into account issues such as public expectation in general and the expectations of a work's audience in particular.

We consider the context in which an issue (such as sex, language or violence) is presented within a film or video. In doing this we take account of factors such as the setting of a work (historical, fantasy, realistic, contemporary); the manner of presentation (for example, an aggressive and directed use of bad language may result in a higher classification than a light-hearted and self-referential use of the same term); the apparent intention of the film; the original production date of the work (for example, outdated attitudes might be considered less offensive, and consequently classified at a lower category, in an old, obviously dated, work); and any special merits of the work.

Theme

Classification decisions will take into account the theme of a work, but will depend significantly on the treatment of that theme, and especially the sensitivity of its presentation. The most challenging themes (for example, drug misuse, sexual violence, paedophilia, racial hatred or violence) are unlikely to be appropriate at the most junior levels of classification. However, there is no reason in principle why most themes, however difficult, could not be presented in a manner which allows classification at 18 or even, where suitable, at lower levels.

Tone and impact

The overall tone of a work may also affect the classification decision. While the presentation of specific issues, such as sex and violence, may not be problematic at a particular category, a work with a dark or unsettling tone may receive a higher classification. Other tonal considerations which might have an influence on classification include the extent to which the work presents a despairing view of the world or the extent to which transgressive or harmful behaviour is condoned or made to appear normal.

We take into account the impact of a work (i.e. how it makes the audience feel), for example in relation to horror films where threat may be more significant than the level of violence.

Specific Classification Considerations

This section of the Guidelines identifies concerns which apply, to a greater or a lesser degree, at all classification levels, and sets out the general approach that we take. The concerns are listed in alphabetical order.

Pages 12 to 24 of the Guidelines provide specific guidance for U through to R18 with regard to such concerns. This should be read together with the General Classification Considerations.

Discrimination

Potentially offensive content relating to matters such as race, gender, religion, disability or sexuality may arise in a wide range of works, and the classification decision will take account of the strength or impact of their inclusion. The context in which such content may appear also has a bearing. Works with such content may receive a lower category where discriminatory language and behaviour is implicitly or explicitly criticised; or the work as a whole seeks to challenge such attitudes; or the work is obviously dated, with little or no appeal to children.

Drugs

No work taken as a whole may promote the misuse of drugs and any detailed portrayal of drug misuse likely to promote the activity may be cut. Works which normalise or glamorise drug misuse are likely to receive a higher classification than works which show drug misuse while emphasising the dangers.

Where smoking, alcohol abuse or substance misuse feature to a significant extent in works which appeal to children, this will normally be indicated in BBFCinsight. Classification decisions will also take into account any promotion or glamorisation of such activities.

Imitable behaviour

Classification decisions will take into account any detailed portrayal of criminal and violent techniques, and glamorisation of easily accessible weapons, such as knives. Works which portray anti-social behaviour (for example, bullying) uncritically are likely to receive a higher classification. Works which, taken as a whole, actively promote illegal behaviour may be cut or refused a classification.

Portrayals of potentially dangerous behaviour (especially relating to hanging, suicide and self-harm) which children and young people may potentially copy, will be cut if a higher classification is not appropriate.

Language

Language which people may find offensive includes the use of expletives with a sexual, religious or racial association, derogatory language about minority groups and commonly understood rude gestures. The extent of offence may vary according to age, gender, race, background, beliefs and expectations brought by viewers to the work as well as the context in which the word, expression or gesture is used.

For these reasons, it is impossible to set out comprehensive lists of words, expressions or gestures which are acceptable at each category. The advice at different classification levels, therefore, provides general guidance taking account of the views expressed in public consultation exercises.

Nudity

Nudity with no sexual context is in principle acceptable at all classification levels, but will not generally occur more than occasionally at U.

Nudity with a sexual context will receive a higher classification. Strong detail in such a context will usually only be passed at the adult categories (18 or R18).

Sex

The portrayal of sexual activity can range from kissing to detail of unsimulated sex. The normalisation of overtly sexualised behaviour is a concern at the junior categories. The classification system allows progressively stronger portrayals of sexual behaviour as the categories rise.

Sex works (works whose primary purpose is sexual arousal or stimulation) will normally only be passed at the adult categories. Sex works which only contain sex which may be simulated will usually be passed at 18. The R18 category is suitable for sex works containing clear images of real sex, strong fetish material, sexually explicit animated images, or other very strong sexual images. R18 video works may be supplied only in licensed sex shops which no one under 18 may enter. R18 films may be shown only in specially licensed cinemas.

We will apply these Guidelines in relation to sex to the same standard regardless of sexual orientation of the activity portrayed.

Threat

Where films are targeted at a younger audience, classification decisions will take into account factors such as the frequency, length and detail of scary or otherwise unsettling scenes as well as factors such as the impact of music and sound, and whether there is a swift and reassuring outcome.

The classification of threat and horror will take account of the general tone, impact, realism and supernatural elements of a work as well as the level of detail in individual scenes. Fantasy settings may be a mitigating factor.

Violence

Classification decisions will take account of the degree and nature of violence in a work.

Works which feature the following are likely to receive higher classifications:

- portrayal of violence as a normal solution to problems
- heroes who inflict pain and injury
- callousness towards victims
- the encouragement of aggressive attitudes
- characters taking pleasure in pain or humiliation
- the glorification or glamorisation of violence

Sadistic or sexual violence is likely to receive a higher classification. Any depiction of sadistic or sexual violence which is likely to pose a harm risk will be subject to intervention through classification, cuts or even, as a last resort, a refusal to classify.

We may refuse to classify content which makes sexual or sadistic violence look appealing or acceptable, reinforces the suggestion that victims enjoy sexual violence, or invites viewer complicity in sexual violence or other harmful violent activities.

We are also unlikely to classify content which is so demeaning or degrading to human dignity (for example, it consists of strong abuse, torture or death without any significant mitigating factors) that it may pose a harm risk.

Other Matters

Education videos

When classifying an education video, including a sex education video, for use in schools, we will take account of the educational purpose of the video and the context in which it is to be viewed (for example in the classroom mediated by a teacher).

Music videos

The classification of a music video will take account of any elements which are of concern to parents, including glamorisation of behaviour which they consider inappropriate. Where music videos are short and self-contained, material may be less likely to be justified by context.

Photo or pattern sensitivity, motion sickness and reactions to low frequency sound

A small number of viewers are sensitive to flashing and flickering light, or some shapes and patterns, and may experience seizures or other serious physical effects. Some viewers experience feelings of motion sickness or other symptoms when viewing works which feature hand held or otherwise moving camerawork, or which feature very low frequency sounds.

It is the responsibility of film makers and distributors to identify works in which such issues arise and to ensure that, when required, appropriate warnings are given to viewers. However, if it is obvious during viewing that the work contains strong examples of such imagery or sounds, we will advise the distributor of the need to ensure that appropriate warnings are in place. Where necessary, we may require assurances regarding the display of appropriate warnings as a condition of classification.

Release format

Classification decisions may be stricter on video works than on film. This is because of the increased possibility of under-age viewing as recognised in the Video Recordings Act (see Annexe), as well as the increased possibility of works being replayed or sections viewed out of context. Accordingly, a video work (either packaged or online) may occasionally receive a higher classification than on film, or require new or different cuts. (Video works may also receive a higher classification because they contain additional content.)

The screen format or visual presentation of a submission may also alter a classification, for example, if the image has been processed in the 3D format or is shown with an altered aspect ratio such as on an IMAX screen.

Titles

We will require changes as a condition of classification if the title of a work incites racial or religious hatred, or other criminal behaviour, or encourages an interest in abusive or illegal sexual activity.

If the title of a work is likely to cause significant offence to a significant number of people if displayed in a public place, we will advise the distributor to consider carefully the places in which it is likely to be seen and to take appropriate action, for example, by obscuring certain words on packaging or marketing materials. (This advice is not given in relation to video works classified R18 as such works may only be supplied or offered for supply in a licensed sex shop.) Where necessary, assurances on public display of the full title, or changes to the title, may be required as a condition of classification.

Trailers and advertisements

Audiences may choose to see a full-length feature based on expectations of the particular genre at the given classification and on the published BBFCinsight. In contrast, audiences have no choice, and often no expectation, about the accompanying trailers or advertisements which may be very different in tone and content to the film the audience has chosen to view. In addition, because trailers and advertisements are short and self-contained, material is less likely to be justified by context and more likely to cause offence.

For these reasons, classification decisions for trailers and advertisements may be more restrictive than for equivalent material in a main feature. Strong language will not be allowed in trailers at the U, PG and 12A/12 categories.

The more restrictive approach set out above may be relaxed where an advertisement is part of a public information campaign or has a charitable purpose.

Cinemas are responsible for the exhibition of cinema trailers and advertisements, and we have no involvement in deciding which films they precede. Questions or complaints about the exhibition of trailers or advertisements should be directed to the cinema management in the first instance.

Video games

With a few limited exceptions we do not classify video games. We consider for classification those video games contained on discs which feature primarily linear video content and pornographic video games which include for example:

- images of unsimulated human sexual activity involving genitals or anus
- sexual fetish material, including bondage or sadomasochistic activity, urination and other bodily functions
- material likely to encourage an interest in sexually abusive activity
- the portrayal of sexual activity which involves lack of consent whether real or simulated
- sexual threats, humiliation or abuse
- penetration by any object associated with violence or likely to cause physical harm
- images of sexual activity with animals

whether such images or material are of real events or activity or are animated.

We also advise the Games Rating Authority on the classification of linear video footage contained in games which is not integral to the game. This includes, for example, rewards and video content in games which is designed to be viewed in its own right, without taking forward the narrative drive of the game.

The Classification Categories

We endeavour to classify submitted works in one of the following categories:





The following pages set out guidance on how the specific classification considerations (for example, sex and violence) are specifically applied from U through to R18. The criteria should be read in combination with the general approach set out earlier under ‘Guiding Principles’, ‘General Classification Considerations’ and ‘Specific Classification Considerations’.

Because works from time to time present issues in ways which cannot be anticipated, these criteria will not be applied in an over-literal way if such an interpretation would lead to an outcome which would confound audience expectations.





U Universal – Suitable for all

A U film should be suitable for audiences aged four years and over, although it is impossible to predict what might upset any particular child. U films should be set within a positive framework and should offer reassuring counterbalances to any violence, threat or horror.

If a work is particularly suitable for pre-school children, this will be indicated in the BBFCinsight.

Discrimination

Discriminatory language or behaviour is unlikely to be acceptable unless clearly disapproved of.

Drugs

References to illegal drugs or drug misuse must be infrequent and innocuous, or have a clear educational purpose or anti-drug message suitable for young children.

Imitable behaviour

Potentially dangerous or anti-social behaviour which young children may copy must be clearly disapproved of. No emphasis on realistic or easily accessible weapons.

Language

Infrequent use only of very mild bad language.

Nudity

Occasional nudity, with no sexual context.

Sex

Only very mild sexual behaviour (for example, kissing) and references to such behaviour.

Threat

Scary or potentially unsettling sequences should be mild, brief and unlikely to cause undue anxiety to young children. The outcome should be reassuring.

Violence

Violence will generally be very mild. Mild violence may be acceptable if it is justified by context (for example, comedic, animated, wholly unrealistic).



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.

Discrimination

Discriminatory language or behaviour is unlikely to be acceptable unless clearly disapproved of, or in an educational or historical context, or in a particularly dated work with no likely appeal to children. Discrimination by a character with whom children can readily identify is unlikely to be acceptable.

Drugs

References to illegal drugs or drug misuse must be innocuous or carry a suitable anti-drug message.

Imitable behaviour

No detail of potentially dangerous behaviour which young children are likely to copy, if that behaviour is presented as safe or fun. No glamorisation of realistic or easily accessible weapons such as knives. No focus on anti-social behaviour which young children are likely to copy.

Language

Mild bad language only. Aggressive or very frequent use of mild bad language may result in a work being passed at a higher category.

Nudity

There may be nudity with no sexual context.

Sex

Sexual activity may be implied, but should be discreet and infrequent. Mild sex references and innuendo only.

Threat

Frightening sequences or situations where characters are in danger should not be prolonged or intense. Fantasy settings may be a mitigating factor.

Violence

Violence will usually be mild. However there may be moderate violence, without detail, if justified by its context (for example, history, comedy or fantasy).







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, we recommend that they check the BBFCinsight for that film in advance.

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

Discrimination

Discriminatory language or behaviour must not be endorsed by the work as a whole. Aggressive discriminatory language or behaviour is unlikely to be acceptable unless clearly condemned.

Drugs

Misuse of drugs must be infrequent and should not be glamorised or give instructional detail.

Imitable behaviour

No promotion of potentially dangerous behaviour which children are likely to copy. No glamorisation of realistic or easily accessible weapons such as knives. No endorsement of anti-social behaviour.

Language

There may be moderate language. Strong language may be permitted, depending on the manner in which it is used, who is using the language, its frequency within the work as a whole and any special contextual justification.

Nudity

There may be nudity, but in a sexual context it must be brief and discreet.

Sex

Sexual activity may be briefly and discreetly portrayed. Moderate sex references are permitted, but frequent crude references are unlikely to be acceptable.

Threat

There may be moderate physical and psychological threat and horror sequences. Although some scenes may be disturbing, the overall tone should not be. Horror sequences should not be frequent or sustained.

Violence

There may be moderate violence but it should not dwell on detail. There should be no emphasis on injuries or blood, but occasional gory moments may be permitted if justified by the context.

Sexual violence may only be implied or briefly and discreetly indicated, and its depiction must be justified by context.



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.

Discrimination

The work as a whole must not endorse discriminatory language or behaviour, although there may be racist, homophobic or other discriminatory themes and language.

Drugs

Drug taking may be shown but the work as a whole must not promote or encourage drug misuse (for example, through instructional detail). The misuse of easily accessible and highly dangerous substances (for example, aerosols or solvents) is unlikely to be acceptable.

Imitable behaviour

Dangerous behaviour (for example, hanging, suicide and self-harming) should not dwell on detail which could be copied. Whether the depiction of easily accessible weapons is acceptable will depend on factors such as realism, context and setting.

Language

There may be strong language. Very strong language may be permitted, depending on the manner in which it is used, who is using the language, its frequency within the work as a whole and any special contextual justification.

Nudity

There are no constraints on nudity in a non-sexual or educational context. There may be nudity in a sexual context but usually without strong detail.

Sex

Sexual activity may be portrayed, but usually without strong detail. There may be strong verbal references to sexual behaviour, but the strongest references are unlikely to be acceptable unless justified by context. Works whose primary purpose is sexual arousal or stimulation are unlikely to be acceptable.

Threat

There may be strong threat and horror. A sustained focus on sadistic or sexual threat is unlikely to be acceptable.

Violence

Violence may be strong but should not dwell on the infliction of pain or injury. The strongest gory images are unlikely to be acceptable. Strong sadistic violence is also unlikely to be acceptable.

There may be detailed verbal references to sexual violence but the depiction of sexual violence must be discreet and justified by context.







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.

Adults should be free to choose their own entertainment. Exceptions are most likely in the following areas:

- where the material is in breach of the criminal law, or has been created through the commission of a criminal offence
- where material or treatment appears to us to risk harm to individuals or, through their behaviour, to society. For example, the detailed portrayal of violent or dangerous acts, or of illegal drug use, which may cause harm to public health or morals. This may include portrayals of sadistic or sexual violence which make this violence look appealing; reinforce the suggestion that victims enjoy sexual violence; or which invite viewer complicity in sexual violence or other harmful violent activities

- where there are more explicit images of sexual activity in the context of a sex work (see below) or where the primary purpose of the images in question is sexual arousal

In the case of video works, which may be more accessible to younger viewers, intervention may be more frequent than for cinema films.

Sex education at 18

Where sex material genuinely seeks to inform and educate in matters such as human sexuality or safer sex and health, explicit images of sexual activity may be permitted.

Sex works at 18

Sex works are works whose primary purpose is sexual arousal or stimulation. Sex works containing only material which may be simulated are generally passed 18. Sex works containing clear images of real sex, strong fetish material, sexually explicit animated images, or other very strong sexual images will be confined to the R18 category. Material which is unacceptable in a sex work at R18 is also unacceptable in a sex work at 18.



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.

The following content is not acceptable:

- material which is in breach of the criminal law, including material judged to be obscene under the current interpretation of the Obscene Publications Act 1959 (see Annexe)
- material (including dialogue) likely to encourage an interest in sexually abusive activity which may include adults role-playing as non-adults
- the portrayal of sexual activity which involves real or apparent lack of consent. Any form of physical restraint which prevents participants from indicating a withdrawal of consent
- the infliction of pain or acts which may cause lasting physical harm, whether real or (in a sexual context) simulated. Some allowance may be made for moderate, non-abusive, consensual activity
- penetration by any object associated with violence or likely to cause physical harm
- sexual threats, humiliation or abuse which do not form part of a clearly consenting role-playing game. Strong physical or verbal abuse, even if consensual, is unlikely to be acceptable

These Guidelines will be applied to the same standard regardless of sexual orientation of the activity portrayed.



Advice Viewings

A customer may submit works for advice at any stage of the production process.

We will inform them of the likely classification a work will receive, and where appropriate any changes required to achieve the customer's preferred classification. However advice given in such circumstances is not binding and we reserve the right to reach a different decision when the final version of the work is submitted formally for classification. If the final version of the work submitted for classification differs in any significant respect from that seen for advice, and if those changes appear to reflect advice we have given, then details of the changes will appear on our website.

Intervention

Where possible we will carry out our responsibilities through appropriate use of the classification categories, particularly in order to protect children from any potential harm. If necessary, however, we may cut or even refuse to classify a film or video work.

In some cases, we require assurances, cuts or other changes (for example, the addition of warning captions) as a condition of classification, or as a condition of classifying at a particular category. In some circumstances we may refuse to classify a work at any category. We publish details of all interventions on our website.

Cuts for category

If the submitted work is suitable for classification, but only at a category higher than that requested by the customer, we will consider whether a lower category could be achieved through relatively minor or simple changes. If so, we may offer the customer a choice of accepting either the higher or lower category (the latter with defined changes as necessary).

Cuts for category are unlikely to be available if the required changes would be very extensive or complex, or would not address for example, a tonal or thematic issue running throughout the work.

Compulsory cuts

If a submitted work raises issues or concerns that cannot be addressed by classification at a particular age category, we may require cuts or other changes as a condition of classification. Such intervention is most likely when the submitted work contains:

- material which may promote criminal activity
- material which is obscene or otherwise illegal
- material created by means of the commission of a criminal offence
- portrayals of children in a sexualised or abusive context

- material which makes sexual or sadistic violence look normal, appealing, or arousing
- graphic images of real injury, violence or death presented in a salacious or sensationalist manner which risks harm by encouraging callous or sadistic attitudes
- material which reinforces the suggestion that victims enjoy sexual violence
- material which invites viewer complicity in sexual violence or other harmful violent activities
- sex works which contain material listed as unacceptable at R18

When the issue relates to the circumstances of filming (for example, in relation to animal cruelty or public indecency) the customer will normally be given an opportunity to present evidence before a final decision is reached.

Refusal to classify

As a last resort, the BBFC may refuse to classify a work, in line with the objective of preventing non-trivial harm risks to potential viewers and, through their behaviour, to society. We may do so, for example, where a central concept of the work is unacceptable, such as a sustained focus on sexual or sadistic violence. Before refusing classification we will consider whether the problems could be adequately addressed through intervention such as cuts. In deciding whether to refuse to classify, we will keep in mind the inherent difficulty of using behavioural research to draw conclusions about real world risks, and will have regard to the full range of available evidence, including the views of the public and our own knowledge and experience.

Appeals

We offer a formal reconsideration procedure which is open to any customer dissatisfied with the determination made in respect of their work. The reconsideration is free of charge and will normally take fewer than 10 working days.

A customer may also appeal directly to an independent authority. Such an appeal may take place following, or instead of, our reconsideration. In the case of films, the customer (or any member of the public) may address itself to the local authority which licenses cinemas in a particular area. In the case of video works a customer may appeal to the Video Appeals Committee. The VAC is independent of the BBFC and can be contacted by post at **VAC, PO Box 6949, London, W1A 3TZ** or by email at **enquiries@vacappeal.co.uk**

Customers should note that a reconsideration or an appeal involves looking at the issues afresh. This means that the outcome could, in some circumstances, be more restrictive than the original determination.

Engagement with the Public

As part of our role we provide consumers, particularly parents, with as much information as possible to enable them to make a fully informed decision about what they will view. We therefore publish detailed information about the content of every film we classify. This is called BBFCinsight.



insight

BBFCinsight consists of the following:

- short content advice on film posters, some film advertising and video packaging, for example:



Strong language and sex references

- more detailed information, aimed particularly at parents, found on our website and free App

BBFCinsight is a short description of the issues found in a film or video work. It explains why an individual title received a particular classification. It highlights the key issues in a film, and gives examples of the content in the film, avoiding where possible any potential plot spoilers.

BBFCinsight also notes any other issues that might be important for parents, or those wishing to take younger viewers to see a film. This may include, for example, themes of divorce or bereavement, a film's overall suitability for family viewing and the likely familiarity of the audience with the film's source material or cast.

We encourage viewers to check BBFCinsight for a clear idea of the issues a work contains.

Websites



BBFC Website - www.bbfc.co.uk

Our website gives detailed information about every classification decision.

The website includes an online version of our Guidelines, detailed information about the different classifications, a library of our research, education tools and resources for use in the classroom and independent study, and a media centre including news and press releases.



Children's BBFC – www.cbbfc.co.uk

This website offers children clear information about how age classifications work and our role and history. It includes interactive elements, and material especially adapted for younger filmgoers and families.

The site also has an area for adults which contains information about BBFCinsight, the classification categories and details of our education and outreach work (for example, video conferencing) for schools.

BBFC App

We have a free App available to download for iOS and Android devices. It lets users check the latest film and video classifications on the go, along with BBFCinsight.

Twitter

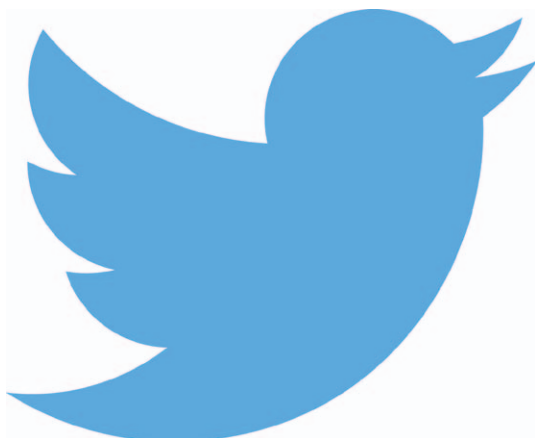
We regularly update our Twitter account, **@BBFC**, with BBFC news and the latest film and video classifications.

Newsletters

We produce regular newsletters for the industry, for those involved in education and for the general public. These give details about recent BBFC classification decisions as well as our resources, workshops and events. To sign up for any of the newsletters visit **www.bbfc.co.uk**.

Podcasts

We produce themed podcasts which feature guest interviews, discussion of recent decisions and current classification issues. The podcasts can be downloaded from the website.



Feedback

We welcome all feedback, whether positive or negative, and any comments can be sent to **feedback@bbfc.co.uk**, or in writing to the **Director's Office, BBFC, 3 Soho Square, London, W1D 3HD.**

For further details see the 'Contact Us' page on **www.bbfc.co.uk**



Annexe

Legal Considerations

The following legislation is not listed according to chronology or importance. Instead, it reflects a useful way of explaining the structure of the legal framework that applies to our work.

The Licensing Act 2003 – England and Wales Cinemas (Northern Ireland) (Order 1991) – Northern Ireland

Cinemas Act 1985 – Scotland

Cinemas require a licence from the local authority in which they operate. The licence must include a condition requiring the admission of children (anyone under 18) to any film to be restricted in accordance with our recommendations or those of the licensing authority. One of the key reasons for the licensing requirement is the protection of children, including from potentially harmful content in films.

The Video Recordings Act 1984

Video works (including films, TV programmes and some video games) which are supplied on a disc, tape or any other device capable of storing data electronically must have a BBFC classification unless they fall within the definition of an exempted work.

When considering whether to award a certificate to a work, or whether a work is suitable at a particular category, we are required by the Act to have special regard to the likelihood of works being viewed in the home, and to any harm that may be caused to potential viewers or, through their behaviour, to society by the manner in which the work deals with:

- criminal behaviour
- illegal drugs
- violent behaviour or incidents

- horrific behaviour or incidents
- human sexual activity

In considering these issues we have in mind the possible effect not only on children but also on other vulnerable people.

The Obscene Publications Act 1959 & 1964 – England and Wales

The Obscene Publications Act 1857 – Northern Ireland

The Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 – Scotland

It is illegal to publish a work which is obscene. A work is obscene if, taken as a whole, it has a tendency to deprave and corrupt a significant proportion of those likely to see it. Under the Obscene Publications Act 1959, no offence is committed if publication is justified as being for the public good on the grounds that it is in the interests of science, art, literature or learning or other objects of general concern.

In Scotland, case law implies a similar test would be applied. In Northern Ireland, while there is no express defence of “public good” it is likely that English law would be taken into consideration.

Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 – England, Northern Ireland and Wales

Criminal Justice and Licensing (Scotland) Act 2010 / Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 – Scotland

It is illegal to be in possession of an extreme pornographic image. Under the Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008 an extreme pornographic image is one which is pornographic and grossly offensive,

disgusting or otherwise of an obscene character, which features an apparently real person, and which portrays, in an explicit and realistic way, an act which:

- threatens a person's life
- results, or is likely to result, in serious injury to a person's anus, breasts or genitals
- involves sexual interference with a human corpse
- involves bestiality

In Scotland, the Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982, includes as "extreme" for the purpose "an act which takes or threatens a person's life" and "rape or other non-consensual penetrative activity".

Works we classify under the Video Recordings Act are excluded from the scope of the offence across the UK.

The Protection of Children Act 1978 – England and Wales

Protection of Children (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 – Northern Ireland

Civic Government (Scotland) Act 1982 – Scotland

It is illegal to make, distribute, show or possess indecent photographs or pseudo-photographs of a child. It is also illegal to make, distribute, show or possess indecent images of children which have been derived from a photograph or pseudo-photograph (for example, by tracing). Offences relating to the possession of such images are contained within the Criminal Justice Act 1988 (England, Wales and Scotland), and the Criminal Justice (Evidence, Etc.) (Northern Ireland) Order 1988. A child is defined as a person under the age of 18.

The Coroners and Justice Act 2009 – England, Northern Ireland and Wales

The Criminal Justice and Licensing Act 2010 - Scotland

It is illegal to be in possession of a prohibited image of a child. A prohibited image of a child is a non-photographic or non-pseudo-photographic image which is pornographic and grossly offensive, disgusting, or otherwise of an obscene character, and which focuses solely or principally on a child's genitals or anal region, or which portrays specified sexual acts by, of, or in the presence of a child, including masturbation, oral sex or penetration, including sexual acts with animals. A child is defined as being under 18 and an image of a child or other person can include imaginary representations. Works we classify under the Video Recordings Act are excluded from the scope of the offence unless images have been extracted from such works for the purpose of sexual arousal.

The Sexual Offences Act 2003

It is illegal to expose oneself with intent to cause alarm or distress – this offence augments the common law misdemeanour of indecent exposure. The Act also prohibits a person recording the private act of another, where the intention of the recording is for the sexual gratification of himself or a third party and where the recorded party has not consented to so being filmed.

The Public Order Act 1986 – England, Scotland and Wales

The Public Order (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 – Northern Ireland

It is illegal to distribute, show or play to the public a recording of visual images or sounds which are threatening, abusive or insulting if the intention is

to stir up racial hatred or hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation, or if racial hatred or hatred on the grounds of sexual orientation is likely to be stirred up. It is also illegal to distribute, show or play to the public a recording of visual images or sounds which are threatening if the intention is to stir up religious hatred.

In Northern Ireland the relevant group of persons may be defined not only by colour, race, nationality or ethnic or national origins, but also by “religious belief” or “sexual orientation” or “disability”.

In Scotland, the communication of material that is threatening and is intended to stir up hatred on religious grounds is an offence under the Offensive Behaviour at Football and Threatening Communications (Scotland) Act 2012.

The Cinematograph Films (Animals) Act 1937

It is illegal to show any scene “organised or directed” for the purposes of the film that involves actual cruelty to animals. This Act applies to the exhibition of films in public cinemas but we also apply the same test to video works. For the purposes of this legislation and The Animal Welfare Act 2006, only vertebrates which are domesticated or otherwise under the control of man are defined as “animals”.

The Animal Welfare Act 2006 – England and Wales

The Welfare of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2011 – Northern Ireland

The Animal Health and Welfare (Scotland) Act 2006 – Scotland

It is illegal to supply, publish or show or possess with intent to supply a video recording of an “animal fight” that has taken place within the UK since 6 April 2007.

The Tobacco Advertising and Promotion Act 2002

It is illegal, in the course of a business, to publish a tobacco advertisement.

Blasphemy

In Scotland and Northern Ireland, the common law crime of blasphemy exists but has not been utilised for prosecution in modern times. The offences of blasphemy and blasphemous libel under the common law of England and Wales were abolished in The Criminal Justice and Immigration Act 2008.

Human Rights Act 1998

The Act permits such restrictions on freedom of expression as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society, in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, for the protection of the reputation or rights of others, for preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence, or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary.

Other unlawful material

In carrying out its responsibilities, we will have regard to whether the material itself appears to be unlawful in the United Kingdom, or has arisen from the commission of an unlawful act.





Age Ratings You Trust

British Board of Film Classification

3 Soho Square, London, W1D 3HD

T 020 7440 1570

www.bbfc.co.uk



STATEMENT OF LICENSING POLICY

**Reviewed May 2014 &
Approved by Warwick District Council on 25 June 2014**

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1. Summary and purpose

- 1.1 Warwick District Council (the Licensing Authority) makes this Statement of Licensing Policy in pursuance of its duties and powers under the Licensing Act 2003, (the Act) and the guidance issued under Section 182 of the Act.
- 1.2 Warwick District Council (WDC) is situated in the south of Warwickshire in the centre of England. Appropriately for England's heartland, Warwick District Council's boundaries are roughly heart-shaped, embracing an area of some 28,253 hectares with a population exceeding 138,000 people. The District covers four towns, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwick, Kenilworth and Whitnash as well as a large rural area with 18 Parish Councils. It is acknowledged that the town centres have a large proportion of residential premises.
- 1.3 The policy will relate to current legislation, and, where possible, to local factors, allowing flexibility and the potential to expand and augment the local economy and promote cultural issues.
- 1.4 The aim of this Policy is to demonstrate how WDC, will promote the four licensing objectives. These objectives are:
- prevention of crime and disorder;
 - public safety;
 - prevention of public nuisance; and
 - protection of children from harm.

WDC recognises that the promotion of the Licensing Objectives relies heavily on a partnership between license holders, authorised persons, responsible authorities and other persons in pursuit of common aims.

- 1.5 In making this Policy, the Licensing Authority recognises the following:-
- that residents within, and visitors to the District, need a safe and healthy environment to live, work and visit; and
 - that safe and well run entertainment premises are important to the local economy and vibrancy of the District.
- 1.6 This Statement provides guidance to Responsible Authorities, applicants for and holders of premises licences, objectors and residents on the general approach that the Licensing Authority will implement through its Licensing Committee
- 1.7 When making its decisions on licensing applications, the Licensing Authority will have regard to the matters contained in this Statement, the Act, the guidance issued under section 182 of the Act, the provisions of the Human Rights Act 1998 and in particular, Article 6 (right to a fair and public hearing); Article 8 (right to respect for home, private and family life) and Article 1 of the First Protocol (right to peaceful enjoyment of property and possessions), and the Race Relations Act 1976 and the Race Relations (Amendment) Act 2000.
- 1.8 This Statement covers the period up to 30th August 2018 and will be kept under review and revised as required, following consultation where necessary.

2. Licensing Policy & South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership

- 2.1 The 1998 Crime and Disorder Act and subsequent amendments require the Police and local authorities to work together and with others to reduce crime and disorder. To this end, Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships were formed and are now called Community Safety Partnerships.
- 2.2 South Warwickshire Community Safety Partnership (SWCSP) was formed in September 2008 when the district crime and disorder partnerships for Stratford & Warwick districts merged following years of close collaboration. The vision statement for SWCSP is *'that the districts should be an attractive, environmentally sustainable, desirable area to live in, work and visit, with a sense of safety which reflects the low risk of becoming a victim of crime in the area'*.
- 2.3 Tackling violent crime has remained a priority in Warwick District since 1998 with Leamington Town Centre as the main focus of partnership activity. Tackling violent crime and specifically street violent crime is one of three SWCSP priorities. A 60 point partnership action plan is in place to reduce violent crime and rowdy behaviour in our town centres.
- 2.4 The policy of working with licensees in South Warwickshire has delivered national best performance and practice.
- 2.5 The age group most likely to be victims and perpetrators of violent crime is 18-30. A key initiative to engage with this group is Operation 'Your Town, Your Choice' which takes place on pay-day weekends in hot-spots at the busiest times of 9pm to 4am. An early intervention approach is used utilising direct to leave dispersal authorities together with designated public places powers and has a real impact on reducing violence and rowdy behaviour.
- 2.6 This best example of partnership working across all agencies in South Warwickshire illustrates the commitment to tackling on-street violent crime. In addition enhanced policing, Street Marshals, Street Pastors and CCTV control rooms support this approach.
- 2.7 Joint Licensing Enforcement visits are a key feature of these evenings ensuring that licensees are taking their responsibilities seriously. Engagement with 18 to 30 year olds is carried out on roads closed to traffic. Health related activities are offered in exchange for completing questionnaires on particular themes, for example, pre-loading. Results from these activities and questionnaires inform how and when the hot-spots are staffed and how young people can be assisted in having an enjoyable and safe night. A unique partnership pilot with St John Ambulance Service has provided a care and repair service on busy nights in Leamington called 'The Cabin' and staffed by up to 10 volunteers.
- 2.8 A further developing part of this approach is the Street Pastor Scheme introduced in 2013. The scheme provides a vital service, and integrates well into the overall multi-agency approach adopted. Further information about Street Pastors may be obtained on their website at www.leamingtonspa.streetpastors.org.uk

3 Delegation of Functions for Regulatory Matters

- 3.1 The Council has established a Licensing Committee with delegated powers to deal with licensing matters
- 3.2 The Licensing Committee has delegated the decision making to Licensing Panels when a hearing is required. These Panels are sub-committees consisting of three members of the full Committee. All other matters that do not require hearings have, upon Home Office advice, been delegated to officers.

4 Further Strategies

- 4.1 WDC has adopted the following strategies that it feels will help it to achieve its desired goals:
- It will work together with all partners as well as local businesses and residents to try to achieve an acceptable level of harmonisation between the two, accepting that this may not always be possible.
 - It accepts that an active and successful Crime and Disorder Partnership is one of the key factors in achieving its desired goals.
 - It recognises the importance of working with other agencies and holds and organises a Multi- Agency Licensing Group on a regular basis to discuss any problems that may arise within its district.
 - The value of action plans as a method of obtaining compliance from premises is recognised and used whenever they become necessary.
 - An Enforcement Policy which incorporates the Regulator's Compliance Code has been adopted. Both of these may be found on WDC's website,
 - In recognising the need to minimise late night noise nuisance, WDC would expect that after 23.00 all persons outside the premises would move indoors, and that any sound, amplified or unamplified, from within the premises should not disturb residents in neighbouring domestic properties. However, any conditions added to the premises licence to achieve this aim will be proportionate, enforceable and relevant to that particular premise.
 - WDC has adopted a special policy addressing the cumulative impact of the number of licensed premises in Leamington Spa Town Centre. Full information on this policy may be found at paragraph 10 below.

5. The four Licensing Objectives

5.1 Prevention of Crime and Disorder

- 5.1.1 In addition to the requirement for the Licensing Authority to promote the licensing objectives, it also has a duty under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to exercise its functions with due regard to the likely effect of the exercise of those functions, and to do all it reasonably can to prevent crime and disorder in the District.
- 5.1.2 The Licensing Authority will expect all licensed premises to be managed responsibly.

- 5.1.3 When considering applications for premises licences for late night refreshment the Licensing Authority will take into account the potential for high levels of disorder that this type of premises may cause to the night time environment.
- 5.1.4 The Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to licences and certificates to prevent crime and disorder. Any such conditions imposed will be tailored to the style and characteristics of the premises and the type of activities expected to take place. Any conditions added will be precise and enforceable and will be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve.
- 5.1.5 The Licensing Authority recognises that there are a number of mechanisms for addressing unlawful or anti-social behaviour that occurs away from licensed premises, qualifying clubs and temporary events. These include:–
- planning controls;
 - enforcement of Environmental Protection legislation (e.g. on noise nuisance);
 - positive measures to provide a safer and clean town centre;
 - environmental controls, in partnership with local businesses, transport operators and other departments of the Council;
 - powers to designate parts of the District as restricted alcohol areas
 - police enforcement of the law with regard to disorder and anti-social behaviour, including the issue of fixed penalty notices;
 - dispersal of people quickly and safely from town centres to avoid concentrations which may produce disorder and disturbance;
 - the prosecution of any personal licence holder or member of staff at such premises who is selling alcohol to people who are drunk;
 - confiscation of alcohol from adults and others in designated areas;
 - all current police and local authority powers of closure in force at the time
 - the power of police, other responsible authorities or a local resident or business to seek a review of the licence or certificate in question.

5.2 Public safety

- 5.2.1 The Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to licences and certificates to promote public safety. Any such conditions will be tailored to the style and characteristics of the premises and the type of activities expected to take place there and will be precise and enforceable and will be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve.

5.3 Prevention of public nuisance

- 5.3.1 The Licensing Authority will take an objective view as to the potential for nuisance and will seek to attach appropriate and proportionate conditions to licences and certificates where necessary in order to prevent it. The conditions added will be precise and enforceable and will be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve. Any such conditions imposed will be tailored to the style and characteristics of the premises and the type of activities expected to take place there. In each individual case that arises following representation, the Licensing Authority will:
- consider the potential for nuisance associated with the style, characteristics and activities of the licensable activity involved;
 - examine the potential steps which could be taken to reduce the risk of nuisance, particularly in areas of dense residential accommodation; and

- consider restricting the hours of the licence or the licensable activity only as a last resort because of the potential impact on disorder and anti-social behaviour from fixed and artificially early closing times.

5.3.2 By way of guidance, the Licensing Authority would expect that after 23.00 all patrons of a licensed premises will move indoors, and any amplified sound to be inaudible in neighbouring domestic properties.

5.3.3 Any exceptions to this would need to be justified in an operating schedule showing how the licensing objectives were still being achieved.

5.3.4 The Licensing Authority expects that premises should usually be closed within half an hour of the end of the last licensable activity.

5.3.5 The Live Music Act 2012 removed live music from the scope of the Licensing Authority, subject to the satisfaction of certain criteria, so it is recognised that its controls in this respect have been reduced. However, conditions may be added or reinstated at a review hearing which will bring live music for that particular premises into the licensing regime. This means that it would be within the licensing Authority's powers, at a review hearing, to place a condition on the premises licence prohibiting the playing of live music at any time. This may arise, for example, if the premises is not suitable for the live music being played; or if frequent disturbance is being caused by the music.

5.4 Prevention of Harm to Children

5.4.1 Nothing in this statement of policy limits the access of children to licensed premises unless it is necessary for the prevention of harm to children. However, this authority does not consider that children should be encouraged to mix in areas that are frequented by the adult drinking public, such as busy town centres. For this reason, birthday parties, etc., for the 18 and under demographic will be actively discouraged in these area.

5.4.2 Areas that may give rise to particular concern in respect of children include premises:

- With a known association with drug taking or dealing;
- Where there is a strong element of gambling on the premises;
- Where entertainment of an adult or sexual nature may be provided (e.g. topless bar staff, striptease, lap/table/pole dancing, strong and offensive language).

5.4.3 It is acknowledged that complete exclusion of children will be rare but the options to be considered by the Council for limiting access of children, where regarded as necessary for the prevention of harm to children, may include any of the following:

- Limitations on the hours when children may be present;
- Age limitations (below 18);
- Limitations or exclusions when certain activities are taking place;
- Restrictions or exclusions in respect of parts of premises;

- Requirements for an accompanying adult;
- Full exclusion of people under 18 from the premises when any licensable activities are taking place.

5.4.4 The Licensing Authority cannot impose conditions requiring the admission of children to any premises. Where no licensing restriction is necessary, this will remain a matter for the discretion of the individual licensee or club.

5.4.5 In the case of premises giving film exhibitions, the Licensing Authority expects licensees or clubs to include in their operating schedules arrangements to ensure that children will be restricted from viewing age-restricted films classified according to the recommendations of the British Board of Film Classifications.

5.4.6 Where a number of children are expected to attend regulated entertainment (e.g. theatre production, 'junior disco', film shows), the Licensing Authority may consider the need to require a specified number of adults to be present at the place of entertainment to control the access and egress of children and to assure their safety. The number of adults required will need to be calculated on the basis of a risk assessment by the applicant and will need to take into consideration the size of the venue, the number and ages and ability of the children present and the type of activity involved. These matters will need to be addressed by the applicant as part of the operating schedule.

5.4.7 The Licensing Authority will consider attaching conditions to licences and certificates to prevent harm to children. Such conditions will be appropriate to the premises and will be precise and enforceable and will be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve.

5.4.8 The Licensing Authority expects all premises to comply with statutory conditions requiring that a policy must be adopted, laying out how they will address underage drinking. This must be shown in the operating schedule of any premises licence application or variation.

NOTE: In the event of any variation submitted to remove any conditions where a hearing is necessary, evidence would be expected to be submitted to the Licensing Panel by the applicant that the change would not impact on the licensing objectives

5.5 Health

5.5.1 The Licensing Authority recognises the role of Public Health England acting in its role as a Responsible Authority. Public Health England can make representations in response to either a full licence application or an application for a variation in the conditions of an existing licence. They can also call for the review of a licence if they feel it breaches a licensing objective. Any representation must relate specifically to the premises in question and cannot be a general objection.

5.5.1 Representations made by Public Health England must be evidence-based and must demonstrably refer to one or more of the licensing objectives. As there is currently no licensing objective directly relating to public health, Public Health England must ensure their representations are relevant to one of the four existing objectives.

5.6 The Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority

- 5.6.1 The Licensing Authority are empowered to make representations against new applications for and variations applications to premises licences, as well as call for a review.
- 5.6.2 A procedure has been put into place to ensure that any representation made by the Licensing Authority as a Responsible Authority will be made without prejudicing its ability to determine the application in a fair and objective manner.

6. Other Considerations

6.1 Live Music, Dancing & Theatre

- 6.1.1 This Policy recognises the need to encourage live music, dancing and theatre for the wider cultural benefits of the community generally. In addressing such issues, the potential for disturbance to residents will try to be balanced with the wider cultural benefits to the wider population.

6.2 Integration of Strategies

- 6.2.1 The Licensing Authority will secure the proper integration of this policy with local crime prevention, anti-social behaviour away from licensed premises, planning, transport, tourism and cultural strategies by:
- Liaising and consulting with Warwickshire Police, Community Safety Forum, and considering any guidance from the crime and disorder strategy document; and
 - Liaising and consulting with the appropriate Council Officers, the Planning Committee, the Executive, and considering guidance in the Local Plan.
- 6.2.2 Specific conditions may be attached to premises licences, where appropriate, to reflect local crime prevention strategies. Such conditions may include
- the correct use of well installed closed circuit television cameras;
 - the provision and use of shatterproof drinking receptacles;
 - a drugs and weapons search policy;
 - the use of ID scanners
 - the use of registered door supervisors;
 - specialised lighting requirements;
 - restrictions on hours of opening and licensable activities.
- 6.2.3 Certificates issued to club premises will reflect local crime prevention strategies and may include any or all of the requirements listed above. The Licensing Authority will have regard to any local orders and/or strategies relating to street drinking.

7 Other regulatory regimes

- 7.1 This policy will avoid duplication with other regulatory regimes wherever possible. The following advice relates to specific regimes but is not exhaustive:-

7.2 Health and Safety

- 7.2.1 Premises will normally have been visited by the Council's Health and Community Protection inspection staff with regard to health and safety enforcement at the premises. Certain premises will not fall under this regime and will be the subject of health and safety enforcement by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). These regimes place a range of general and specific duties on employees, employers, operators of venues and members of the public. Matters arising out of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and associated Regulations should not be the subject of conditions that duplicate statutory H&S requirements.

7.3 Fire Safety

- 7.3.1 Premises and their operators will have statutory duties under the current fire safety regime to ensure the safety of patrons visiting the premises. The operating schedule should state the precautions that will be taken to ensure the safety of the public.

7.4 Food Hygiene

- 7.4.1 Premises selling alcohol and/or premises engaged in a food business must be registered with WDC and subject to risk-based food hygiene inspections at regular intervals. The inspections are carried out by the council's Health and Community Protection officers.

7.5 Noise

- 7.5.1 Statutory and public nuisances are dealt with by the Council's Health and Community Safety Section under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and associated legislation.

7.6 Planning

- 7.6.1 Premises that apply for a licence or a variation of a licence should be aware that they may also need planning permission to carry out the activities applied for.

8 Standard Conditions

- 8.1 The Licensing Authority does not support the use of blanket conditions which, if imposed, may be seen as disproportionate and overly burdensome. Conditions attached to licences will be tailored to the individual styles and characteristics of the premises and events concerned and will be precise and enforceable and will be unambiguous and clear in what they intend to achieve.

9 Enforcement

- 9.1 Inspections of premises will be on a risk assessed basis, to be undertaken when and if judged necessary, assisted by information provided by the Multi Agency Licensing Group.

10 Special Policy Regarding Cumulative Impact

- 10.1 The Licensing Authority recognises that there is a difference between the cumulative impact of premises and commercial need. The latter is a function of market forces and is not a factor the Council may take into account in the discharge of its licensing function.
- 10.2 The Licensing Authority adopted a special policy regarding cumulative impact in November 2005 at the commencement of the Licensing Act 2003 where it considered that a significant concentration of licensed premises would have an impact on the licensing objectives and granting of further licences in that area would add to this impact. When adopting the special policy reference to the steps outlined in the relevant part of the guidance issued under section 182 of the Act.
- 10.3 The Licensing Authority formed two saturation zones, based on information supplied in 2005 on crime and disorder and other related matters. The area and its necessity has been ratified by further figures supplied to the Licensing Authority in January 2009 as part of its review of the cumulative impact policy.
- 10.4 The two zones, when joined together, form the same area as the Leamington Safer Neighbourhood area. In the interest of clarity and transparency, the two zones have been amalgamated into one cumulative impact zone. Properties on both sides of any road which borders the zone are deemed to be included within the zone. A plan of the zone may be found at the end of this policy as Appendix 1.
- 10.5 It is considered that the cumulative impact of further new licences in this zone may lead to the area becoming further saturated with premises of a certain type, including pubs, clubs, takeaways and off licences, making the area a focal point for large groups of people, thereby creating exceptional problems of disorder and nuisance over and above the impact from the individual premises themselves.
- 10.6 The special policy regarding cumulative impact will not be used to try to revoke an existing licence or certificate when representations are made about the way the premises are being operated. However, the special policy may be a justification to refuse an application or to vary a licence or certificate.
- 10.7 The Licensing Authority will not operate a quota of any description including the special policy, that would pre determine an application. Each application will be considered on its individual merits. Proper regard will be given to the contrasting styles and individual characteristics of the premises concerned, and the differing impact they will have on the local community.
- 10.8 If an application for a premises licence within the cumulative impact zone is made, the Licensing Authority will expect the applicant to demonstrate in their operating schedule, the steps to be taken to prevent problems of nuisance and public safety and the steps to be taken to promote the reduction of crime and disorder. **The onus of proof will be on the applicant to show that the application will not impact on the four licensing objectives**

10.9 The Licensing Authority will consider the individual merits of all applications and where it feels to grant the application would be unlikely to add significantly to the cumulative impact in light of the licensing objectives, the Licensing Authority may grant the application.

10.10 The policy will be subject to review.

11 Responsible Authorities

11.1 A list of contact details for Responsible Authorities authorised under the Act is attached to this policy as Appendix 2.

11.2 Responsible Authorities are able to make representations regarding new or variation applications for premises licences and also to seek a review of a current premises licence.

11.3 Representations will only be relevant if they relate to one or more of the licensing objectives referred to in paragraph 5.

12. Early Morning Restriction Orders (EMROs) and Late Night Levy (LNL)

12.1 Following a report from officers, Warwick District Council's Licensing Committee recommended to full Council that it was felt, at the current time, the application of a LNL or EMROs was not appropriate for the council's area.

12.2 The Licensing Committee's recommendation was accepted by full Council during 2013.

12.3 However this Council, in March 2014, has requested officers to review the situation subsequent to Central Government's current consultation on licensing matters and to bring forward an updated report at the earliest possible time on the implications of introducing a late night levy in Warwick District.

13 Restricted Drinking Zone

13.1 The Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001 includes a number of powers to combat crime and disorder, including measures to deal with alcohol related problems. The act gives local authorities the power to designate areas 'Restricted Drinking Zones' where it will become an offence for any person to drink alcohol after being requested not to do so by a police officer.

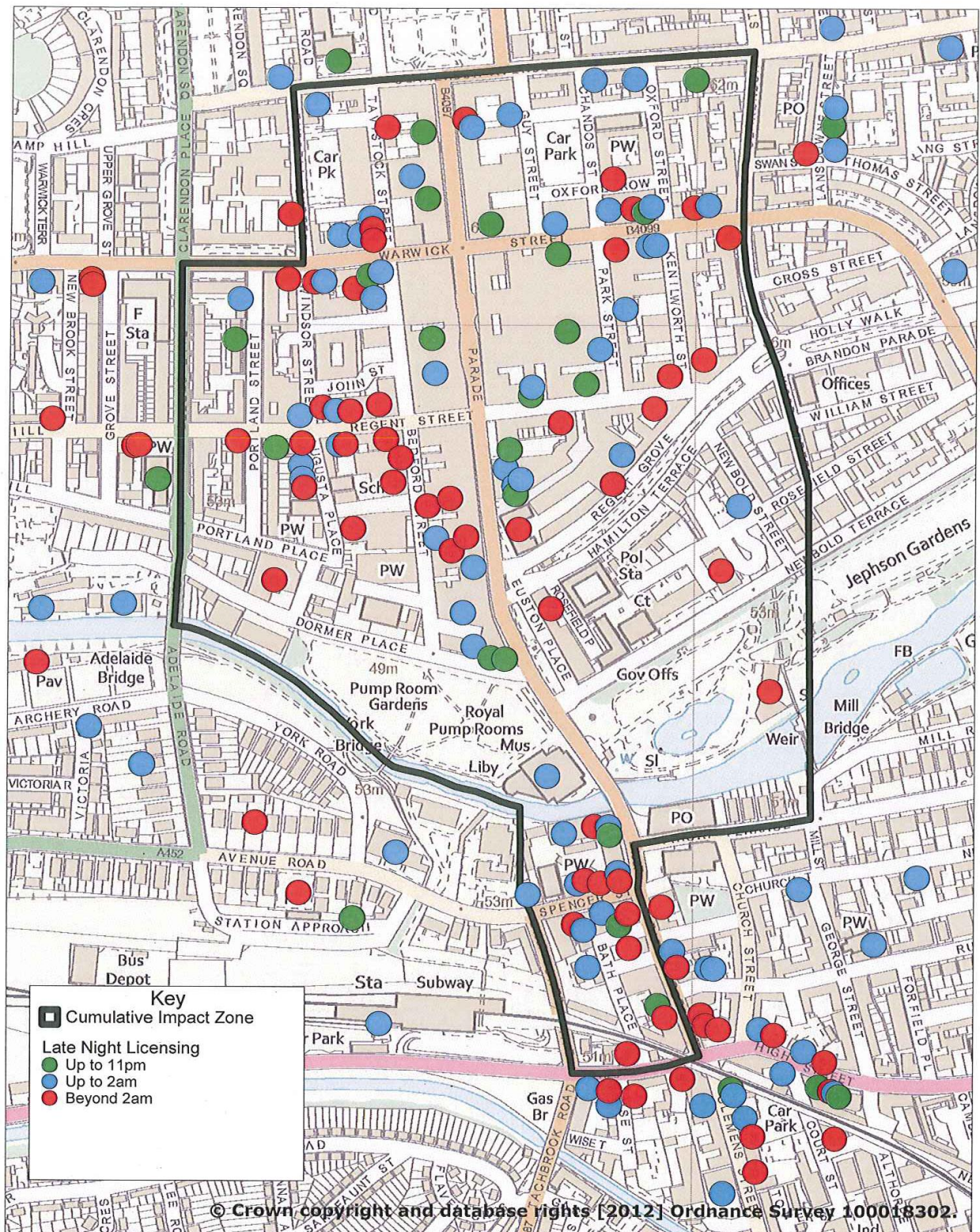
13.2 The entire area covered by Warwick District has been designated a Restricted Drinking Zone.

13.2 This means that, anywhere in the district, it is an arrestable offence to fail, without reasonable excuse, to comply with a police officer's request to cease drinking alcohol. The police also have the power to confiscate and dispose of any alcohol and containers in the person's possession.

14 Further Information

- 14.1 The Licensing Authority has produced guidance documents for applicants.
- 14.2 The Council's Health and Community Protection Section offers advice on the process for, and, progress of, applications and as to whether particular activities need to be licensed. If detailed advice on the requirements of the legislation and how it affects you and your premises is required, independent legal advice should be sought.
- 14.3 The granting of a licence under the Licensing Act 2003 does not obviate the need for permissions or consents required under other legislation.

Appendix 1 – Cumulative Impact Zone (current for 2013)



Late Night Licences & Cumulative Impact Zone

Scale: 1:5000

Date: 16 October 2012

Riverside House, Milverton Hill, Royal Leamington Spa, Warwickshire. CV32 5HZ

Tel: 01926 410410



Appendix 2 – List of Responsible Authorities

POLICE:

Chief Officer of Police
Warwickshire Police Licensing Team
Warwickshire Justice Centre Leamington Spa
Newbold Terrace
Leamington Spa
Warwickshire
CV32 4EL

Tel: 01926 684033

Fax: 01926 684038

Email: Liquor.Licensing@warwickshire.pnn.police.uk

FIRE AUTHORITY:

County Fire Officer
Warwickshire Fire & Rescue Service
Warwick Street
Leamington Spa
CV32 5LH

Tel: 01926 423231

E.Mail: firesafety@warwickshire.gov.uk

ENFORCEMENT AGENCY FOR HEALTH AND SAFETY:

Regulatory Manager
Health and Community Protection
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Royal Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

Tel: 01926 456707

Email: ehsafety@warwickdc.gov.uk

AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH:

Environmental Sustainability Manager
Health and Community Protection
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Royal Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

Tel: 01926 456714

Email: ehpollution@warwickdc.gov.uk

THE LICENSING AUTHORITY:

Safer Communities Manager
Health and Community Protection
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill

Royal Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

Tel:
Email:

AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR PLANNING:

Gary Fisher
Group Leader Development Control
Warwick District Council
Riverside House
Milverton Hill
Royal Leamington Spa
CV32 5HZ

Tel: 01926 456541
Email: gary.fisher@warwickdc.gov.uk

BODY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM:

Keith Edwards
Assistant Head of Service
Planning and Performance Children
Young People and Families Directorate
Saltisford Office Park,
Ansell Way
Warwick
CV34 4UL

Tel: 01926 731139
Email: sslicensingapplications@warwickshire.gov.uk

WARWICKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (WEIGHTS & MEASURES):

Simon Coupe
Divisional Trading Standards Officer
Old Budbrooke Road
Warwick
CV35 7DP

Tel: 01926 414040
Email: simoncoupe@warwickshire.gov.uk

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGLAND:

Public Health Department (Licensing)
NHSWarwickshire/Warwickshire County Council
PO Box 43 – Shire Hall
Warwick
CV34 4SX

Email:
PublicHealth5PMPUBLICHEALTHWARWICKSHIREPCT@warwickshire.nhs.uk