

Quarterly Report of Appeals, Complaints and Advice

The BBFC is the regulator of commercial and internet content delivered via the mobile networks of EE, O2, Three and Vodafone.

In the interest of transparency, the BBFC publishes all of its adjudications in relation to cases reported to it of purported underblocking or overblocking, along with requests for advice on whether particular content should go behind parental controls or adult filters.

We keep this list updated as and when new cases are reported to us and publish updates every three months.

In all cases, the BBFC conveys its adjudication to (i) the complainant, appellant or person or body seeking advice; (ii) Mobile UK; and (iii) the relevant mobile network operator(s).

The adjudication that a website contains no material that we would classify 18 does not necessarily mean that we believe it is suitable for younger children.

In the following cases, the adjudications represent an assessment of the content according to the dates listed below. Any subsequent changes to content have therefore not been viewed by the BBFC, although we reserve the right to change our adjudication should altered content be brought to our attention subsequently.

October 2021

15th October 2021

Website

<http://hellohotties.com>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18, following a complaint from a member of the public that it had been placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 15th October 2021.

We noted that the URL leads to the log-in page for a dating site which advertises 'hook-ups' with 'cougars' and 'naughty hotties'. Without log-in details we were unable to assess wider content. The site's terms of use, however, state that it is 'for people over 18 years of age, it is not directed at minors, and if you are under 18 years of age you must not use our site'. Consequently, we would rate this site 18+. We recommend adult filters should continue to be applied.

Website

<https://www.divierteteligando.com/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18, following a complaint from a member of the public that it had been placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC examined <https://www.divierteteligando.com/> on 15th October 2021.

We noted that the URL leads to the log-in page for a dating site. Without log-in details we were unable to assess wider content. The site's terms of use, however, state that it is 'for people over 18 years of age, it is not directed at minors, and if you are under 18 years of age you must not use our site'. Consequently, we would rate this site 18+. We recommend adult filters should be applied.

18th October 2021

Website

<http://flirtymature.com>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18, following a complaint from a member of the public that it had been placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC examined the site on 18th October 2021.

We noted that the URL leads to the log-in page for a dating site. Without log-in details we were unable to assess wider content. The site's terms of use, however, state that it is 'for people over 18 years of age, it is not directed at minors, and if you are under 18 years of age you must not use our site'. Consequently, we would rate this site 18+. We recommend adult filters should continue to be applied.

November 2021

9th November 2021

Website

<http://videochatz.biz>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18, following a complaint from a member of the public that it had been placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC examined the website on 9th November 2021.

We noted that the URL leads to the pre-log-in pages of a video chat site which randomly pairs users with strangers of the opposite sex. Without log-in details we were unable to assess wider content. However, under its terms and conditions, the site requires that users should be 18 or older. In addition, Part A of the Framework states that 'the BBFC can take into account a variety of factors, including but not limited to the nature of the material and the public acceptability of a particular product or service in relation to those under 18'. We know video chat sites of this sort to be of concern to parents and, for these reasons, we recommend that adult filters continue to be applied.

Website

<http://camroulette.co.uk>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18, following a complaint from a member of the public that it had been placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 9th November 2021.

We noted that the URL leads to a video chat site which randomly pairs users with strangers. Under its terms and conditions, the site requires that users should be 18 or older. In addition, Part A of the Framework states that 'the BBFC can take into account a variety of factors, including but not limited to the nature of the material and the public acceptability of a particular product or service in relation to those under 18'. We know video chat sites of this sort to be of concern to parents and, for these reasons, we recommend that adult filters continue to be applied.

18th November 2021

Website

www.preppersshop.co.uk

Issue

A member of the public contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the website was placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 18th November 2021.

The URL leads to a site which specialises in the retail of survival products, including crossbows and knives, which it markets for legal purposes such as target-shooting and hunting. Other products on the site are more clearly associated with weaponry use, such as 'survival bats', cudgels and 'boot knives/neck knives' designed for concealment. We also noted material which suggested that the site's products could enable the buyer to 'defend yourself'. Part B of the Framework lists 'the promotion of real life violence (for example... use of easily accessible weapons)' as content that the BBFC considers suitable for adults only. Consequently, we would rate the site 18+ and recommend that adult filters continue to be applied.

26 November 2021

Website

www.bushwear.co.uk

Issue

A member of the public contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the website was placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 26th November 2021.

The URL leads to a retail site for a UK company specialising in equipment for wildlife management, naturalists and field sports. For these legal pursuits, it sells rifle scopes, knives and associated accessories. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework. Consequently we do not recommend that adult filters should be applied. Though, as always, if any block is in place due to the manner in which the website is supplying its goods, then this lies outside the scope of the BBFC's Classification Framework.

29 November 2021

Website

pda.camcontacts.com

Issue

A member of the public contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the website was placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 29th November 2021.

The URL leads to the log-in page of a site which offers a live video chat service with an emphasis on connecting strangers for 'indulging fantasies'. Without log-in details, we were not able to determine the content of the wider site, but images purporting to be of female users are accompanied by very strong references to sexual behaviour which we would rate 18+. We recommend that adult filters should be applied.

December 2021

20 December 2021

Website

<https://request.b7uk.com/login>

Issue

A member of the public contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the website was placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 20th December 2021.

The URL leads to a log-in page with a background of stills from recent mainstream cinema. Without log-in details we were unable to assess the site's wider content. Based on that portion of the site that was available to us at the time of viewing, we found no content that we would rate 18+. Consequently, we do not recommend that adult filters should be applied.

Website

[amnesty.org](https://www.amnesty.org)

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18, following a complaint from a member of the public that it had been placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website on 20th December 2021.

The URL leads to the homepage of the nonprofit non-governmental human rights organisation, Amnesty International. The site outlines the organisation's history, their function and the different work they undertake across the globe. On the date in which we viewed the site, it included - among many other subjects - articles and videos outlining survivors' experiences of sexual violence (including against children), torture and racist violence, as well as online abuse. In our sampling of the site, such content did not reach a threshold of detail that we would restrict to adults only in this specific context. Consequently, we recommend that adult filters should not be applied.

23 December 2021

Website

<https://careittech.co.uk/>

Issue

A member of the public contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the website was placed behind adult filters despite containing no material that in the complainant's opinion would cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC examined the website on 23rd December 2021.

We noted that the site provides information regarding the services of an IT business. We did not find any material that we classify 18+. Accordingly, we do not recommend that adult filters be in place on this site.

BBFC

24 December 2021