

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 2023

9 October 2023

Website

<https://www.buck-store.co.uk/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to the homepage of a retailer of knives and associated products such as sheathes and sharpeners. At the time of sampling, the products were marketed toward survival, hunting and outdoors purposes. The site included an area detailing the relevant laws surrounding carrying knives. There is a blog in which we found articles on good causes supported by the company. The site made no association between its products and weaponry. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

Website

<https://www.shipadick.co.uk/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to the homepage of a service through which people can send humorous cardboard penises, for birthday greetings, hen parties etc. For every penis sent, the company donates money to a prostate cancer charity. There are multiple articles on the site related to spreading awareness about prostate cancer. Although there are highly stylised graphic images of penises, the Framework does not restrict such material to adults only. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

11 October 2023

Website

www.scrolller.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a photo and video sharing site on which we were able to find pornographic content. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

Website

<https://seedsofscotland.com/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to the homepage of a site which announces an intention to sell seeds. It also hosts workshops in the Highlands for gardeners, farmers and other interested parties. At the time of sampling, no seeds were available for purchase, but nothing in the text or imagery used by the site suggested a motive of anything other than a

legitimate commercial and botanical interest. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

Website

www.girlaerocity.in

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which advertised sex workers for hire in India. It featured pornographic images. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

Website

<https://www.chandigarhcallgirlsagency.in/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which advertised sex workers for hire in India. It featured pornographic images. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

18 October 2023

Website

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

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to an sex education resource which describes itself as being "for everyone over 14". It includes guides to relationships, attractiveness, sexuality and masturbation. Much of the content is well calculated for an older teenage audience, however we found other content, such as guides to BDSM (including 'rough sex'), and an encyclopaedia of pornographic terms and types of pornography. The Framework considers content likely to be 18+ where it features "very strong references to sexual behaviour using strong pornographic terms" and where "sex education and advice is... inappropriate for children". Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

20 October 2023

Website

<https://assignmentproof.com/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site on which visitors can pay to have text checked for plagiarism. The site includes areas for teachers, students and professionals. A blog contains relevant articles on plagiarism and how to avoid it. At the time of sampling, we found no incitement to criminality and no material which we would rate 18+.

November 2023

1 November 2023

Website

<https://sanctioned-suicide.net/>

Issue

The BBFC previously adjudicated on the website in September 2021. Further to the BBFC's original adjudication, a member of the public contacted the BBFC to complain that no filters had been applied despite material that in the complainant's opinion justified restriction to adults only.

Adjudication

As before, we noted that the site contained instructional suicide detail, including specific techniques relating to infliction of injury, together with suggested drugs and their fatal doses. Part B of the Framework lists 'instructional references to suicide' as content which we would classify 18 or refuse a classification. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

Website

<https://sanctionedsuicide.site/>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

As before, we noted that the sites contained instructional suicide detail, including specific techniques relating to infliction of injury, together with suggested drugs and

their fatal doses. Part B of the Framework lists 'instructional references to suicide' as content which we would classify 18 or refuse a classification. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

Website

www.gunsonpegs.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to an online service which connects field sport enthusiasts with shoots. The site also contains a section on insurance as well as related classified ads, such as those for puppies, vehicle hire and holiday cottages. At the time of sampling we found no material which we would rate 18+ or refuse to classify.

Website

www.ukprowriters.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which offered writing services with a focus on scripts, CVs and proofreading. At the time of sampling, we found no mention of schoolchildren or school assignments, nor anything that would constitute incitement to illegal activity, such as encouragement to pass the work of others off as one's own. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

7 November 2023

Website

<http://leafie.co.uk>

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a magazine site for those interested in recreational drug misuse, particularly cannabis and psychedelics. The site features articles related to that subject, as well as a news page on social and scientific developments. It also sells legal products such as bongs and grinders. Although some of the content on the site need not have been rated 18+, much of the rest constitutes 'promotion, glamorisation or encouragement of the misuse of illegal drugs', which the Framework considers

suitable for adults only. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

10 November 2023

Website

<https://www.cityplumbing.co.uk/>

Issue

A representative of the website contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the site 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 URL led to the site of a commercial supplier of plumbing and heating tools. Based in the UK, the site lists its products, hosts customer reviews and includes a blog. At the time of sampling, it is a wholly innocuous enterprise in which we found no objectionable content that would suggest restriction under the Framework.

15 November 2023

Website

www.myessaywriter.ai

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which sells AI-written essays on commission. The site includes a guide to using its services, a selection of sample essays and a blog. Among the types of essays it offers for sale are those for school children. A child purchasing an essay and passing it off as his or her own work would be committing a criminal offence, but this is not immediately clear from the website itself. Part A of the Framework notes that: "There is no one determining factor which would lead to advice being given by the BBFC that particular content is suitable for adults only. 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...It will also take into account the portrayal of accurate instructional detail of novel criminal techniques which could be copied. In certain circumstances, such content may be suitable for adults only according to BBFC standards." Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

17 November 2023

Website

www.zenterprize.us

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to the homepage of a fundraising platform for non-profit organisations. It includes a description of the site's services, appraisals from users and a contact form. At the time of sampling, we found nothing that we would rate 18 or refuse to classify.

Website

www.goodhemp.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which retails edible hemp products such as milk, flour and seeds. None of the products contain THC. Although the site features multiple images of cannabis plants, it is at pains to point out that the plant referenced is a different species to marijuana: any references to the drug are only to point out this distinction. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

24 November 2023

Website

www.chat-avenue.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a chat site on which we were able to find pornographic content which is inconsistent with Part B of the Framework. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

Website

www.garlandsshootingground.co.uk

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to the homepage of a retailer of field sports equipment and clothing. The site also offers clay pigeon shooting events and lessons. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

27 November 2023

Website

www.shieldsights.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL leads to the homepage of a retailer of laser sight and pistols for sporting marksmanship. The site is accredited by the Firearm Industry Trade Association and hosts a list of other accredited dealers. Its products are marketed as sporting goods and there is no conflation with weaponry. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

Website

www.pholder.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which rehosts media content, with a particular focus on content from reddit.com. Using the site's search function, we were able to find R18 level content which the Framework considers to be suitable for adults only. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

December 2023

5 December 2023

Website

www.4channel.org

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the websites for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to an online forum, on which we were able to find pornographic images occurring in both animated and non-animated contexts. We also found repeated very strong sex references, as well as discriminatory language. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

12 December 2023

Website

www.r-type.org

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to the site of an online valve museum, featuring a wealth of material - including archive adverts, articles, images and video content - relating to the history of electronic valves. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

21 December 2023

Website

www.onevsp.com

Issue

A mobile network operator contacted the BBFC for advice about the suitability of the website for people under 18.

Adjudication

The URL led to a site which acts as a video sharing platform for what appeared to be a relatively limited range of content. The videos on display included uploaded feature films and video presentations around real world issues and conflicts, the COVID-19 pandemic, sporting events and issues, and more. On sampling some of these videos, we found a prominent one concerning the current Israel/ Gaza conflict which contained a focus on graphic images of real injury, violence or death. Consequently, the BBFC found material on the website that we would classify at least 18.

Website

<https://4love.uk/>

Issue

The website owner contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the site 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 URL led to the site of an online clothing retailer which uses celebrities and influencers to promote its products. We found nothing that we would classify 18+ for reasons outlined in part B of the framework.

BBFC

31 December 2023