

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 2020

12 October 2020

Website

<http://www.sexybelle.com/>.

Issue

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

Adjudication

The BBFC adjudicated on the website on 12 October 2020.

We noted that this was a retail site selling an array of lingerie, sex toys and accessories, including those for fetish play. Although the site may not be considered pornographic, much of the site contains material suitable for adults and is clearly intended for a mature audience. As such, the BBFC would classify the site 18.

27 October 2020

Website

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

Issue

A member of the public 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 BBFC adjudicated on the website on 27 October 2020.

We noted that the site was promoting a vineyard in California, selling wine and a small range of branded accessories, such as wine glasses and bags. We found no content that we would classify 18.

27 October 2020

Website

www.mysteryvibe.com

Issue

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

Adjudication

The BBFC adjudicated on the website on 27 October 2020.

We noted that the site is a retailer selling sex toys, including instruction detail and diagrams of different sexual positions incorporating the toys. Although the site may not be considered pornographic, much of the site contains material suitable for adults and is clearly intended for a mature audience. As such, the BBFC would classify the site at 18.

29 October 2020

Website

www.consol.eu

Issue

Representatives for 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 BBFC adjudicated on the website on 29 October 2020.

We noted the site advertises the services of a tanning company that offer flexible tanning studios across the UK. The website contains information about tanning, including safety information and advice, as well as information about the technology of the sunbeds used across the business. We found no material that we would rate 18.

November 2020

27 November 2020

Website

<https://treetvapours.com/>

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 BBFC adjudicated on the website on 27 November 2020

We noted that the site was an online retailer of a range of natural vaping and aromatherapy products, including products that are CBD based. The website includes information about the company's product range, as well as information about the company's process and ethos. The website repeatedly states that the products sold on the site are to be sold as dietary supplements and are not intended to diagnose, treat or cure illness. Areas of the site that sell CBD based products, reinforce the fact that the products do not contain psychoactive properties. There was therefore no material that we would classify 18.

27 November 2020

Website

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

Issue

A member of the public contacted the BBFC directly to complain that the site was not placed behind adult filters, despite containing material that, in the complainant's opinion, should cause access to be restricted to adults only.

Adjudication

The BBFC adjudicated on the website on 27 November 2020.

We noted that the website is a chat and dating service that facilitates communications of those aged 18 and over, who want to meet for sex. User profiles include strong verbal sex references, including to BDSM and fetish practices, as well as images, although these are obscured with blurring. There is also use of pornographic language on the site. We would classify this site 18.

December 2020

16 December 2020

Website

www.bodyexposed.co.uk

Issue

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

Adjudication

The BBFC adjudicated on the website on 16 December 2020.

We noted that the site retails a range of lingerie, sex toys and sex accessories, including those for fetish play. Language on the site contains strong sexual language and there are also images of strong nudity, including erections. Although the site is not pornographic, the primary focus of the site is sex. There is also use of strong language ('f**k') often used in a sexual manner. We would classify this site 18.

BBFC

December 2020