

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.

April 2016

8 April 2016

Website
leadwerks.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 the site 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 7 and 8 April 2016.

We noted that it was a software development site focusing on technical tools used in the creation of 3D games. It featured advice and information about the tools used in the software, along with image galleries, a forum, demos and numerous videos depicting work in progress with developer commentaries. Some of these videos featured sight of blood when characters were attacked, but such imagery was generally presented within horror and / or fantastical scenarios and did not dwell on the injuries caused. In addition, the videos were presented within the context of technical presentations. As such, we found no content which we would classify 18.

28 April 2016

Website
fsmag.org.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 the site owner 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 from 26-28 April 2016.

We noted that it was a health and lifestyle website run by GMFA, a gay men's health charity. It carried articles and social media contributions that contained strong and occasionally crude sex references. Despite this, the site placed clear emphasis on sexual health and education. Given this context, while we would not recommend the site for children, we found no material that we would classify 18.

29 April 2016

Website
avakin.com

Issue

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

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the website from 26-29 April 2016.

We noted that it was a website related to a free-to-play mobile app. It featured an online community where it was possible to customise avatars and environments as per the users' wishes. The site featured a forum, video footage and various help topics. While the site featured some sex references relating to strip clubs and sexual activity, these were not crude or explicit, and therefore we found no material that we would classify 18.

June 2016

9 June 2016

Website
browsethecloud.com

Issue

The website owner complained to the BBFC that the site 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 from 7-9 June 2016.

We noted that it was a website offering businesses information on potential cloud-based solutions in a range of areas, including accounting software, customer management and web tools. Information provided on these solutions ranged from

URL links to videos and price plans. We found no content which we would classify 18.

BBFC
30 June 2016