

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) the Mobile Broadband Group; 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 2015

26 October 2015

Websites

thepoppershop.co.uk
poppersrus.co.uk
roomaromas.co.uk
poppersaroma.co.uk

Issue

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

Adjudication

The BBFC viewed the websites between 26 and 27 October 2015.

We noted that all four sites were online stores selling 'poppers', small bottles containing alkyl nitrates. Although all four websites stated that their products were sold as room fresheners, it was clear that the products' primary purpose was related to recreational drug use.

The sites sold a range of poppers, some of which had title labels which related to sexual activity. While not all of these labels were available on all of the sites, the commonly understood link between sexual behaviour and the use of poppers, and the use of poppers as a drug, was made clear on each of the sites. The website roomaromas.co.uk also sold a range of sex toys and aids.

On all four sites, poppers were supplied in a form for use as a recreational drug, and the promotion of this drug through these websites carried a harm risk. Therefore, we found content that we would classify at least 18, or may even refuse to classify.

29 October 2015

Website

pieandfash.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 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 between 29 October and 3 November 2015.

We noted that it was a lifestyle blog covering a range of issues. Along with articles on fashion and lifestyle topics, posts in the 'sex' section of the blog included strong and occasionally crude references to sexual activity (including masturbation and oral sex), and uses of sexualised strong language. The blog presents such material within a wider context of discussing personal and societal attitudes to such activity. While we would not recommend this content being viewed by younger children, we would not classify it 18 or R18.

BBFC

31 December 2015