

# Licensing Sub-Committee of the Regulatory Committee

10:00am, Friday, 27 May 2016

## Cinemas Act 1985 – Variation of Licensing Conditions – Edinburgh International Film Festival 2016

Item number	6.1
Report number	
Executive/routine	
Wards	Citywide

### Executive summary

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The Council has received a request for authorisation to screen uncertificated films during the Edinburgh International Film Festival 2016.

### Links

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Coalition pledges	<a href="#">P15, P28 and P31</a>
Council priorities	<a href="#">CP6</a>
Single Outcome Agreement	<a href="#">SO1 and SO3</a>

## Cinemas Act 1985 – Variation of Licensing Conditions – Edinburgh International Film Festival 2016

### Recommendations

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The Committee is asked to:

- 1.1 note this report; and
- 1.2 grant permission to allow specific uncertificated films, from the list of titles circulated, to be shown as part of the 2016 event at the venues listed in [Appendix 2](#).

### Background

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- 2.1 Condition 2 of the Council's standard conditions, which applies to all cinema licences, states that only films with certificates from the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) may be exhibited. Full conditions are attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.2 However, condition 3 of the cinema licence conditions allows the exhibition of any film, if the Council's permission is first obtained.
- 2.3 Committee has given approval for the Edinburgh International Film Festival Ltd (EIFF) to show uncertificated films in previous years.

### Main report

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- 3.1 In February 2016 the Council received notice from the Edinburgh International Film Festival Ltd (EIFF) regarding films due to be screened during the 2016 event.
- 3.2 Typically most of these films are yet to be released and therefore have still to be classified by the BBFC. Therefore, as required by the Council's Standard Conditions of Licence, the EIFF is seeking permission on behalf of the various cinemas for the films within the programme to be shown. The committee has previously agreed to similar variations.
- 3.3 The EIFF has provided details including recommended ratings for films which have not been rated by the BBFC. Copies of the list will be made available to

members at the committee, as the programme has yet to be announced and the information is commercially sensitive. The list is, therefore, not attached.

- 3.4 Committee members should note that any permitted variation would relate only to the films specified on the list circulated to members, and any films not so specified would be required to adhere to the Council's Standard Conditions of Licence.
- 3.5 This permission will apply, as appropriate, to the licensed premises listed in Appendix 2.

## **Measures of success**

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- 4.1 The Council discharges its licensing functions appropriately.

## **Financial impact**

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- 5.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## **Risk, policy, compliance and governance impact**

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- 6.1 This accords with statutory provisions and is consistent with standard conditions for cinema licences.

## **Equalities impact**

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- 7.1 There is no equalities impact arising from the contents of this report.

## **Sustainability impact**

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- 8.1 There is no environmental impact arising from the contents of this report.

## **Consultation and engagement**

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- 9.1 Not applicable

## **Background reading / external references**

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[City of Edinburgh Council Licensing Conditions – Cinema Licensing](#)

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## Links

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<b>Coalition pledges</b>	<p><b>P15</b> - Work with public organisations, the private sector and social enterprises to promote Edinburgh to investors.</p> <p><b>P28</b> - Further strengthen our links with the business community by developing and implementing strategies to promote and protect the economic well being of the city</p> <p><b>P31</b> – Maintain our city’s reputation as the cultural capital of the world by continuing to support and invest in our cultural infrastructure.</p>
<b>Council priorities</b>	<p><b>CP6</b> - A creative, cultural capital.</p>
<b>Single Outcome Agreement</b>	<p><b>SO1</b> - Edinburgh's Economy Delivers increased investment, jobs and opportunities for all.</p> <p><b>SO3</b> - Edinburgh's children and young people enjoy their childhood and fulfil their potential.</p>
<b>Appendices</b>	<p><a href="#">Appendix 1</a> - City of Edinburgh Council Licensing Conditions – Cinema Licence</p> <p><a href="#">Appendix 2</a> – list of affected licensed premises</p>

# Appendix 1

## Cinemas Act 1985 LICENCE CONDITIONS

1 'Film' in these conditions means 'Film exhibition' as defined in the Cinemas Act 1985. 'Council' means the Council as Licensing Authority under the 1985 Act.

2 Subject to conditions 3 and 4:

(a) No film shall be exhibited unless it has received a 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' OR '18' certificate from the British Board of Film Classification.

(b) No one under the age of 18 shall be admitted to see a film with an '18' certificate.

(c) No one under the age of 15 years shall be admitted to see a film with a '15' certificate.

(d) No one under the age of 12 years shall be admitted to see a film with a '12A' certificate unless accompanied by a responsible adult.

3 Any film may be exhibited if the permission of the Council is first obtained and any conditions of such permission are complied with.

4 The Council may prohibit the showing of any film by giving written notice to the Licensee.

5 The terms of any certificate given by the British Board of Film Classification shall be shown on the screen immediately before the showing of any film to which it relates.

6 There shall be prominently exhibited at each public entrance whenever premises are open to the public for the showing of films a notice indicating clearly:-

(a) the title of each film to be shown on that day, other than trailers and films of less than 5 minutes duration.

(b) the approximate time of commencement of each film;

(c) whether each film has received a 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' OR '18' certificate from the British Board of Film Classification and (d) the effect of the certificates on the admission of persons under the age of 18 years.

7 The type of certificate received from the British Board of Film Classification shall be clearly indicated by 'U', 'PG', '12A', '15' OR '18' in any advertisement of the film displayed at the premises.

8 No advertisement displayed at the premises of a film to be exhibited there shall depict any scene or incident not included in the film as certified by the British Board of Film Classification or as approved for exhibition by the Council.

9 Where the Council has given notice in writing to the Licensee objecting to an advertisement, that advertisement shall not be displayed at the premises.

10 The premises shall only open between 8am and 1am the following day unless the written consent of the Council is given to open earlier or later.

11 No animals shall be permitted in the premises during the exhibition of a film except guide dogs. The Licensee shall not refuse admission to patrons with guide dogs.

12 All attendants on duty shall wear a distinguishing uniform or armband, and shall, have in their possession an electric torch in working condition.

13 Films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category shall not be shown without the consent in writing of the Council.

Any consent granted in terms of this condition shall be subject to all the following conditions being complied with and any other conditions the Council consider necessary.

(a) Films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category shall not be exhibited except at licensed premises being operated as a club.

(b) No films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category shall be shown in a multi-screen complex unless the area used for such films and all facilities (including foyers, lavatories, and refreshment areas) are wholly segregated and accessible only through a separate entrance and box office.

(c) A register of members shall be maintained and made available for immediate inspection by Council officials or police constables. A membership card (with a photograph of the member) shall be issued to each member.

(d) Tickets shall not be sold to persons other than members.

(e) No one shall be admitted to view a film in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category unless a valid membership card for that person is displayed at the time of admission.

(f) Advertising for films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category shall specify only the title of the film and the category and will not include pictorial material or other information about the names of performers or the plot.

(g) No one under 18 years shall be employed in any capacity at premises showing films in the 'RESTRICTED (18)' category.

(h) Membership rules for club cinemas shall include the following:-

(i) Membership shall only be open to people of not less than 18 years of age.

Applications for membership, including name and address, shall be in writing and signed by the applicant. Applicants shall provide proof of their age to the Licensee.

(ii) No one shall be admitted to membership until at least 24 hours after the application has been approved by the Licensee.

(iii) Membership cards shall not be transferable.

14 The Licensee or Manager shall be responsible for the day to day running of the premises. There shall be sufficient staff on duty when the premises are open to the public.

15 The Licensee or Manager shall give clear instructions to staff on their duties in the event of fire. A legible statement of such duties shall be posted in conspicuous positions in the premises. The Licensee shall comply with any requirements of the Firemaster.

16 The number of people admitted to the premises shall be strictly controlled to ensure that there is no overcrowding.

17 The general layout and arrangement of the premises shall be such as to allow safe and orderly evacuation to the Council's satisfaction, in the event of an emergency.

18 All approaches, staircases and passageways shall be kept free from obstruction. No seat or other obstruction shall be placed in any of the passageways and no-one shall be allowed to stand or sit in any passageway during performances.

19 All doors and barriers shall open outwards and shall not be fastened or locked except by push bar mechanisms which release the door under pressure.

20 All exit doors in the premises shall be indicated by a fixed lighting transparency bearing the word 'EXIT' in letters no less than 10 centimetres high. All exit doors shall be useable at the end of each performance. The transparency shall be illuminated by a maintained system of lighting and must be visible from the auditorium at all times when the premises are open to the public.

21 Any decorative surface finishes shall be either non-combustible or durably flame-proofed.

22 All scenery, curtain drapes and fabrics shall be flame resistant.

23 The use of smoke bombs, smoke generators, flash powder, flash boxes, detonators and similar items is not permitted without the written approval of the Firemaster and the Council.

24 All upholstered furniture shall comply with the Smouldering Cigarette Test and Butane Flame Test in British Standard 5852, Part 2; 1982.

25 The Licensee or the Manager shall intimate every outbreak of fire to the Firemaster immediately.

26 Lasers or other similar devices shall not be used without the Council's written permission.

27 The premises shall be lit to the satisfaction of the Council. A maintained system of secondary lighting shall be provided throughout the building, kept in proper working order and kept on when the premises are open to the public.

28 The electric installation of the premises shall be kept in proper working order to the satisfaction of the Council. No alterations or additions to the electrical installation shall be made without the Council's written approval.

29 No temporary electric lighting installation shall be used in any part of the premises without the Council's written consent. All temporary connections to the permanent installation in the premises shall be disconnected immediately after each performance.

30 All electrical lighting switches to public areas shall be inaccessible to the public.

31 The premises shall be properly ventilated and heated to the satisfaction of the

Council. Temporary or moveable forms of heating shall not be used without the Firemaster's written approval.

32 Sanitary accommodation shall be provided to the satisfaction of the Council.

33 The Food Hygiene Regulations and The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 shall be complied with.

34 Any amplified music and speech shall be controlled so as not to cause annoyance to the satisfaction of the Director of Environmental and Consumer Services.

35 A telephone shall be installed in the premises.

36 The Licensee shall display the Cinema Licence and Conditions in a prominent position.

37 No alteration shall be made to the structure, seating arrangements or exists without the Council's written consent.

38 The Firemaster, any Police Constable and any authorised Council Officer shall be permitted free access to the premises at any time.

39 The Council or Firemaster shall have the power to set a limit on the maximum number of people to be admitted to the premises for any performance.

40 One or more leakage circuit breakers must be installed if live amplified music is to be performed on the premises. The installation should comply with the current Institute of Electrical Engineers Regulations.

## Appendix 2

Cinemas:

Festival Theatre Edinburgh, Nicolson Street  
Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road  
Cineworld Fountain Park, 130 Dundee Street  
Odeon Lothian Road, 118 Lothian Road  
Dominion, 18 Newbattle Terrace