

# Information Sheet - Video Recordings



## Age Restricted Sales

### What does the law say?

- All videos and DVDs, except certain "exempted" ones, must be submitted to the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC). This board will give the video or DVD a certificate or refuse classification. Video games which include scenes of a violent or sexual nature also need to be classified by the BBFC.
- It is illegal to supply a video, DVD or video game to a person below the age specified on the BBFC video classification. The word supply covers selling and hiring.
- It is illegal to supply a recording without the appropriate classification labelling on it.

### The video classifications are as follows:-

<b>UC</b>	-	<b>Suitable for children</b>
<b>U</b>	-	<b>Suitable for all</b>
<b>PG</b>	-	<b>General viewing</b>
<b>12</b>	-	<b>Suitable for 12 year olds and over only</b>
<b>15</b>	-	<b>Suitable for 15 year olds and over only</b>
<b>18</b>	-	<b>Suitable for 18 year olds</b>
<b>R18</b>	-	<b>Restricted and can only be supplied from from a Licensed sex shop</b>

### Age Restricted Sales

#### What can I do to prevent illegal sales?

- Check stocks of videos and DVDs to ensure that they have been classified. Be mindful of the classification when supplying videos to young people
- Please refer to the sheet entitled Preventing Underage Sales for further information relating to the prevention of illegal sales of age restricted products.

#### What are the penalties for breaking the law?

- if an illegal sale is made to a child below the age classification you could be prosecuted and face a fine of up to £5,000 and/or six months prison sentence.
- If an illegal sale is made of an unclassified video you could face a fine of up to £20,000 and/or 2 years imprisonment.

#### Where can I get further help?

- Trading Standards Officers are responsible for enforcing the law on illegal sales of videos. If you require further assistance call Cardiff Trading Standards on 029 2087 2059.