

From: [REDACTED] <[REDACTED]@nervecentre.org>  
Date: Thu, 12 Feb 2026 at 17:21  
Subject: Re: Cinema Booking licensing query  
To: [REDACTED]@belfastcity.gov.uk>

Hi [REDACTED]

We have collated the various information regarding the various films we wish to show on 7th March together and have set out both the context of how the the films came to be, the context of the planned screening and a narrative on the various short films content below. If there is additional information that is required we are happy to assist.

We are looking to exhibit three short films together in one screening (with just one showing of all three films on the day) to celebrate the creativity of participants in both our ***BFI (British Film Institute) Academy*** and ***Visual Effects Academy***.

**The three films we wish to exhibit are student made films and as such have not received a certificate from the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC).**

We would wish to have a proposal placed before the Licensing Committee for consideration and to decide whether or not to grant permission for these unrated films to be shown.

#### **Date, time and location that films are planned to be shown**

*Saturday 7th March 2026 between 10am -1130am at Queens Film Theatre Belfast*

#### **Admission to screening**

The planned Screening is *by invitation only* for members of the families and friends of our participants and Acting talent, and a select group of creative industry professionals and representatives from our funding organisations.

There is *no public admission* to the screening planned or permitted on the day of the event.

The event is being exhibited at *no cost of admission* to those invited to attend.

#### **Context of the learning environment in which these three Films were produced:**

*Two of these films are the creative product of participants of our **BFI Film Academy***

Our BFI Academy is funded by the BFI nationally from London and is one of nearly 40 BFI Academies in the UK allowing young people 16-19 to get a fuller understanding of Film making and how creatives work collaboratively in the film and television industry.

Our BFI Academy here in Belfast brings 20 young people aged 16-19 together each year to work with ourselves at the Nerve Centre on two shorts films with engagement each week between September and February each year. They achieve an OCN qualification as part of their engagement with us.

The 20 participants are split into two film crews of 10 in order to work on two short films the entirety of which are their own creation.

They start from a blank page and are supported through idea generation to the pre production, production and post production of those two short films.

They receive instruction and support from industry professionals through workshops and masterclasses over the course of the BFI Academy. These interactions allow them to use acquired knowledge directly in the preparation planning and execution of their own short film productions.

At each stage Nerve Centre hold final editorial control of all of the content created

*One of these Films is the creative product of a cohort of participants of our **Visual Effects Academy**.*

The VFX Academy is part of a larger initiative in Northern Ireland which Nerve Centre runs for young people 16-19 who wish to learn more about the Creative industries. These are free to use for any young person wishing to engage with them.

We at the Nerve Centre receive funding to run Academies in **Visual Effects, Games Development and Animation** from local government in Northern Ireland - namely from the Dept For Communities. This allows us to offer these opportunities to all of our participants for free.

We are overseen in both the running and reporting of these Academies locally by **Northern Ireland Screen**, the body which looks after the interests and needs of the Creative Industries locally here in Northern Ireland.

In our Academies our participants are taken through a series of workshops the content of which have been designed in conjunction with creative professionals working in those industries to learn the workflow of creating content in each of those forms of media. They receive mentorship throughout the Academies by various creatives working in those respective industries.

Our participants are thus able to use that knowledge and experience to create content of their own in that medium.

The *Visual Effects Academy* film to be shown here is the product of one of our *Visual Effects Academy* cohorts of participants.

This cohort of participants were taken through how a Special Effects on set supervisor prepares for a film production shoot on Set. They planned for a film shoot with Special Effects in mind. They had a film shoot working with professional actors using a script written by ourselves at The Nerve Centre.

The footage captured was then worked upon by our Academy participants under the instruction and mentorship of Visual Effects artists working in the industry to add the necessary Visual Effects augmentation of the footage themselves using a professional VFX software called NUKE. Two of our participants then created an edit of the final VFX augmented film.

At each stage Nerve Centre held final editorial control of all of the filmed and edited content.

## **The Title of Film 1 - (From BFI Academy)**

*“An Unlikely Friendship”*

### **Film Duration**

*Under 10 mins*

### **Date, time and location that film is to be shown**

*Saturday 7th March 2026 between 10am -1130am at Queens Film Theatre Belfast*

### **Description of the content**

A short dramatic student film that has been written, filmed and edited by participants of our BFI Film Academy as part of their engagement with us in the **BFI Film Academy 2025/26** run by Nerve Centre, Belfast.

### **Film Synopsis**

*“Scarlett, a warm and friendly new barista, also happens to be a budding fashion designer. She becomes intrigued by one very grumpy regular customer. (Depicted onscreen in puppet form) Scarlett’s mission to befriend ‘Bill’ reveals just how little we have to have in common to find common ground.”*

### **Confirmation of a certificate rating which has been set by a classification board which is equivalent to the BBFC**

*The equivalency of Certificate that we would ascribe to this short film is PG. There are themes around Bereavement central to the story and there is one use of a mild swear word (Prick).*

### **Confirmation that a representative from the Nerve Centre has viewed the material and no concerns exist**

*I can confirm that the Nerve Centre has been involved in overseeing the creation of this film at all stages as it is part of our **BFI Film Academy** program.*

*The participants of this program have come up with the story depicted themselves and it has been scripted by one of their number.*

*The filming of the short feature was conducted in conjunction with ourselves and professionals from local industry.*

*The Edit of the feature to its final form by participants has also been overseen by members of our staff.*

*At each stage Nerve Centre held final editorial control of all of the filmed and edited content.*

*The content as depicted in the finished film is thus in a form in which we can assure and confirm, that, having viewed the finished material, no concerns exist for the film to be seen in a public context.*

**The Council should be afforded an opportunity to view the material prior to broadcast**

*A copy of the finished film can be shared if required.*

## **The Title of Film 2 (From BFI Academy)**

*"Kill Your Darlings"*

### **Film Duration**

*Under 10 mins*

### **Date, time and location that film is to be shown**

*Saturday 7th March 2026 between 10am -1130am at Queens Film Theatre Belfast*

### **Description of the content**

*A short dramatic student film that has been written filmed and edited by participants of our **BFI Film Academy** as part of their engagement with us in the **BFI Film Academy 2025/26** run by Nerve Centre Belfast.*

### **Synopsis**

*"After a series of apparently unconnected women are murdered, and with only a few hours before the killer strikes again, a crack detective and her hapless colleague try to solve the case... but the plot is bigger and dangerously closer to home than she can imagine."*

**Confirmation of a certificate rating which has been set by a classification board which is equivalent to the BBFC**

*The equivalency of Certificate that we would ascribe to this short film is 15*

*In the script there's use of the phrases 'hell' 'god damn' 'bastard', & 'shit'.*

*There's no on screen violence depicted but there are crime scene photos on a scene background board that the camera does cut to Close Ups of. These depict women lying 'dead' some covered in blood - these photos were staged and captured by our participants as part of their set design. These are mid shots / full body shots.*

*In the audio track the viewer does hear a gun fired at the end but onscreen viewers see no evidence of what the consequence were of it's firing.*

*Characters on screen do discuss the crime in the film quite matter of factly.*

**Confirmation that a representative from the Nerve Centre has viewed the material and no concerns exist**

*I can confirm that the Nerve Centre has been involved in overseeing the creation of this film at all stages as it is part of our British Film Academy program.*

*The participants of this program have come up with the story depicted themselves and it has been scripted by one of their number.*

*The filming of the short feature was conducted in conjunction with ourselves and professionals from local industry.*

*The edit of the feature to its final form by participants has also been overseen by members of our staff.*

*At each stage Nerve Centre held final editorial control of all of the filmed and edited content.*

*The content as depicted in the finished film is thus in a form in which we can assure and confirm, that, having viewed the finished material, no concerns exist for the film to be seen in a public context.*

**The Council should be afforded an opportunity to view the material prior to broadcast**

*A copy of the finished film can be shared if required.*

**The Title of Film 3 (From Visual Effects Academy)**

*"It's About Time..."*

**Film Duration**

*Under 10 mins*

## **Date, time and location that film is to be shown**

*Saturday 7th March 2026 between 10am -1130am at Queens Film Theatre Belfast*

## **Description of the content**

*A short dramatic student film that has been written by Nerve Centre staff, then filmed and edited by participants of our **Visual Effects Academy** as part of their engagement with us in the **Visual Effects Academy 2025/26** run by Nerve Centre Belfast.*

## **Synopsis**

*In the 1950s a young scientist works in his workshop tinkering with a series of weird and wonderful machines. A TV announcer narration sets the context of the Time....of Superpowers gathering both strength and suspicion, and the Cold War crystallising. These offscreen events solidify the scientists resolve to achieve his goal - of securing a means to achieve Time travel in order to escape his perception of an impending Apocalypse...*

*His wife, cleaning up the mess around him, accidentally activates his machine and transports herself to the present day...*

*How will she cope with interacting with the modern world?*

*How will her husband reunite them?*

*Its About Time....to find out.*

## **Confirmation of a certificate rating which has been set by a classification board which is equivalent to the BBFC**

*The equivalency of Certificate that we would ascribe to this short film is PG. There is some very mild perceived peril in the section depicting the transportation of both characters through the Time portal.*

## **Confirmation that a representative from the Nerve Centre has viewed the material and no concerns exist**

*I can confirm that the Nerve Centre has been involved in overseeing the creation of this film at all stages as it is part of our **Visual Effects Academy** program.*

*The participants of this program have taken a story scripted by ourselves at the Nerve Centre and prepared its Pre production, production and post production.*

*The filming of the short feature was conducted by our participants in conjunction with ourselves and professionals from local industry. The edit of the feature to its final form has also been overseen by members of our staff.*

*At each stage Nerve Centre held final editorial control of all of the filmed and edited content.*


*The content as depicted in the finished film is thus in a form in which we can assure and confirm, that, having viewed the finished material, no concerns exist for the film to be seen in a public context.*

**The Council should be afforded an opportunity to view the material prior to broadcast**

*A copy of the finished film can be shared if required.*

We look forward to hearing from you in due course.

All the best.

  
Nerve Centre

**From:**  <@nervecentre.org>

**Sent:** 13 January 2026 12:13

**To:** Building Control Licensing <[BuildingControlLicensing@BelfastCity.gov.uk](mailto:BuildingControlLicensing@BelfastCity.gov.uk)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL]Cinema Booking licensing query

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Hi there

We are in the process of booking a single one off screening event at a local Belfast Cinema for a showcase of student films for participants of our Animation Academy.

We at the Nerve Centre are funded by local government to run a number of Screen Academies for young people 16-19 to learn more about the creative industries whilst working on their own projects.

Our intended screening is a showcase of work carried out by around 25 young people aged 16-19 engaged in our Animation Academy over six months. The screening is not open to the public and attendees at the screening are invited only by participants or ourselves with no admission cost charged.

The local cinema we have approached for the booking has advised that we need local council liaison officer approval for this screening booking to go ahead. Is that correct? If so can you advise the formalities that we need to go through to seek approval?

Thanks

[REDACTED]

Community Partnership Manager/Screen Academies

Nerve Centre, Belfast

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