

# President

**Location: Central London**

**Salary: £35K pa, subject to time commitment**

The British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) is an independent media content regulator. It classifies theatrical films, home entertainment content including DVDs and VOD, and websites delivered via the UK's mobile networks. Its mission is to help families choose content that is right for them, and avoid what is not, and to protect children and vulnerable adults from harmful content. It carries out wide-reaching public consultation and research to reflect changing social attitudes toward media content, thereby ensuring it maintains very high levels of trust among the British public.

Its standards, enshrined in its Classification Guidelines, focus on child protection and the position of vulnerable adults. They are revised every 4-5 years following an extensive public consultation process.

The BBFC is a non-profit making company limited by guarantee. As well as being a statutory regulator, it increasingly works in partnership with home entertainment and other technology-based companies to deliver trusted classifications through self-regulatory models. It is financed by the fees it charges for classification. It receives no government money. It is operationally independent of both the government and the film and home entertainment industries.

Alongside classification, information provision is increasingly important. A wealth of information about the BBFC can be found on its website, at [www.bbfc.co.uk](http://www.bbfc.co.uk).

The President of the BBFC chairs the Board of Classification, which meets monthly and considers the most complex or controversial cases, and the BBFC's strategic policy framework. The President also chairs the three annual meetings of the Board's Advisory Council on Children's Viewing and is an ex officio member of the Board of Directors, which meets six times a year.

This is a high-level appointment calling for wisdom, mature judgement and leadership. The President of the BBFC must bring intellectual rigour, independence, and a high-level approach to difficult cases and policy issues. They will be credible with a wide range of stakeholders across Westminster, Whitehall and the media and have experience or knowledge of regulation.

## The role

- The intellectual rigour to master complex and sensitive individual cases which may be appealed or challenged in the courts.
- Sensitivity to requirements for consistency and transparency which flow from the Classification Guidelines.
- An ability to cope with the most difficult material (e.g. depictions of sexual and sadistic violence, pornography).
- A strategic and penetrating approach to difficult policy issues, and to the BBFC's future
- The ability to act as a source of support and wise counsel to the CEO.

## The Requirements

- Credibility in Westminster and Whitehall, with other stakeholders, with the media.
- Independence, and an awareness of public concerns and the strategic environment, including new ways of delivering audio-visual content, and the developing role of social media.
- Impartiality, good humour, and a genuine interest in film as an important social and cultural medium.

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**For a confidential conversation with Sarah Thewlis or for any other information please email [applications@thewlisgraham.com](mailto:applications@thewlisgraham.com)**