



**OFFICE OF FILM  
& LITERATURE  
CLASSIFICATION**

*Te Tari Whakarōpū Tukuata, Tuhituhinga*

## **Policy Advice No. 3**

### **Commercial Distribution of Films Granted Festival Fee Waivers**

The Office of Film and Literature Classification (the “Office”) values the cultural significance of film festivals. For this reason, the Office has traditionally granted fee waivers under regulation 7 of the Films, Videos and Publications Classification (Fees) Regulations 1994 (“fee waivers”). The Office has granted fee waivers on the understanding that the request for such a waiver relates to festival screenings only, and that the dates and places of the screenings are specified in the request.

Some films screened at festivals are subsequently commercially released, even though they have received a fee waiver for festival screenings. Regulation 7 normally prevents the grant of fee waivers for films exhibited commercially. The Office receives revenue from the Crown and from classification fees paid by commercial film distributors, and any decrease in non-Crown revenue diminishes the Office’s ability to grant fee waivers for festival screenings. The Office therefore proposes that the difference between the fee waiver and the full fee will become payable if a film which has benefited from a fee waiver is subsequently commercially released.

To this end, when a film which has been granted a fee waiver is subsequently commercially distributed,

- The Office will invoice the Labelling Body for the difference between the fee waiver and the full fee (in the event of the normal 75% fee waiver, this amount will be \$825);
- The Labelling Body will collect that amount from the relevant distributor and remit it to the Office.

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