

## Health and Safety for Location Owners

### Introduction

As a location owner, ensuring the safety of your property, the production crew, and any visitors during filming is a critical responsibility. This guide is designed to help you navigate the health and safety requirements specific to hosting a film production, ensuring compliance with UK regulations and safeguarding everyone involved.

### 1. Legal Obligations for Location Owners

- [Health and Safety at Work Act 1974](#): Although production companies carry the primary responsibility for crew safety, as a location owner, you must ensure your property complies with basic health and safety standards.

- Liability and Insurance: Ensure you have adequate insurance coverage, including public liability insurance, in case of accidents or damage during filming.

### 2. Risk Assessment on Your Property

- Property Survey: Before filming begins, conduct a thorough risk assessment of your property. Collaborate with the production team to identify potential hazards.

- Common Hazards to Watch For:

- Slips, Trips, and Falls: Ensure walkways, stairs, and outdoor areas are clear of obstructions and hazards.
- Structural Integrity: Check the condition of buildings, fences, or temporary structures to ensure they are safe for crew access.
- Environmental Risks: Consider weather-related risks, particularly if your property is rural or coastal.

### 3. Preparing Your Property for Filming

- Site Modifications: If any changes to the location are required for filming (e.g., construction of sets, temporary power supply), ensure that these modifications meet your health and safety regulations.

- Fire Safety Measures: Provide adequate fire safety equipment, such as extinguishers, and make sure all fire exits are accessible. Conduct a fire risk assessment, especially in older or heritage buildings.

- Emergency Exits and Access: Ensure that all emergency exits are clearly marked and that production crew can easily access these in case of evacuation. Make sure the emergency services have access to your property.

## 4. Coordinating with the Production Team

- Communicate Potential Hazards: Make the production team aware of any known hazards on your property, such as uneven ground, low ceilings, or restricted access areas.
- Safety Briefing: Work with the production to provide a safety briefing to the crew upon arrival. Include site-specific risks, such as wildlife, water bodies, or structural concerns.
- Ongoing Monitoring: Conduct daily checks during filming to ensure that the property remains safe as activities progress.

## 5. Managing Public Access and Safety

- Closed Set Protocols: If the public has access to parts of your property (such as public parks, streets, or historical landmarks), ensure that production activities are well-segregated from public areas.
- Signage and Barriers: Work with the production to erect clear signage and barriers to keep the public out of restricted filming zones. Ensure there is adequate supervision to prevent accidents or unauthorized access.
- Traffic Management: If filming requires controlling public roads or access ways, check the production have coordinated with local authorities to ensure that proper traffic management systems are in place.

## 6. Managing Filming Equipment and Crew Activities

- Electrical and Equipment Safety: Ensure that any filming equipment brought onto your property, such as generators, lighting rigs, or sound equipment, is safely installed and does not pose hazards to your property or its occupants.
- Noise and Disturbance: Minimize disruption to surrounding areas, especially if you are near residential communities. Discuss with the production team appropriate working hours and noise levels to avoid complaints or health impacts on neighbours.
- Waste Management: Make arrangements with the production team to ensure that waste and materials are properly disposed of and do not pose any hazards.

## 7. Emergency Procedures

- Emergency Response Plan: Work with the production team to develop a clear emergency plan that covers evacuation, medical emergencies, and fire. This plan should be communicated to everyone on set.
- Local Emergency Contacts: Ensure the production team has the contact details of local emergency services. You should also know how to reach the production's safety coordinator in case of incidents.
- First Aid Facilities: While the production team should provide first aid, ensure that your property has clear access to medical facilities and that you know the location of first aid kits.

## 8. After Filming: Post-Production Safety Checks

- Site Clean-Up: After the production wraps, conduct a thorough inspection of your property to ensure no hazards or damages have been left behind.
- Damage Reporting: Document any damage to your property and notify the production team immediately. Ensure that any repairs or restoration are carried out promptly and in accordance with your agreement.
- Safety Follow-Up: Review the safety procedures and note any areas for improvement in case of future productions.

As a location owner, you play a key role in maintaining a safe environment during film production. By understanding your responsibilities and working closely with the production team, you can ensure that filming is completed without incident, protecting both your property and all those involved.

**For any enquiries, please email [production@creativeengland.co.uk](mailto:production@creativeengland.co.uk) or call +44 (0)20 8324 2311.**

**You can also access more of our resources for locations via our [Locations Toolkit](#)**