

FILMING IN WARWICKSHIRE

Informing this Council

Once you have identified the locations you wish to film, you need to contact Warwickshire County Council's County Highways team to advise them of your filming providing the exact location, timings and provide Risk Assessments and Method Statements for your activities on the public highway.

If you are filming for personal use, then no licence or any form of official permission is required.

Common law rights allow users of public highways to "pass and re-pass ... and to make reasonable use of it". Section 137 of the Highways Act 1980 restricts these rights where the use of the highway causes an "obstruction" to other user's rights of free passage. If you are considered to be causing an obstruction, then there is a risk that you will be stopped from filming.

If you are using a handheld camera, part of small crews with a tripod or part of a larger project, then you need to apply to film on the highway, if the local authority is not aware that you will be filming in the area then you can be asked to stop.

If a member of the public complains and you do not have permission to film, then you may be asked to move on by police or the Local Authorities Highway Inspectors.

Warwickshire Notice of no objection

Warwickshire County Highways will provide a letter confirming that, based on the information you have provided, Warwickshire County Council has no objection to the filming going ahead.

In addition to providing you with the document the Local Authority will check the road space for any works in the area that might affect your shoot and will advise you of the requirement for any additional licences or permit that your activity on the highway may require.

Please note, this notice does not provide a carte blanche permission. If your filming activities creates an unforeseen obstruction, you can still be asked by the police to move on.

All applicants should apply at least **one month** in advance of filming. If additional permissions are required for example, road closures, then a 3-month lead time will apply.

Please contact County Highways on 01926 412515 for further information.

Private Land

To film in private locations such as residential properties, you will need to apply directly to the property owner, not Warwickshire County Council

If you are filming in a flat or on a housing estate, it may be owned by a Housing Association or council, and you will need to contact ALL relevant parties.

With any private location or interior (including private streets, parks, and markets) you will be dealing with Location Representatives directly and will require permission.

If you are unsure whether a location is public highway or not, please contact County Highways in the first instance.

Filming buildings

Filming the exterior of a building does not infringe its copyright. This means that you do not need copyright from the building's owner to film its exterior, but you may need to get permission from the relevant authority or property owner based on where you have physically placed your camera in order to shoot.

A building could also be considered to represent an individual, company, or institution so you should be careful not to use this association to either endorse or exploit any product or service; or in a way that might defame such individual, company, or institution.

Best practice is to always request permission from the responsible owner.

Get insurance

All filming also requires public liability insurance. You need proof of this in order to receive permission to film or carry out any commercial photography and you need to confirm that you hold public liability insurance for £10 million pounds.

This insurance covers the legal responsibilities of your production if your activities cause injury to a third party or damage to property.

If you are an employer, you will also need to confirm that you hold employers' liability insurance for £10 million pounds.

Larger crews, Vehicles, Temporary Structures, Road Closures etc

In some instances, a notice of no objection will not be sufficient to cover your activities on the public highway and additional permits, licenses or a Special Event Order may be required. This will be identified upon Warwickshire County Council's County Highways team receiving details of the filming as detailed above and you will be advised accordingly.