

POLICY:	FILMING POLICY
DATE ADOPTED BY COUNCIL:	2015 MAY
DIRECTORATE:	STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT:	CULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
RESPONSIBLE OFFICER:	EVENTS OFFICER

[Appendix See Below](#)

POLICY OBJECTIVES

To provide a consistent approach to the approval and conduct of filming activities within the municipality.

To provide guidelines which balance the generation of potential economic benefits for the City while maintaining community amenity and safety.

To work within a framework that promotes and preserves Hobsons Bay's identity, heritage, and visually diverse physical and cultural assets.

BACKGROUND

Hobsons Bay City Council receives requests from production companies to conduct filming in Hobsons Bay. Filming requests may relate to feature films, television shows, commercials and photography.

POLICY AND PRINCIPLES

Scope

The policy covers any filming and/or associated activity on land under Council's care and management.

This policy introduces a framework within which applications for filming and stills photography will be reviewed and processed. The policy allows all stakeholders (including local government, public authorities, the community, producers and production companies) to understand expectations and commitments when filming in Hobsons Bay. The document provides guidelines for filming and stills photography in Hobson Bay including:

- Filming for television;
- Feature films;
- Advertising;
- Student film projects;
- Documentaries;
- Music videos;
- Commercial stills photography.

Strategies

Hobsons Bay's Film Policy will achieve its objectives by implementing the following strategies:

- Implement, monitor and maintain an efficient and effective process for using Hobsons Bay for film and photographic purposes;

- Provide guidelines for a coordinated information and permit approval service for the film and television industry;
- Ensure the film and television industry adheres to the policy and guidelines;
- Provide a high level of service with efficient responses to film and television industry enquiries and film permit applications;
- Develop and maintain systems for a streamlined approach to the provision of information and service requests from the film and television industry;
- Monitor the level of film activity to minimise impacts on community amenity, both residential and business;
- Facilitate and monitor the notification of filming activity to residents, business operators and the relevant public authorities;
- Act as a mediator in the resolution of complaints arising from filming activity, where resolution could not be achieved between community stakeholders and production companies; and
- Actively work to advocate and promote Hobsons Bay as a film-friendly production destination with diverse and accessible locations.

Outcomes

These strategies will result in a number of positive outcomes including:

- A balance between residential, business and film and television industry needs and interests;
- Contribution to building Hobsons Bay's reputation as an active cultural destination;
- Streamlined promotion of and access to Hobsons Bay for the film and television industry;
- Recognition of Hobsons Bay as a film-friendly and premier filming location in Victoria;
- Greater awareness of Hobsons Bay's geographical, environmental and heritage assets;
- Minimised risk of litigation and insurance claims for Hobsons Bay, and increased protection for the council's reputation; and
- Recognition of the cultural value and economic benefits that may be derived from the activity of filming.

Internal Liaison

Filming activity can impact on several Council departments and business units. Effective and timely communication is an essential factor in the provision of these services to the film and television industry. Internal liaison between all departments to support filming activity is imperative to provide an effective service, which develops and maintains positive relationships between the film industry, Hobsons Bay and its residents, business operators and public authorities.

Fees

Fees apply for filming in Hobsons Bay in accordance with Council's fee schedule, as adopted and amended annually. Fee waivers apply to student films, low impact filming subject to criteria and projects promoting Hobsons Bay directly.

PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

Refer to Attachment A: "Guidelines for Filming in Hobsons Bay", and Attachment B: "Film Permit Application".