

Policy 1.05 Film and Video

Directorate	Community, Environment and Planning
Responsible Officer	Director Community, Environment and Planning Public Land Use Officer

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Table of administrative Amendments

<u>Amendment Version No.:</u>	<u>Description of Administrative Amendment</u>	<u>Date Reviewed</u>
<u>4.2</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Placed on Public Exhibition 21 August 2025</u>	<u>August 2025</u>
<u>4.1</u>	<u>Review of policy in accordance with Section 165 of the Local Government Act 1993</u> <u>Workshopped by Councillors on 18 June 2025</u>	<u>June 2025</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>Adopted by Council (D22/87916)</u>	<u>21/09/2022</u>

1 Introduction

Bega Valley Shire Council supports the screen industry filming in the local area. Council recognises the economic and cultural benefits the industry has to the Bega Valley Shire and more broadly to New South Wales and Australia.

1.1 Scope

This policy prescribes the processes implemented by Council to oversee and manage applications for filming and videography and photography on public land in the Bega Valley Shire.

The scope of this policy demonstrates direct commitment to the following strategic guiding principles:

- Accountable | Commitment to risk management and compliance and proactive consultation and engagement organisation wide
- Transparent | Decision making processes are clearly outlined, including how a decision is made and who is involved
- Responsive | Commitment to serve the needs of the entire community
- Equitable and inclusive | Strong consideration of the needs of all stakeholders
- Effective and Efficient | Clear connection between policy and implementation

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide guidance to Council staff in determining requests for approval to film within the Bega Valley Shire in accordance with the Local Government Filming Protocol of 20252009, published by the Office of Local Government. To provide a consistent approach to filming on public land within the Bega Valley Shire and to communicate this approach to the wider community.

1.3 Definitions

Word or Terminology	Description
Formal venue	Any Council managed asset or structure already in place such as halls, community centres or swimming pools
Public land	Any Council owned or managed land; open spaces and outdoor areas (parks and playing fields), or on bridges, roads or footpaths
<u>Filming</u>	<u>Filming means recording images (whether on film or video tape or electronically or by other means) for exhibition or broadcast (such as by cinema, television or the Internet or by other means) and includes such acts or things as may be prescribed by the regulations as being filming, but does not include:</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><u>• Still photography, or</u><u>• Video recording of a wedding ceremony or other private celebration or event principally for the purpose of making a record for the participants in the ceremony, celebration or event, or</u>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recording for the immediate purposes of a television program that provides information by way of current affairs or daily news, or • Any act or thing prescribed by the regulations as not being filming
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2 Legislation

Filming in the Bega Valley Shire is undertaken in accordance with the Code of Conduct for location filming, ~~and~~ the *Local Government Filming Protocol 2025-2009* and the *Bega Valley Shire Council Local Environmental Plan*. The purpose of the regulatory framework is to attract and maintain domestic and international film, television and TV commercial production.

Key elements of the legislation include:

- ~~Local councils and government agencies are required to approve screen projects unless there are compelling reasons not to do so and they must provide a timely written response to requests for approval.~~
- ~~A presumption that filming activities are allowed on community land, subject to conditions to ensure environmental protection or express exclusions in the applicable plan of management.~~
- ~~Fees and charges associated with location filming must be reasonable and cost-reflective.~~
- ~~Suitable and affordable parking for filmmakers with vehicles carrying equipment, sets, costumes and catering is essential to filming on location and should be accessible.~~
- ~~Streamlining the processes for filmmakers wanting to film on Council managed Crown Land and public lands should be easy to access.~~

Local Government Filming Protocol 2008

3 Implementation

3.1 Policy Statement

Bega Valley Shire Council will assist filming ~~and~~ videography ~~and photography~~ in the shire by:

- developing and implementing a process which encourages and facilitates filming on public lands
- exempting short-term filming activities on public land from requiring development approval.

Within the context of a presumption of approval, Council has a role in maintaining a balance between community interests, environmental, cultural and heritage protection, and economic development.

Further information can be found on Council's ~~Website~~ [Website Page: Public Land Use](https://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/community/public-land-use)
<https://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/community/public-land-use>

3.2 Responsibilities

3.2.1 Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Leadership Executive Group (LEG)

Ensure appropriate delegations, procedures and resources are in place to enable effective decision making in relation to the consideration of applications for filming on public land under Council's care and control.

3.1.13.2.2 Public Use of Land Officer

Council's Public Land Use Officer will assist filmmakers in obtaining the necessary approvals, support and access to Council services.

3.1.23.2.3 Review all applications for filming, videography and photography and ensure all appropriate approvals and referrals are in place. Communication Officers

Review filming and, videography and ~~photography~~ applications to ensure they align with the objectives of the Community Strategic Plan and leverage and positive opportunities for the shire.

4 Supporting documents

4.1 BVSC procedures that relate to this policy

Procedure No.:	Procedure Name	External or Internal Procedure
<u>Procedure No.:</u>	<u>Procedure Name</u>	<u>External or Internal Procedure</u>
	There are no procedures sitting under this Policy	
<u>1.05.1</u>	<u>Guidelines to filming in the Bega Valley Shire</u>	<u>External</u>

4.2 BVSC policies that relate to this policy

Policy No.:	Policy Name
<u>Policy No.:</u>	<u>Policy Name</u>
<u>2.02</u>	<u>Live, work, invest</u>
<u>1.01</u>	<u>Community Wellbeing</u>
<u>1.08</u>	<u>Leisure and Recreation</u>
<u>4.05</u>	<u>Enforcement and Compliance</u>
<u>4.10</u>	<u>Land Under Council Jurisdiction</u>
4.15	Use of Public Land (Local Approvals)
6.10	Communication

[6.25](#)

[Social Media](#)

4.2.1 Other related documents

Bega Valley Shire Council Community Strategic Plan

Note: -Policy details may change from time to time. To ensure you are viewing the most recent version please view Council's adopted policies and procedures on the Council website: www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au.