

Filming on the Move: A guide for APA Members



Advertising Producers Association

We invited the leading experts in filming on the move to speak to our members about how to make the most out of filming in the skies, on the roads and how to do so safely, including James Waller from the Metropolitan Police Service Film Unit; Jeremy Braben from Helicopter Film Services & Tim Durham from Drone Hire Co.

Here are the Top Tips from each of our speakers:

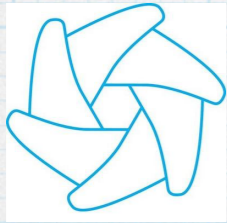
James Waller | MPSFU



1. When filming a hero vehicle without a number plate you must be supervised by police.
2. The MPS Film Unit must be consulted in advance of any filming using replica/fake police vehicles on public roads & filming will not be approved without the presence of a police escort.
3. Some locations may not be a public road but still fall under Road Traffic Act legislation because they are public places. If you are on private land which is not open to the public, then Road Traffic legislation does not apply.
4. Productions can film from inside a vehicle as long as the camera person is restrained with suitable straps and to suitable load-bearing anchorage points. Equipment should be secured with different straps for the camera operator to prevent the camera from becoming a dangerous projectile. All doors are to be securely closed.
5. Runners or crew can NOT stop traffic. Only employees of a Traffic Management company can stop traffic legally & safely.

You can read the full guidelines [HERE](#). The MPSFU Guidelines give a very concise advice on what to do in different filming situations & how to make them safe. The police are there primarily to help you make your shoot safe & a success.

Jeremy Braben | Helicopter Film Services



1. You are not allowed to fly lower than 1500ft over the river Thames, unless you have an exemption, in which case you can lower down to 750ft, although only in a twin helicopter.
2. If you are looking to fly lower than law permits, you have to apply for an exemption which takes roughly 28 days to receive from the National Air Traffic Services (NATS).
3. You are not allowed to fly over Royal Gardens, Palaces or Parliament buildings.
4. Helicopters are allowed to be branded/re-painted, along as they have a clear registration mark.
5. Helicopters can run for roughly 2-3 hours with camera equipment inside it without having to stop to re-fuel, however, be aware that there are not a lot of places in which Helicopters can land in London.

You can read *Helicopter Film Services FAQs* [HERE](#).

Tim Durham | Drone Hire Co.

1. Pilot cannot fly drone directly over people, roads, buildings which have not been given permission from the person and/or landowner. Drones can fly directly over or near to people who are deemed "under control" – i.e actors, extras etc.
2. A drone must be 500m from & 400ft above the Pilot VLOS.
3. Sub 7 kg drone must fly 50m away from buildings, people and vehicles not in your control & a drone above 7 Kg must be 150m away.
4. Drones cannot be flown at night (or out of daylight hours) unless the company has special permissions for night time flying.
5. Any qualified drone pilot should complete a site assessment before agreeing to a job. The responsibility of any flight & its legalities rests with the drone operator however if breaking his/her CAA conditions, may invalidate their insurance policy.

You can read the *Drone-specific CAA Regulations* [HERE](#) and *Drone Pilot CAA Guidelines* [HERE](#).