

Specialist Filming Vehicles at Contained and Non-Contained Filming Sites – Victoria Police Role

Contained vs Non-Contained Site

Generally speaking, a **'contained site'** is a public road or road related area that has been contained utilising traffic management control points. Ordinary traffic is not permitted to enter the site except when afforded access by private traffic management personnel (stop and hold).

A **'non-contained'** site would include the escort of a tracking vehicle or low loader, (or other specialist filming vehicle as designated by VicRoads) as it travels along a defined route where ordinary traffic has not been excluded while rigged for or in the process of filming.

Role of Victoria Police

Subject to the 'road authorities' requirements, Victoria Police may oversee/assist private traffic management at a contained site. Where police are required, traffic management plans should be forwarded to the Victoria Police Film and Television Office to assist police in preparing a Filming Event Action Plan and conducting a risk assessment. Victoria Police will not apply for a non-road activity permit (see below), the responsibility for this lies with the production company. In most cases, non-contained sites involving specialist filming vehicles on public roads require police escort.

Non-Road Activity Permits

A 'non-road activity' in accordance with the Road Safety Act, Section 99B is defined as any activity conducted on a road that significantly interferes with the normal use of the road by road users. Example: A non-road activity would include the use of a road for filming, a bicycle event, a street festival or a street market. As per the Act, a road authority i.e.: VicRoads, Councils, may issue a permit to conduct a non-road activity on a highway or road. A non-road activity permit will contain any terms, conditions and limitations the road authority considers appropriate.

How Many Police Will I Need?

The Film and Television Office conducts a thorough risk assessment of the proposed filming location/route. This assessment will determine the number of police resources required and will be at the discretion of Film and Television Office Staff. The minimum number of police attending is two as per Victoria Police Policy.

How do I apply?

Complete the Application for Police Resources Form and forward it to film.tv@police.vic.gov.au for review. Applications need to include an accurate diagram(s) (Traffic Management Plan) of intended location/route(s) including any static private traffic management points. For advice on traffic management and location requirements contact the Film and Television Office on [8335 8567](tel:83358567) or [8335 8568](tel:83358568).

Please note - the Victoria Police Film and Television Office is closed on weekends.

Time Frames

Applications for Police Resources should be received at least 28 days prior to the event. Any applications received after this will be considered but resources cannot be guaranteed.

Fees and Charges

The use of police resources for non-core policing activities such as filming, unless exceptional circumstances exist, attracts fees and charges (see attached fee schedule). A minimum four-hour call-out fee for each assigned police member, as per the current Fees and Charges Schedule, applies. Cancellation of police resources, including weather hold days, may attract a 4 hour call out fee for each police officer. When on set, Victoria Police assumes control of all traffic management. Failure to comply with Victoria Police directions during filming may result in the withdrawal of police services, any filming permit rendered null and void and possible charges being laid. A minimum four-hour call-out fee will also apply.