

## **Creative industries FAQs**

### **Is filming allowed in Wales?**

Filming can continue in Wales providing there is full compliance with Welsh law. Welsh Government guidance on the coronavirus should also be followed. This includes a legal obligation and [guidance on taking all reasonable measures to maintain physical distancing](#) in the workplace, compliance with relevant industry guidelines for physical production and receipt of any permissions needed from the local authority in which filming would take place.

Further detail is available in the creative industries guidance produced by Creative Wales. Any filming that cannot be done in accordance with guidance should be discussed with Creative Wales in the first instance.

### **What is a key / critical worker and when is that status relevant i.e. what specific regulations / circumstances does it apply to?**

A key worker or critical worker is a worker who is considered to provide an essential service or whose work is critical to the Covid-19 response. The term does not have general application but is used in specific circumstances to recognise where a worker should have access to specific entitlements, for example [access to childcare](#) and [test eligibility](#).

The full list of key or critical workers in Wales can be found in the relevant WG guidance documents (links included above). In the context of journalists and broadcast media, key (critical) workers are - *journalists and broadcasters covering coronavirus or providing public service broadcasting*.

### **What is the law on travelling in Wales and in particular travel for work and travelling across borders – is this different for key workers?**

Welsh law provides that if it is not reasonably practicable for you to work from home you can travel for work. The distance you need to travel for work should be essential to that work and minimised as much as possible, however, there is no definite limit on the distance. Where it is necessary for your work, workers can travel across borders in the UK. Guidance on travelling safely during the coronavirus pandemic is available on the Welsh Government website - <https://gov.wales/travelling-safely-during-coronavirus-pandemic-guidance-public-html>

People arriving in Wales from outside the UK or Ireland on or after 8 June 2020, are not allowed to leave the place they are staying for the first 14 days in the UK (known as 'self-isolating'). This is because it can take up to 14 days for coronavirus symptoms to appear. <https://gov.wales/how-self-isolate-when-you-travel-wales-coronavirus-covid-19>

Some of those travellers are exempt – please see the following Welsh Government guidance document: <https://gov.wales/coronavirus-covid-19-travellers-exempt-welsh-border-rules-html>

This includes:

- People who live in the UK but work in another country and travel between the UK and country of work at least once a week;
- People who live in another country but work in the UK, and usually travel between the UK and the country to which they usually reside at least once a week; and
- People engaged in urgent or essential work for the BBC's broadcasting transmission network and services.

### **What is the position on accommodation? Can hotel or other accommodation be provided for key workers?**

Under Welsh law holiday accommodation businesses can open for any purpose **if requested to do so** by the Welsh Ministers or a local authority. Please see the Welsh Government [guidance note to holiday accommodation owners](#): the Health Protection (Coronavirus Restrictions) (Wales) (Amendment ) Regulations 2020. The guidance anticipates the purposes for which requests could be made which includes accommodating key workers.

Decisions on reopening holiday accommodation for specific purposes are generally made by local authorities. However, the Welsh Government expects a consistent application across Wales, recognising the need to balance economic and health and safety objectives.

### **What do we do when maintaining a two metre distance is just not possible?**

Welsh law requires all reasonable measures to be taken to maintain physical distancing (staying 2m apart) while working. Welsh Government [guidance](#) on this requirement acknowledges that *'there are working environments where physical distancing is not possible – and in consequence there may be circumstances where few or even no reasonable measures can be taken. For example, in relation to the provision of public facing essential services (including operation and maintenance of Critical National Infrastructure), factory settings, construction sites, the provision of health and social care services and the production and distribution of food'*. This isn't an exhaustive list.

This means that for a drama production all reasonable measures must be taken to ensure physical distancing wherever possible e.g. smaller crew, changes to layout, use of technology and plot changes. However, work can continue despite there being some situations where physical distancing cannot be maintained e.g. hair and make-up, key scenes essential to integrity of the plot. If possible other measures should be introduced to mitigate risks associated with close physical presence e.g. increased hygiene measures and provision of adequate supplies of hygiene products (automatic soap dispensers, paper tissues instead of towels, hand sanitisers etc.), use of personal protective equipment where possible and practical to do so (e.g. [face](#)

[coverings](#)), testing of relevant cast and crew, minimising the time spent where physical distance cannot be maintained. Creative Wales recommend that a record be kept of all reasonable measures that have been considered and taken.