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## British Film Commission eases COVID-19 production guidelines

The British Film Commission (BFC) has updated its COVID-19 guidance. Having consulted with the industry, the BFC's new production guidance will reflect the UK Government's new *Living with COVID-19* plan. While certain rules about social distancing, Perspex screens and intensive cleaning are no longer in place, a number of practices remain, such as provision of hygiene facilities and daily symptom checks for crew members. These revisions aim to help productions continue to manage the risks of COVID-19 carefully.

“As the world learns to live with COVID-19, the BFC's *Working Safely During COVID-19 in Film and High-end TV Drama Production* guidance remains an essential tool in keeping crew and cast safe and productions working,” says the organisation's CEO, Adrian Wootton OBE.



The guidance was originally created in Spring 2020. The BFC consulted crew and crew representatives, UK and US film and HETV production executives, and industry bodies in all four nations of the UK, as well as with the UK Government, UK Health Security Agency and the Health and Safety Executive.



The BFC will continue to review this guidance in line with changes to Government regulations and the evolution of industry practices. Productions based in Northern

Ireland, Scotland and Wales should additionally check for the relevant devolved Government guidance as these guidelines may differ to those set out by the UK Government.

“This guidance has been instrumental in enabling our sector to continue working throughout the pandemic,” elaborates Wootton. “Its practices are established and observed, and in many cases voluntarily exceeded, by studios and productions, who all seek to keep the safety, health and mental wellbeing of cast, crew and community a key priority. We will continue to update this guidance and keep it under review in consultation with Government and our industry partners.” The updated guidance is available to view online.