

INFRASTRUCTURE REPORT AND CHECKLISTS

SCREEN ALLIANCE NORTH

LIVERPOOL
OFFICE FILM

North
East
Screen



SCREEN
MANCHESTER

SCREEN
YORKSHIRE

Infrastructure Report

As part of their work with Screen Alliance North, Picture Zero carried out a number of site visits to assess key infrastructure opportunities and capabilities. These visits took place across a range of different spaces with different needs, and included historical filming locations, production offices, unit bases, post-production spaces, studios, and buildings used for filming. Picture Zero focused specifically on EV chargers and grid power infrastructure due to an industry move towards electrification, specifically highlighted in decarbonisation reports such as [BAFTA Albert's SPARK report](#). The research identified the following areas for opportunity.



EV Charging Infrastructure

As per the government's EV charging report of April 2025, EV infrastructure in the North of England is demonstrably below the average, with the North East, North West, and Yorkshire and the Humber only reaching 95, 69, and 66 EV chargers per 100,000 people respectively compared to the average of 115 for Great Britain.

Site visits showed this was an exacerbated issue due to the majority of charging facilities across the UK being on street or at destinations like car parks and leisure areas. For all site visits conducted, there was limited to no EV charging available. This results in a cost disparity for Northern productions wishing to use EVs compared to productions filming in better serviced areas, such as Greater London, as there would be an increased cost required to cover hired EV charging points.

Our recommendations would be as follows:

- Where local authorities have not bid for government funding for EV charging devices, film offices should aid the industry in lobbying for this funding by demonstrating the potential increase of productions to the area. There are funding opportunities, such as the [Workplace Charging Scheme](#) (available until 31 March 2027), which the industry should promote to landowners to help increase the number of charging devices at a reduced cost.
- To cover the current uplift until EV charging devices can be implemented across the regions, we would suggest a fund that productions wishing to prioritise EV travel can access.
- For studios / frequently used filming locations, we would recommend a fund for spaces unable to cover the cost of the installation of EV charging devices to promote sustainable travel to those hiring the spaces.

Grid Power Infrastructure

Similarly to the EV infrastructure, the site visits demonstrated a lack of grid power opportunity outside of the expected opportunities (i.e. locations in modern buildings). In particular, historical filming locations are at a disadvantage when it comes to grid power opportunities for understandable reasons; however, some of these spaces are very close to urban areas where the installation of grid tie-ins may be possible. For more modern and urban filming locations, there were some opportunities for grid power to be used but it was not utilised. This may be due to a lack of understanding around the capabilities of grid power, or a concern around additional energy bills. The latter specifically came up in conversation while Picture Zero were conducting a site visit, and was flagged due to locations typically being hired at a flat rate, and the concern of a significant cost increase if energy usage goes beyond the expectations of those hiring out the location.

Our recommendations would be as follows:

- A focus on establishing grid-power tie-ins at frequently used locations in the North of England. Depending on cost and location requirements, there may be need for a fund to help a space cover this, or an incentive provided by local film offices.
- Specific grid-power training and resources for Locations teams, covering when to consider mains power, what to look out for, and case studies of past successes
- Conversations with frequently used locations to help them incentivise the use of grid power at their locations and to understand how to promote its capabilities.

Screen Alliance North's Sustainability Working Group will take these learnings forwards to shape the strategy and deliverables of the coming year.

Checklists

Hierarchies

Resources

Catering

Typically an underreported area, Catering usually ends up being the second or third highest emitter on a production. We'd always recommend asking caterers for their environmental policy, but there are additional considerations that can be made by a production, such as a beef-free menu.

See what others are doing below:

Better Food Foundation

Catering for sustainability

Feeding Change: A Practical Guide to Sustainable Catering for Film & TV

Meals for the Planet

Tackling Food Waste in the Film & TV Industry



Biodiversity

Biodiversity is often overlooked because of its intangible nature, but considering the impact of your shooting location on local biodiversity is a key practice that needs to be embedded into productions.

Have a look at the resources below:

Biodiversity & the screen industries:
A guide to productions

UN's Global Biodiversity Framework

Protected Species Licence Application

Materials, Circularity, & Waste

For materials and waste, think about how things can be kept in the industry rather than brought in and taken out. Where can you hire items from? Can you donate assets to another production at the end of the shoot? Have a look at the resources below to begin the process of embedding circularity into your film or show:

The Costume Directory

BFDG: Planet Positive Awards

Planet Positive Beauty Guide Resources

PropUp UK

Good On You

BAFTA Albert Accelerate Report

Power

For power, think about not just what you are using but what you can cut out too: do you need as many generators as you originally planned for? Can mains power be used instead?

Have a look at the Power Hierarchy document here and use the resources below to help guide your decision making:

The Fuel Project: The Shift Report

BAFTA Albert Accelerate Report

SPARK: Clean Temporary Power by 2030 Report



Suppliers: Where to find them and what to apply to

Looking for sustainable suppliers but don't know where to start? Or are you a supplier who'd like to get your name out there and show off your green credentials?

Have a look at the list of directories below.

BAFTA Albert Suppliers Directory

Developed by industry experts, the BAFTA Albert Suppliers Directory is a specific list of sustainably minded companies who are vetted annually to ensure their credentials are up to date. Users can filter based on location, as well as supplier type, while suppliers can apply quarterly to be part of the list.

[Find more information regarding fees and the process here.](#)

Regional Film Offices

For tailored, regional specific suppliers, you can go to any of the film offices websites and review their facilities and suppliers' directories:



If applying, this is a great space to stand out from your direct competitors. By applying as a sustainable company, the label demonstrating this will differentiate you from the rest.

Terminology

There's a lot of scientific jargon out there, so we've broken some of the most common ones to make the transition to sustainable practices more accessible:

- **HVO**
Stands for Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil, and acts as an alternative for diesel. If you'd like to put it into your diesel vehicle, check for the XTL mark on the fuel cap as this will confirm if it is compatible or not.
- **ISO 14001**
Is the international standard for Environmental Management Systems. For more information, read [here](#).
- **REGO-backed**
The Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGO) scheme provides transparency to consumers about how much of their energy is generated from renewable resources. REGO certificates therefore demonstrate that electricity is generated from renewable sources.



- **SBTi**
The Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) is a global body which enables businesses to set emissions reduction targets in line with the Paris Agreement.
 - **Scope 1**
Emissions attributed directly to the company. These are typically emissions associated with company-owned vehicles and company-owned offices.
 - **Scope 2**
Indirect emissions from the consumption of purchased electricity, heat, or steam i.e. emissions from your energy supplier.
 - **Scope 3**
Indirect emissions from an organisation's value chain i.e. everything not covered by Scopes 1 or 2. This includes business travel in non-company-owned vehicles, purchased goods and services, waste disposal, and upstream and downstream transportation, and typically represents the largest share of a company's total emissions.
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Travel & Transport

If you're looking to focus on the typically highest emitting area for productions, have a look at our Travel & Transport Hierarchy document, which can be found [here](#).

For further information, we'd recommend the following resources:

The Fuel Project: The Shift Report

BAFTA Albert Accelerate Report

SPARK: Clean Temporary Power by 2030 Report



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