

BAFTA ALBERT SUSTAINABLE PRODUCTION GUIDE

Camera Department

Every department in our industry has a part to play in the journey toward a low-carbon future. The Camera Department plays a key role in the production's success. From how they power their equipment to the way camera teams plan and operate can make a real impact on creating more sustainable productions.

This guide includes general considerations as well as a checklist your department can use to create its own action plan that will help the production achieve BAFTA Albert certification.

General Considerations

General Considerations for ALL Departments
Start early. The sooner you plan for sustainability, the bigger your impact. Build it into your production from day one, so it's not an afterthought, but the foundation.
Understand your impact and redirect. If you want to reduce your environmental impact, you have to know what it is. Encourage your productions to use BAFTA Albert's toolkit to help you track emissions and decarbonise. From this, you can take clear and direct action on the largest areas of your environmental impact.
Define and communicate your intentions. Once you've got a plan, make sure to share it so everyone has every opportunity to know and join in.
Attend BAFTA Albert sustainability training and workshops.
Source locally to minimise transport emissions.
Eliminate single-use items wherever reusable alternatives exist.
Use recycled, certified sustainable, or biodegradable materials.
Engage with your suppliers by sharing your sustainability goals and choosing suppliers with sustainability credentials, or by using the BAFTA Albert Suppliers Directory.
Ensure recycling bins are available and labelled clearly.
Turn off unused appliances, lighting, and electronics.
Promote sustainable practices in briefings and meetings.
Reduce the materials used. Reuse props, costumes, sets, etc. Recycle materials correctly to avoid landfill.
Default to digital paperwork ; print only if requested.

Camera Department Sustainability Checklist

The actions below are tagged with the Certification Question code(s) it supports. This shows how day-to-day department activity feeds into the certification. The checklist itself isn't evidence, but working through it will help ensure you're supporting the production as a whole, in the right direction on its sustainability journey.

The actions correlate with Certification Question codes 1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 2.3, 2.6, and 2.7.

Awareness & Engagement (1.5)

- ☐ Maintain a camera power log to inform future productions.
- ☐ Include sustainability criteria in camera department deals and prep briefs.
- ☐ Align reporting with BAFTA Albert or production sustainability tracking.
- ☐ Document sustainable wins and lessons learned for future productions.

Pre-Production & Sourcing (1.2, 1.3, 1.5, 2.6 and 2.7)

- ☐ Plan camera power requirements early with the Electrical Department and Locations and/or Studio team in early to discuss power planning, especially around peak demand.
- ☐ Conduct cost-benefit analysis highlighting long-term savings of sustainable camera and power choices.
- ☐ Choose digital shooting over film wherever creatively possible to reduce waste and environmental impact.
- ☐ If film is required, set cameras to 2-perf or 3-perf to minimise film stock consumption.
- ☐ Make a camera log or inventory to avoid purchasing new equipment.
- ☐ If new equipment is needed, seek to purchase second-hand first or hire.
- ☐ Eliminate single-use batteries by purchasing rechargeable batteries for cameras and accessories.
- ☐ Plan for battery-based systems.
- ☐ Reduce fuel use by avoiding overspecifying camera truck size.
- ☐ Plan logistics to minimise unnecessary vehicle movements.
- ☐ Brief camera crew on sustainable working practices and benefits.
- ☐ Encourage use of low-energy lighting and renewable electricity in camera-adjacent setups.

During Production (2.1, and 2.7)

- ☐ Connect camera equipment to mains/grid power or mobile battery units for charging.
- ☐ Use mains or battery power wherever feasible instead of generators.
- ☐ Use rechargeable batteries across camera systems.
- ☐ Use low emission vehicles to transport equipment.

- ☐ Minimise use of expendables and reuse where safe and practical.
- ☐ Reinforce sustainable practices through on-set reminders or toolbox talks.
- ☐ Encourage energy-efficient use of monitors, chargers, and accessories.

End-of-use and Waste Management (2.7)

- ☐ Sell, recycle, or return any excess film stock (if used) to prevent waste.
- ☐ Reuse, sell, or donate leftover expendables to schools, charities, or other productions.
- ☐ Ensure all batteries are correctly recycled.