



## ScreenSafe Health and Safety Protocols Addendum

### Close Contact / On Screen Talent - Specific Scene Guidance – Level 2

#### Context:

Please ensure that this addendum is read within the context of the overall Health and Safety Protocols - the addendum will be incorporated back into the main Protocols at the first opportunity.

Please also note a more detailed departmental breakdown based on working with actors and a more detailed 'intimacy guide' as related to Covid-19 conditions will be released as soon as possible. Informed consent, individual circumstance and absence of coercion will be key here.

#### Overall:

It is preferred that the 1 metre distancing is maintained wherever possible.

However, work that has to take place within the 1 metre, like make-up and wardrobe, and close contact scenes can be undertaken if a scene calls for unavoidable close contact, and it can be done in a controlled environment.

These close proximity or close contact scenes can be undertaken if you utilise risk minimisation practices within a controlled work environment such as, but not limited to, wellbeing declarations and checks, contact tracing, cleaning, hygiene and distancing practices outside of the 'close proximity' activities. Consider the option of minimising the social interaction of the cast and crew involved in the scene; it would be ideal if this could happen for 14 days.

Each production should look to specifically assess close contact scenes. Work should be undertaken closely with the actors to ensure comfort levels and individual circumstances are taken into consideration. Special considerations should include strict hygiene practices and in-depth consultation with all parties involved.

The basis of this activity arises out of the Special Proximity Requirements for Businesses as per the Covid-19 Public Health Legislation below:

#### **13 Specific proximity requirements for businesses and services**

(1) This clause applies to the extent that a business or service cannot operate without physical contact, or close proximity, between people, such as massage and hairdressing services, small passenger services, and professional or semi-professional sports.

(2) Businesses and services must —

(a) ensure that all people who enter the workplace or use its services remain 1 metre away from each other and from workers (to the greatest extent practicable), **except for workers and the people they are required to have physical contact with, or close proximity to, in order to carry out the activities of that business or service;** and

(b) keep records to enable contact tracing of people who enter the workplace or use its services.

Link: <http://legislation.govt.nz/regulation/public/2020/0084/latest/LMS345274.html>

Below are some example guides based on 2 scripted scenarios to assist with the creation of the COVID-19 Safety Plan in relation to 'close proximity' scenes.

Please read the below guidance whilst being aware that these guides are exactly that, guidance, and it is essential that all 'close proximity' scenes are looked and assessed individually under the whole circumstances of the who what and where of the project.

Look at creating a close proximity bubble that provides the environment for workers to undertake filming activities within the 1 to 0 metre distance. This bubble should be kept as small as possible (i.e. Make Up/Hair, Costume, Sound and Talent/Cast). There can be multiple close proximity bubbles, but all must adhere to the Alert Level 2 physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning protocols.

A close proximity bubble can be extended up to potentially 10 people and can be made up of persons from other departments. However, these bubbles must ensure physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning protocols are maintained from all other bubbles.

Individual risk assessments of each close proximity environment will assist in implementing the appropriate control methods to reduce any potential harm.

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#### **Scenario 1:**

2 actors in a car together, in the front seats, with dialogue.

Considerations;

- How close are they
- How long are they in the car together at any one time
- How much dialogue is there
- Do they look towards each other
- Pressure on the cast re performance in 'close proximity' situation
- What additional distancing, hygiene and cleaning measures should be implemented

Guidance;

- If possible use a larger vehicle to increase the actual physical distance between actors.
- Use camera positions and set ups that do not require any other person to be in the vehicle whilst the 2 actors are there. Unless the person is to be included in this bubble.
- Minimise the amount of time they are in the vehicle and give regular breaks between takes to enable actors to exit vehicle and get some fresh air, and having continuous airflow in the vehicle.
- To assist the actors ability to focus and reduce stress utilise services and equipment that enables them not to have to actually operate the vehicle.
- Create an on-set bubble for the actors, maximise distancing with all other crew, cast and extras.
- Have one make up and costume person to look after both the actors.
- Reduce the dialogue wherever possible, and reduce the dialogue whilst looking towards each other.
- Sanitise the vehicle thoroughly directly before they enter / exit the vehicle.
- Consider the actors, and anyone else in the bubble, e.g. Make-Up, minimising their respective social bubbles prior to and after filming. 14 days minimisation is ideal.

- Maintain all level 2 Physical Distancing, Hygiene and Cleaning practises for the production.
- Consider having fresh / clean costumes for the actors for the 'close proximity' scene to minimise any chance of contamination from the environment.
- All persons involved in 'close proximity' scene must agree to be involved directly prior to the scene so that it is reaffirmed in their mind that the proper processes have been put in place prior to the filming.
- The scene should be talked through directly prior to being undertaken to ensure every person involved is clear on the measures being put in place to minimise the risk and support the wellbeing of all involved.

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### **Scenario 2:**

2 actors snuggled on a couch together watching television.

Considerations;

- How close are they
- How long are they on the couch together at any one time
- How much dialogue is there
- Do they look towards each other
- Pressure on the cast re performance in 'close proximity' situation
- What additional distancing, hygiene and cleaning measures should be implemented
- Use of furnishings, couch, blanket, cushions

Guidance;

- The couch should be sanitised directly before the actors take up their positions.
- Use camera positions and set ups that do not require any other person to be in close proximity whilst the 2 actors are there.
- Minimise the amount of time they are on the couch and give regular breaks between takes to enable actors to exit and get some fresh air.
- Reduce the crew numbers in direct view to enable the actors to feel more relaxed whilst performing
- Create an on-set bubble for the actors, maximise distancing with all other crew, cast and extras.
- Have one make up and costume person look after both the actors or keep a close proximity bubble to undertake Make Up/Hair and Costume tasks.
- Consider on person to undertake both make up and costume for both actors.
- Reduce the dialogue wherever possible and reduce the dialogue whilst looking towards each other.
- If other furnishings are used, blanket, cushions etc, use items fresh from the packet or freshly cleaned.
- Consider the actors, and anyone else in the bubble, e.g. Make-Up, minimising their respective social bubbles prior to and after filming. 14 days minimisation is ideal.
- Maintain all level 2 Physical Distancing, Hygiene and Cleaning practises for the production.
- Consider having fresh / clean costumes for the actors for the 'close proximity' scene to minimise any chance of contamination from the environment / launder at end of day if reusing.

- All persons involved in 'close proximity' scene must agree to be involved directly prior to the scene so that it is reaffirmed in their mind that the proper processes have been put in place prior to the filming.
- The scene should be talked through directly prior to being undertaken to ensure every person involved is clear on the measures being put in place to minimise the risk and support the wellbeing of all involved.