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GLOSSARY

Glossary

A-weighting, dB(A)	The unit of sound level, weighted according to the A-scale, which takes into account the differing sensitivity of the human ear to some frequencies
AgriTech	Technologies that assist farmers in improving their performance, for example by enabling yield growth, improving the efficiency of supply chains and reducing waste
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum – height above sea level
APIS	Air Pollution Information System (www.apis.ac.uk)
AQAL	Air quality assessment level, which may be an air quality objective, EU limit / target value or an Environment Agency 'environmental assessment level'
AQMA	Air quality management area – a designated zone where specific air quality management proposals (defined in an air quality action plan) are proposed by a local authority to improve air quality and ensure that air quality objectives are met
Aquifer	A deposit or rock, such as chalk, containing water that can be used to supply wells
Asbestos	A material formerly in wide use in the building industry that is now known to cause respiratory disease
BAP	Biodiversity action plan – a plan developed by local authorities that identifies priority habitats and species for conservation and includes targets and mechanisms for achieving them
Best and most versatile agricultural land	Land classified as grades 1 (excellent quality), 2 (very good quality) and 3a (good quality) under the MAFF <i>Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales: Revised guidelines and criteria for grading the quality of agricultural land</i> (1988)
BIS	Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
BoCC	Birds of Conservation Concern – a review of the status of birds in the UK, Channel Islands and Isle of Man
BRE	Building Research Establishment

BREEZE ROADS	Modelling software that calculates emissions to air from road traffic
CadnaA	A computer program for modelling noise
CEMP	Construction environmental management plan
CHET	Cambridge Historic Environment Team
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
Conservation area	An area of special architectural or historic interest identified as one where the character and appearance is worthy of preservation, designated under the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
CPERC	Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre
CRTN	<i>Calculation of Road Traffic Noise</i> published by the Department for Transport in 1988
CURED V2A	Calculator Using Realistic Emissions for Diesels – a spreadsheet for the calculation of vehicle emissions
CWS	An area of county importance for nature conservation
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
Deadweight	The 'do nothing' scenario in an economic assessment, which represents a reference case for envisaged events that would have taken place without the proposed development
Decibel (dB)	The unit of sound level
Defra	Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
Diffusion tube	A passive device for monitoring air quality and measuring ambient pollutant concentrations
Displacement	An estimate of the proportion of new economic activity that will be diverted from other existing businesses in the local and regional area
Droughtiness	A lack of soil water that may affect the range of crops that can be grown on a site, as well as their yield and quality

Dust	Generic term used to describe larger non-respirable airborne particulates (typically those that are deposited rapidly and are normally associated with soiling / marking of property, cars, vegetation etc)
EIA	Environmental impact assessment – a means of drawing together, in a systematic way, an assessment of a project’s likely significant effects. This helps to ensure that the importance of the predicted effects, and the scope for reducing them, are properly understood by the public and the relevant competent authority before it makes a decision
ES	Environmental statement – a document setting out the developer’s own assessment of a project’s likely environmental effects, which is prepared and submitted by the developer in conjunction with an application for consent or notice of proposed development
Flaser marl	A lime-rich mudstone with variable amounts of clays and silt deposited in layers
GAC	Generic assessment criteria – concentrations of contaminants in soil that should not be exceeded in order to protect human health
Geophysical survey	Ground-based physical sensing techniques used for archaeological imaging
Green belt	A policy designation to retain areas of largely undeveloped land surrounding urban areas
Groundwater	Water flowing through, or contained beneath, the ground surface
GVA	Gross value added – the difference between the cost of inputs of labour and materials and the value of outputs of goods and services. It is an indicator of the performance of an economic area
HER	Historic Environment Record – a record of all known archaeological sites and finds, historic buildings and other aspects of the historic environment within a county
HIA	Health impact assessment
HSI assessment	Habitat suitability index assessment – a method for determining whether habitat is suitable for great crested newts
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
IEA	The former Institute of Environmental Assessment (now IEMA)

IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
Junctions 8	A computer program used to model the capacity of junctions
L_{A10}	The 'A'-weighted sound pressure level of the residual noise in decibels exceeded for 10% of a given time. It is often used to describe the levels of road traffic noise at a particular location
L_{A90}	The 'A'-weighted sound pressure level of the residual noise in decibels exceeded for 90% of a given time. It is often used to describe the background noise levels at a particular location
$L_{Aeq,T}$	The equivalent steady sound level in decibels containing the same acoustic energy as the actual fluctuating sound level over the given time period T. This is a unit commonly used to describe construction, industrial and activity noise, and is generally referred to as the ambient noise level
L_{Amax}	The 'A'-weighted maximum sound pressure level measured over a measurement period
Landscape character	The distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape
LAP	Local area of play – a small area of open space for young children (four to six years old) to play close to where they live
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management – a system introduced under Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 that requires local authorities to review and assess air quality within their boundaries
Leakage	The proportion of jobs where the benefit of those jobs (i.e. salaries) benefits individuals who commute from locations beyond the area over which the impact is being measured
LEAP	Local equipped area of play – a play area equipped for mainly early school-age children (four to eight years old), with at least five types of equipment
LEP	Local enterprise partnership
LiDAR	Light detection and radar – a remote sensing technology that measures the height of the ground surface in a given landscape with a very high degree of accuracy

Listed building	<p>A building that has been placed on a statutory list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest, designated under the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. There are three grades of listed status for buildings in England and Wales:</p> <p>Grade I: buildings of exceptional interest</p> <p>Grade II*: particularly important buildings of more than special interest</p> <p>Grade II: buildings that are of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them</p>
Lux	A unit of illuminance, equal to one lumen per square metre
LWS	Local wildlife site – an area of local importance for nature conservation
MAFF	The former Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food
mbgl	Metres below ground level
Mitigation	Any process, activity or entity designed to avoid, reduce or remedy adverse environmental effects likely to be caused by a development project
MUGA	Multi-use games area
Multipliers	Factors used to measure the employment benefits created through indirect and induced effects of subsequent rounds of direct expenditure in the local economy (i.e. the requirement for goods and services)
NEAP	Neighbourhood equipped area of play – a play area equipped mainly for older children, with at least eight types of equipment
NERC Act	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
NIAB	The National Institute of Agricultural Botany – a major international centre for plant research, crop evaluation and agronomy
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide – a respiratory irritant and precursor to photochemical processes that produce other pollutants and photochemical smog and contribute to global warming
NO _x	Collective expression to describe oxides of nitrogen
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework – sets out the government’s planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied

NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance
Peak particle velocity	A measure of the potential of vibration to cause damage
Pegasus crossing	A signalised road crossing that is designed to be used by horse riders, in addition to pedestrians
Phase 1 habitat survey	A standardised system for surveying, classifying and mapping wildlife habitats
Phytotoxic	Toxic to plants
Pillbox	A concrete dug-in guard post constructed during World Wars I and II
PM ₁₀	Particulate matter with a diameter of 10 microns or less
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns or less, which is becoming of increasing interest in terms of health effects
PPE	Personal protective equipment
Receptor	A component of the natural or man made environment, such as water or a building, that is affected by an impact
Registered park and garden	A nationally designated park or garden under the provisions of the National Heritage Act 1983
Residual effects	The significant environmental effects remaining after mitigation
RFC	Ratio of flow to capacity – a measure of the capacity of a junction
Scheduled monument	A site designated under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended). These sites have been selected by a set of non-statutory criteria to be of national importance
Scoping	The identification of the range of significant issues likely to arise as a result of a proposed development
Severance	The perceived division that can occur within a community when it becomes severed by a major traffic artery. It may result from the difficulty in crossing a busy road, or from a physical barrier

SPZ	Source protection zone – a zone surrounding an aquifer where the contamination of the groundwater flow, due to surface spills, could pollute the aquifer
SPZ1	Source protection zone 1 (inner zone) – the 50-day travel time from any point below the water table to the source. This zone has a minimum radius of 50 m
SPZ2	Source protection zone 2 (outer zone) – a 400-day travel time from a point below the water table. This zone has a minimum radius of 250 m or 500 m around the source, depending on the size of the abstraction
SPZ3	Source protection zone 3 (total catchment) – the area around a source within which all groundwater recharge is presumed to be discharged at the source
SSSI	Site of special scientific interest – an area of national importance for nature conservation with statutory notification
Substitution	The replacement of one economic activity with another
SuDS	Sustainable drainage systems
TA	Transport assessment
TEMPRO	Trip End Model Presentation Program – a computer program for analysing traffic data
Toucan crossing	A signalised road crossing that is designed to be used by both pedestrians and cyclists
Travel plan	A package of actions designed to encourage safe, healthy and sustainable travel options
TRICS	Trip Rate Information Computer System – a national traffic generation database
UK BAP	UK Biodiversity Action Plan – a national biodiversity action plan produced by the government that identifies priority habitats and species and sets out plans to conserve them
WCA	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)
WSI	Written scheme of investigation – a programme of archaeological mitigation works

ZTV Zone of theoretical visibility – the area over which the new development would potentially be visible