

21. Glossary

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
'A' weighting	dB(A)	The unit used to define a weighted sound pressure level, which correlates well with the subjective response to sound. The 'A' weighting follows the frequency response of the human ear, which is less sensitive to low and very high frequencies than it is to those in the range 500Hz to 4kHz. In some statistical descriptors the 'A' weighting forms part of a subscript, such as L_{pA10} , L_{pA90} , and L_{pAeq} for the 'A' weighted equivalent continuous sound level.
A14 Ellington to Fen Ditton scheme		A previous proposal for the A14, which was cancelled in 2010 during the Government's comprehensive spending review as it was deemed unaffordable.
Above Ordnance Datum	AOD	Heights within mainland Great Britain are measured relative to the mean sea level, which is also known as the Ordnance Datum Newlyn. Heights are therefore referred to as a number of metres Above Ordnance Datum.
Abstraction		Removal of water from surface water or groundwater, usually by pumping.
Active People Survey		The largest survey of sport and activity in England to date carried out in Europe. It measures the number of people taking part in sport across the nation and in local communities.
Active roost site	ARS	A resting place. In relation to this EIA, the abbreviation is used to refer to a resting place for barn owls.
Adsorption		The adhesion of molecules (gas, liquid or dissolved solid) onto the surface of particles.
Advanced directional signage	ADS	Road sign, for instance on a trunk road, to provide advanced direction to users.
Affected road network	ARN	That part of the road network which will be affected by construction and operation of the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon improvement scheme.
Agricultural land classification	ALC	A system of criteria for grading the quality of land for agricultural purposes in England and Wales developed by MAFF, now Defra.
Air Pollution Information System	APIS	Database and information on pollutants and their impacts on habitats and species.
Air quality action plans	AQAP	An action plan which contains measures aimed at improving air quality.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Air quality management area	AQMA	An area designated as exceeding the air quality objectives.
Air quality objective	AQO	A health based objective for an air quality pollutant.
<i>Air Quality Strategy</i>	AQS	The UK air quality strategy, including objectives for improving air quality.
Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust	ARC	
Annual average daily traffic	AADT	Number of vehicles on a road in 24hrs.
Annual exceedance probability flood event	AEP flood event	The likelihood of occurrence of a flood or storm tide inundation event of a given size or larger in any one year, usually expressed as a percentage. For example, if an event has an AEP of 1%, it means that there is a 1% risk (i.e. probability of 0.01 or a likelihood of 1 in 100) of this event occurring in any one year.
Anthropogenic pressures		Any pressure caused or produced by humans.
Aquifer		A subsurface layer or layers of rock or other geological strata of sufficient porosity and permeability to allow either a significant flow of groundwater or the abstraction of significant quantities of groundwater
Artificial cover object	ACO	Refugia used in the survey of reptiles.
Assessment of implications for European sites	AIES	An assessment on the integrity of a European Site in line with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) as amended.
Asymmetrical widening		Approach to widening an existing road. Generally, construction of a new carriageway adjacent to an existing carriageway in one direction, with additional capacity then added to an existing carriageway in the other direction.
Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling system	ADMS	Computer modelling system used to predict how air pollutants would disperse in the air.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Attenuation and conveyance swale		A shallow, wide, short grassed channel adjacent to the highway, used for attenuation, treatment and conveyance of the highway surface water runoff. Highway drainage system directly discharges into the swales and is then conveyed downstream before discharging to balancing/treatment ponds. Check dams with flow controls and shut off valves also allow isolation in the event of a spillage event as well as attenuation and water treatment.
Attenuation pond		A pond which allows highway surface water run-off to be held for long periods of time to allow for the controlled release of water. These ponds are lined to prevent any contamination of the ground water.
Attenuation tank		A sealed underground tank which allows highway run-off to be held for long periods of time to allow for the controlled release of water. It incorporates a filtration system.
Automatic Urban Rural Network	AURN	The main network used for air quality compliance reporting.
Average score per taxon	ASPT	Average score for a group of organisms.
Award drain		Award drains are major drains defined under Statute which help drain the land of excess rain. Unlike private "riparian" drains they are maintained by a district council who clear the drain regularly and cut back the vegetation to ensure it can carry a good volume of water.
Bank erosion		Removal of sediment or bedrock from the banks of the channel by flowing water.
Barn Owl Conservation Network	BOCN	
Bat Conservation Trust	BCT	
Benzene, toluene, ethyl-benzene and xylene	BTEX	
Best practicable means	BPM	BPM is defined in the <i>Control of Pollution Act 1974</i> and <i>Environmental Protection Act 1990</i> as measures which are 'reasonably practicable having regard among other things to local conditions and circumstances, to the current state of technical knowledge and to financial implications'.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Biochemical oxygen demand	BOD	Standard method for indirect measurement of the amount of organic pollution that can be oxidized biologically in a sample of water.
Biodiversity action plan	BAP	An action plan for the conservation of a species or habitat.
Biological elements		This is one of the Water Framework Directive elements used to assess the overall ecological status. It has several components which include fish, macroinvertebrates and phytoplankton.
Biological monitoring working party	BMWP	The biological monitoring working party (BMWP) is a metric for measuring water quality using species of macroinvertebrates as biological indicators.
Birds Directive		<i>Council Directive (79/409/EEC) on the conservation of wild birds</i> (European Commission, 1979).
Birds of conservation concern	BoCC	The population status of birds regularly found in the UK.
Borrow pit		An area where engineering fill material is extracted for use at another location, for example as part of the scheme embankment.
Brick nogging		Brickwork used to fill spaces between timbers in a timber framed building.
British Geological Survey	BGS	
British standard	BS	Standard produced by the British Standards Institution.
British Trust for Ornithology	BTO	
Buffer zone		The area around a feature (e.g. the scheme or a watercourse) defined by a specific distance from that feature.
Burh		An Anglo-Saxon fortified town or other defended site, not necessarily urban.
Bypass separator		An underground multi-chamber tank used to capture and retain floating hydrocarbon pollutants and suspended silts. Where they are necessary, these are likely to be installed upstream of outfalls prior to any other attenuation or treatment facilities (except in the case of discharges into the swales).
Calculation of Road Traffic Noise	CRTN	Document setting out the procedures for calculating noise from road traffic, published by the Department of Transport Welsh Office (1988).

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Cambridge Environmental Research Consultants	CERC	
Cambridge Northern Bypass	CNB	A14 bypass north of Cambridge, between Girton and Milton junctions.
Cambridge to Huntingdon Multi-Modal Study	CHUMMS	Study focused on traffic congestion, road safety and population growth issues along the A14 route between Cambridge and Huntingdon.
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Environmental Records Centre	CPERC	
Cambridgeshire County Council	CCC	
Cambridgeshire Historic Environment Record	CHER	
Campaign to Protect Rural England	CPRE	
Carbon dioxide equivalent	CO₂e	
Carbon monoxide	CO	
Catchment abstraction management strategy	CAMS	The strategy assesses how much water is reliably available on a catchment by catchment basis, in order to help manage water resources and the water environment.
Catchment area		The area drained by a river or body of water.
Channel realignments		The construction of a new channel or new alignment which may include alterations from the existing condition of the channel.
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management	CIEEM	
Climate change		This is a significant variation in meteorological factors (such as temperature and precipitation) over a period of decades; it can be due to natural processes or anthropogenic forcing. Recently the term climate change has been used to describe the anthropogenic changes in climate that will have important social, environmental and economic impacts.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Closed circuit television	CCTV	
Code of construction practice	CoCP	Document setting out measures and standards to be implemented throughout construction of the scheme.
Combined attenuation / treatment pond		A dual purpose pond which allows highway surface water run-off to be held for long periods of time to allow for the controlled release of water to prevent downstream flooding and also includes an vegetated area for treatment (such as reed beds). These ponds will be lined to prevent any contamination of the ground water.
Community conservation index	CCI	Method for evaluating invertebrate communities based on species rarity, diversity and abundance.
Conceptual site model	CSM	A representation of the characteristics of the site in diagrammatic or written form that shows the possible relationships between contaminants, pathways and receptors.
Considerate Constructors Scheme		A UK national scheme which promotes good practice on construction sites through its codes of considerate practice, which commit registered sites to be considerate and good neighbours, as well as being respectful, environmentally conscious, responsible and accountable.
Construction design and management	CDM	Construction design and management in relation with <i>Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007</i> .
Construction environmental management plan	CEMP	Document prepared by each main contractor setting out how environmental mitigation would be implemented by detailing the roles and responsibilities, appropriate control measures, training and briefing procedures, risk assessments, stakeholder engagement and monitoring systems to be employed during planning and construction of the works for all relevant environmental topic areas.
Construction Industry Research and Information Association	CIRIA	

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Construction quality assurance	CQA	Construction quality assurance (CQA) is applicable specifically to construction activities and is an essential tool for the assurance of quality and ensures the constructed structure complies with the agreed design and specification. CQA should be certified by an independent (third party) quality engineer.
Contaminant of concern	CoC	A contaminant of sufficient potency and present in sufficient quantity to pose a threat to the health of receptors and the environment in general.
Contaminated Land Exposure Assessment	CLEA	A model approach developed by the Environment Agency to help assess the risks of contaminated land exposure for human health.
Contaminated Land Report	CLR	A series of reports published jointly by the Environment Agency and Defra.
Contaminated Land: Applications in Real Environments	CL:AIRE	An independent not-for-profit organisation established to stimulate the regeneration of contaminated land in the UK by raising awareness of, and confidence in, practical and sustainable remediation technologies.
Convention on Biological Diversity	CBD	Signed by 150 government leaders at the 1992 Rio Earth Summit, the Convention on Biological Diversity is dedicated to promoting sustainable development.
County wildlife site	CWS	Conservation designation, which despite conferring no statutory protection onto a site does affirm a site's importance and value for wildlife in its county or unitary authority context in the planning process.
Cumulative effects		Effects upon the environment that result from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present or reasonably foreseeable actions. Each impact by itself may not be significant, but can become a significant effect when combined with other impacts.
<i>Dangerous Substances Directive</i>		<i>Council Directive (67/548/EEC) on the approximation of laws, regulations and administrative provisions relating to the classification, packaging and labelling of dangerous substances (European Commission 1967).</i>
Daughter Directives (related to WFD)		Sub-directives that have been adopted at European level under the <i>Water Framework Directive</i> , for example the <i>Groundwater Directive</i> .

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Decibel	dB	The ratio of sound pressures which we can hear is a ratio of 10 ⁶ :1 (one million:one). For convenience, therefore, a logarithmic measurement scale is used. The resulting parameter is called the 'sound pressure level' (L _p) and the associated measurement unit is the decibel (dB). As the decibel is a logarithmic ratio, the laws of logarithmic addition and subtraction apply.
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Defra	
Department for Local Government, Transport and the Regions	DLTR	
Department of Community and Local Government	DCLG	
Department of Energy and Climate Change	DECC	
Deposition		Laying down of part, or all, of the sediment load of a stream on the bed, banks or floodplain; forming various features such as bars and berms.
Depressing the invert (of a culvert)		Sinking the base of the culvert into the natural bed substrate.
<i>Design Manual for Roads and Bridges</i>	<i>DMRB</i>	Guidance for the design and assessment of trunk road schemes published by the Highways Agency et al. (1993).
Determinants of health		Factors which influence health status and determine health differentials or health inequalities. They are many and varied including for instance behaviour and lifestyles (such as physical exercise) and access to health care. The determinants model of health suggests that these determinants affect life expectancy, quality of life and, morbidity and mortality of communities.
De-trunking		The removal of trunk road status and transferral of responsibility for the road to the local highway authority rather than the Highways Agency (in England).
Development Consent Order	DCO	Consent granted by a Secretary of State for a nationally significant infrastructure project.
Dewatering		Removal or draining groundwater or surface water from a construction site, usually by pumping.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Dichlorodiphenyl-trichloroethane	DDT	
Disadvantaged/ vulnerable/ marginalized groups		These terms are applied to groups of people who, due to factors usually considered outside their control; do not have the same opportunities as other, more fortunate groups in society. Examples might include unemployed people, refugees and others who are socially excluded.
Do-minimum	DM	Hypothetical scenario of the predicted situation in the 'opening year' or a 'future year' taking into account predicated changes such as growth in traffic, standard maintenance regimes, or known future changes in regulations or policy that are entirely independent of the scheme subject to environmental impact assessment. The do-minimum scenario is used to compare and assess the predicated situation if the scheme subject to environmental impact assessment had been built (the do-something scenario). For this scheme the opening year assessed is 2020 and the future year assessed is generally 2035 (15 year after the opening year).
Do-something	DS	Hypothetical scenario of the predicted situation in the 'opening year' or a 'future year' based on changes related to the situation if the scheme subject to environmental impact assessment were to be built. Other predicated changes, such as growth in traffic, standard maintenance regimes or known future changes in regulations or policy, are also taken into account. For this scheme the opening year assessed is 2020 and the future year assessed is generally 2035 (15 year after the opening year).
Drainage network		The streams, rivers, lakes and other water bodies that form a particular drainage basin.
Drinking Water Standard	DWS	Standard determining the quality of drinking water in the context of prevailing environmental, social, economic and cultural conditions, with reference to the presence of suspended matter, excess salts, unpleasant taste and all harmful microbes. Meeting of those standards does not necessarily imply purity.
East Coast mainline	ECML	High-speed railway link between London and the north of the UK. The line passes through Cambridgeshire.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Ecological quality ratio	EQR	Calculating the EQR is a method to quantify the ecological status of a water body in line with the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. This is derived from NTAXA and ASPT scores.
Ecological status		Surface waters are classified as being of good ecological status when each of the quality elements that represent indicators of ecological quality of the water body are classified as being good or high.
Ecology pond		A pond designed for nature conservation purposes, as opposed to a drainage function.
Education Funding Agency	EFA	
EIA Directive		<i>Council Directive (2011/92/EU) on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment (codification) (European Union, 2011).</i>
EIA Regulations (for nationally significant infrastructure projects)		<i>Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (as amended).</i>
Emission Factor Toolkit	EFT	A database of vehicle emission factors, such as vehicle types.
Employer's representative		A representative employed to act on behalf of the client organisation. This role covers a variety of areas, from contract management and cost control to stakeholder relations and so on. It can be an employee of the client or a bought in service from an organisation.
Environmental Protection Act 1990	EPA	
Environmental clerk of works	ECW	Clerk of works responsible for supervision and management of environmental mitigation during construction works.
Environmental effect		The consequence of an action (impact) upon the environment, such as the decline of a breeding bird population as a result of the removal of hedgerows and trees.
Environmental health officer	EHO	Environmental Health Officers work mainly for local authorities to make sure that people's living and working surroundings are safe, healthy and hygienic. They deal with a wide range of issues including environmental protection, pollution control, noise control, health and safety at work, waste management, housing standards, and food safety.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Environmental impact		The change in the environment from a development such as the removal of a hedgerow.
Environmental impact assessment	EIA	A process by which information about environmental effects of a proposed development is collected, assessed and used to inform decision making. For certain projects, EIA is a statutory requirement.
Environmental management system	EMS	The integrated management of an organisation's environmental processes, often in accordance with ISO 14001.
Environmental quality standards	EQS	EQSs have been derived under the requirements of the <i>Dangerous Substances Directive</i> which classifies substances as List I and List II.
Environmental statement	ES	A document produced in accordance with the <i>EIA Directive</i> as transported into UK law by the <i>EIA Regulations</i> to report the results of an EIA.
Equivalent continuous sound pressure level	L_{pAeq}	An index for assessment for overall sound exposure is the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level, L_{pAeq} . This is a notional steady level which would, over a given period of time, deliver the same sound energy as the actual time-varying sound over the same period. Hence fluctuating levels can be described in terms of a single figure level.
Equivalent continuous sound pressure level, 16 hours	$L_{pAeq,16h}$	Equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level (in decibels, dB), for 16 hour day (07:00 – 23:00).
Essential infrastructure		Essential utility infrastructure which has to be located in a flood risk area for operational reasons, including electricity generating power stations and grid and primary substations; and water treatment works that need to remain operational in times of flood as defined by the <i>NPPF</i> .
European protected species	EPS	Species protected under the <i>Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010</i> , in addition to the <i>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981</i> (as amended).
European Union	EU	
Exception Test		A method set out in the <i>NPPF</i> to demonstrate and help ensure that flood risk to people and property will be managed satisfactorily, while allowing necessary development to go ahead in situations where suitable sites at lower risk of flooding are not available.
Explosive ordnance clearance	EOC	The detection, identification, evaluation, rendering safe, recovery and disposal of UXO.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Filter drain		A trench typically filled with gravels, generally with a perforate pipe at the base.
Filtration		Attenuation ponds filter particles out of the water that passes through it.
Flood and Water Management Act 2010		Part of the UK Government's response to Sir Michael Pitt's Report on the Summer 2007 floods (<i>Learning lessons from the 2007 floods</i> (Sir Michael Pitt, June 2008)), the aim of which (partly) is to clarify the legislative framework for managing surface water flood risk in England.
Flood risk		The exposure, vulnerability and hazard associated with flooding.
Flood risk assessment	FRA	An assessment of the risk of flooding, particularly in relation to residential, commercial and industrial land use. The assessment should demonstrate to the decision-maker how flood risk both to and by the development will be managed now and over the development's lifetime, taking climate change into account, and with regard to the vulnerability of its users.
Flood Zone 1		Low probability. This zone comprises land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1%).
Flood Zone 2		Medium probability. This zone comprises land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%), or between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of sea flooding (0.5% – 0.1%) in any year.
Flood Zone 3a		High probability. This zone comprises land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%), or a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of flooding from the sea (>0.5%) in any year.
Flood Zone 3b		The functional floodplain. This zone comprises land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood. Land which would flood with an annual probability of 1 in 20 (5%) or greater in any year, or is designed to flood in an extreme (0.1%) flood.
Flood Zones		Flood Zones refer to the probability of river and sea flooding, ignoring the presence of defences. They are shown on the Environment Agency's Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea), available on the Environment Agency's website.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Floodplain		A floodplain is flat or nearly flat land adjacent to a stream or river, stretching from the banks of its channel to the base of the enclosing valley walls and (under natural conditions) experiences periods of flooding.
Floodplain connectivity		The interaction between water flowing through a river channel and its adjacent floodplain.
Fluvial processes		Fluvial processes include the motion of sediment within a river system and erosion or deposition on the river bed.
Forest Stewardship Council	FSC	FSC is an independent not for profit organisation established to promote the responsible management of the world's forests
Foundation Risk Assessment		Assessing geotechnical and structural risks posed to the structure or building by the founding stratum.
Functional Floodplain (Flood Zone 3b)		<i>NPPF</i> Flood Zone, defined as areas in which water has to flow or be stored in times of flood.
Gas Screening Values	GSV	Gas concentrations (%) multiplied by the measured borehole flow value rate (litres per hour).
Gault Clay		A clay formation of stiff blue clay deposited in a calm, fairly deep water marine environment during the Lower Cretaceous Period (Upper and Middle Albian).
Generic quantitative risk assessment	GQRA	Risk assessment carried out using generic assumptions to estimate risk or to develop generic assessment criteria.
Geographical information system	GIS	Computer system used for analysis and presentation of geographical data.
Geomorphology		The study of landforms and the processes that create them.
Geophysical survey		Non-intrusive data collection technique used to help quickly identify archaeological structures and features in an area before development.
Good ecological potential		The status of a heavily modified or an artificial body of water, so classified in accordance with the relevant provisions of <i>Annex V of the River Basin Management Plan</i> .
Good ecological status		<i>WFD</i> term denoting a slight deviation from 'reference conditions' in a water body, or the biological, chemical and physico-chemical and hydromorphological conditions associated with little or no human pressure.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Grassed swales		A graded and engineered landscape feature appearing as a linear, shallow, open channel with trapezoidal or parabolic shape
Greenfield run-off rate		The peak flow rate calculated as running off a green field surface, taking into account the local hydrological characteristics.
Gross domestic product	GDP	The total value of all goods and services produced domestically by a nation during a year. It is equivalent to gross national product minus net investment incomes from foreign nations.
Gross value added per head		A measure in economics used to evaluate the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy, per head of population.
Gross value added per head	GVA	The value of output less the value of intermediate consumption; it is a measure of the contribution to GDP made by an individual producer, industry or sector.
Groundwater		All water which is below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone (below the water table) and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil
Groundwater Directive		<i>Council Directive on the protection of groundwater against pollution and deterioration</i> (European Union, 2006).
Groundwater nitrate vulnerable zone		A designation required under the <i>Nitrates Directive</i> for all land draining to and contributing to the nitrate pollution in “polluted” waters. Polluted waters are those where nitrate levels exceed, or are likely to exceed, the levels set in the Directive.
Grubenhäuser		A timber building based around a sunken hollow, the floor of which may have been suspended above the hollow to counteract dampness. Grubenhäuser are believed to date from the 5 th to 8 th centuries AD but may be earlier.
Guidelines for landscape and visual impact assessment	GLVIA3	<i>Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, Third Edition</i> (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2013).
Gullies		Landform created by running water, eroding sharply into soil, typically on a hillside.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Habitats Directive		<i>Council Directive (92/43/EEC) on the conservation of natural habitats and wild flora and fauna (European Commission, 1979).</i>
Habitats Regulations Assessment	HRA	An assessment undertaken for works which may impact European designated sites, in accordance with the <i>Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (2010) (as amended)</i> .
Health and Safety Executive	HSE	
Health and Wellbeing Boards		Are a statutory committee of a local authority (upper tier and unitary authorities). They assess the needs of a local population, lead work to improve health and wellbeing and improve health inequalities, promote integration and partnership working between the NHS, social care, public health and other local services, improve democratic accountability, and scrutinise major service redesign.
Health impact		A health impact can be positive or negative. A positive health impact occurs when good health is promoted or health is improved or harm to health is prevented. A negative health impact is the opposite and occurs when health is harmed.
Health impact assessment	HIA	A means of assessing the health impacts of policies, plans and projects in diverse economic sectors using quantitative, qualitative and participatory techniques.
Heavy delivery vehicle/heavy duty vehicle	HDV	
Heavy goods vehicle	HGV	
Highly modified water bodies	HMWB	Water bodies that may have been created or modified for a particular use such as water supply, flood protection, navigation or urban infrastructure.
Highways Agency		The Highways Agency is an Executive Agency of the Department for Transport (DfT), and is responsible for operating, maintaining and improving the strategic road network in England on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport.
Highways Agency Biodiversity Action Plan	HABAP	An action plan produced by the Highways Agency for the conservation of species or habitat within their land ownership.
Highways Agency Information Line	HAIL	Provides information on anything related to the Highways Agency 24 hours a day.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Highways Agency water risk assessment tool	HAWRAT	The Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool (HAWRAT) is used for assessing the risks of pollution to surface waters from highway runoff.
Hipposandal		A temporary horseshoe that could be fastened to the hoof for use on metalled roads.
Historic environment records	HER	Information services that seek to provide access to comprehensive and dynamic resources relating to the historic environment of a defined geographic area for public benefit and use.
Huntingdon Southern Bypass	HSB	Proposed A14 bypass south of Huntingdon, between Brampton Hut and Swavesey.
Huntingdonshire District Council	HDC	
Hydraulic modelling		Mathematical models of water systems which can be used to analyse the system's hydraulic behaviour.
Hydrogeology		The term used to describe the part of geology that deals with groundwater distribution and movement in the soil and rocks of the Earth's crust.
Hydrology		The study of water movement through the environment which also seeks to predict the behaviour of water bodies under various circumstances.
Hydromorphological elements		Hydromorphological elements look at water flow and physical habitat.
Hydromorphology		The interaction between spatial continuity, morphology, vegetation and flow regime within a river.
Imperative reasons of overriding public interest	IROPI	The EU Habitats Regulations consider that the following guiding principles will be relevant to deciding whether imperative reasons of overriding public interest are demonstrated: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a need to address a serious risk to human health and public safety; - the interests of national security and defence; - the provision of a clear and demonstrable direct environmental benefit on a national or international scale; - a vital contribution to strategic economic development or regeneration; - where failure to proceed would have unacceptable social and/or economic consequences.
Impermeability		Not permitting the passage of fluid through a substance.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Indices of multiple deprivation		Indices combining a number of indicators covering a range of economic, social and housing matters into a single deprivation score for each deprived area in England.
Industrial methylated spirits	IMS	Alcohol for general use that has been made unfit for drinking by the addition of about 10 per cent methanol and typically also some pyridine and a violet dye.
Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment	IEMA	
Intelligent Transport System	ITS	The term used to describe information and communication technologies aimed at making road users better informed and make safer, more co-ordinated and 'smarter' use of road networks.
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources	IUCN	
Interim advice note	IAN	Advice notes issued by the Highways Agency to provide guidance for works on motorways and trunk roads in England.
Internal Drainage Board	IDB	A local authority established in areas of special drainage need within England and Wales. The IDBs have permissive powers to manage water levels within the respective drainage districts.
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	JNCC	
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	JSNA	Is a methodical way of reviewing the health and wellbeing requirements of a population to reach agreed commissioning priorities that will improve and enhance the health and wellbeing outcomes and decrease inequalities. Local authorities and Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are responsible for leading the JSNA process by the Health and wellbeing boards.
Killed or seriously injured	KSI	The rate of people killed or seriously injured on roads.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Landscape and visual impact assessment	LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) is a separate but closely linked process that operates within the overall framework of EIA. It specifically aims to ensure that all possible effects of change and development both on the landscape itself and on views and visual amenity, are taken into account in decision-making.
Lead local flood authority	LLFA	Organisations responsible for the prevention of flooding on non-main rivers in England e.g. local councils.
	L_{eq}	An index for assessment for overall noise exposure is the equivalent continuous sound level, L _{eq} . This is a notional steady level which would, over a given period of time, deliver the same sound energy as the actual time-varying sound over the same period. Hence fluctuating levels can be described in terms of a single figure level.
	LiDAR	A remote sensing technology that measures distance by illuminating a target with a laser and analysing the reflected light.
Light emitting diode	LED	An electronic device that emits light when an electrical current is passed through it.
Light non aqueous phase liquid	LNAPL	An LNAPL is one of a group of organic substances that are relatively insoluble in water and are less dense than water. LNAPLs, such as oil, tend to spread across the surface of the water table and form a layer on top of the water table.
Local access forum	LAF	These are groups made up of representatives of users, landowners, and other local interests, such as conservation, tourism and business. They are statutory advisory bodies on improving public access to land in their areas for all types of open-air recreation.
Local access road	LAR	Road managed by the local highway authority, as opposed to the Highways Agency.
Local air quality management	LAQM	The process of air quality management carried out by local authorities in accordance with the <i>Environment Act 1995 Part IV</i> .
Local biodiversity action plan	LBAP	An action plan produced at a local level, for example by local authorities, for the conservation of species or habitat within their part of the country.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Local environmental management plan	LEMP	Management plan to set out how a scheme would adapt and deliver the required environmental and community protection measures within each relevant local authority area.
Local nature reserve	LNR	Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 gives local authorities the power to acquire, declare and manage nature reserves. The term 'Local Nature Reserve' is not used in the Act but this has become the term in common usage for nature reserves managed by local authorities in accordance with the Act.
Lotic invertebrate flow evaluation	LIFE	Is a method that allows the aquatic invertebrate community recorded at a site to be scored according to its dependence on current velocity. The LIFE value obtained can be compared to that predicted for the site under normal flow conditions and may show if the invertebrate community experiencing flow related stress. Comparing observed and predicted scores for each gives an Environmental Quality Index (EQI) that is used as a measure of stress experienced at a site from low flow. A value of 1.0 indicates that the invertebrate community has the flow sensitivity predicted for the site. A value of less than 0.975 indicates the possibility of significant stress due to low flow.
Low Flow Enterprise software		Software created to estimate river flows for any river reach within the UK.
Lower layer super output areas	LSOAs	A small geographic area designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales, and particularly local unit used to describe 4 to 6 output areas or super geographical areas formed to facilitate the calculation of the indices of deprivation.
Lowest observed adverse effect level	LOAEL	This is the level above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected.
Luminosity		The relative quantity of light.
Magnitude		The scale, size or degree of change (impact) to the environment from an action upon it.
Main contractor(s)		The main contractor on a construction site responsible for planning, managing and co-ordinating themselves and all other contractors working on site.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Main river		A watercourse shown as such on the Main River Map, and for which the Environment Agency has responsibilities and powers. Note that a main river designation is not an indication of size, although it is often the case that they are larger than ordinary watercourses.
Maximum sound pressure level	L_{pmax}	The maximum sound level identified during a measurement period. Experimental data has shown that the human ear does not generally register the full loudness of transient sound events of less than 125ms duration and fast time weighting (F) has an exponential time constant of 125ms which reflects the ear's response. The maximum A-weighted pressure level measured with fast time weighting is denoted as L_{pAFmax} .
Measure of Uncertainty	MoU	The residual uncertainty in air quality monitoring, modelling and assessment.
Mental wellbeing		Is described as “ <i>a state of wellbeing in which the individual realises his or her own abilities, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to his or her community</i> ”. (<i>Promoting mental health – concepts-emerging evidence-practice</i> (WHO, 2001)).
Method A HAWRAT		Effects of routine runoff on surface waters.
Method D HAWRAT		Pollution impacts from accidental spillages.
Minimum of NTAXA and ASPT EQRs	MINTA	The minimum number of scoring taxa and average score per taxon used to determine the classification of the site's value for aquatic invertebrates.
Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (now Defra)	MAFF	
Mitigation		The action of reducing the severity and magnitude of change (impact) to the environment. Measures to avoid, reduce, remedy or compensate for significant adverse effects.
Moderate status		<i>WFD</i> term denoting a moderate deviation from the 'reference condition' in a water body, for biological, chemical and morphological elements.
Motorway incident detection and automatic signalling	MIDAS	A distributed network of traffic sensors used monitor traffic flow and average speeds.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
National character area	NCA	Natural England has defined National Character Area profiles to make environmental evidence and information easily available to a wider audience. The profiles include a description of the key ecosystem services provided in each character area and how these benefit people, wildlife and the economy. They identify potential opportunities for positive environmental change and provide the best available information and evidence as a context for local decision making and action.
National Grid Reference	NGR	A unique 12-digit numeric reference used by the Ordnance Survey in their mapping to identify locations across the United Kingdom to the nearest 1m square.
National Health Service	NHS	
National Highways Sector Scheme	NHSS	Quality management systems for organisations working on the UK road network. They are based on the ISO9001:2008 standards. Scheme18 relates to landscaping.
National Institute for Agricultural Biology	NIAB	
National Monuments Record	NMR	
National nature reserve	NNR	Site designated by Natural England to protect and manage a selection of the very best parts of England's SSSIs.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
National Planning Policy Framework	NPPF	National planning policy, published by the Department for Communities and Local Government in March 2012. It replaces most of the previous Planning Policy Statements (PPS), including that regarding flood risk (PPS25).
National Planning Practice Guidance	NPPG	Supporting guidance to the <i>NPPF</i> , published by the Government in March 2014 as an online resource. It replaces previously published government guidance, including that regarding flood risk.
National Policy Statement	NPS	Policy statements produced by Government. There are 12 proposed NPSs covering: energy (DECC), transport (DfT), and waste and water (Defra). They include the Government's objectives for the development of nationally significant infrastructure in a particular sector and will include an explanation of how the policy takes account of Government policy relating to the mitigation of, and adaptation to, climate change.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	NERC	Legislation requiring all public bodies to have regard to biodiversity conservation when carrying out their functions.
Neighbourhood		The term neighbourhood usually refers to a local area which is defined in some way physically (for example, an estate or an area bounded by major roads) or by people's perceptions of what constitutes their local area. Neighbourhoods are usually fairly small. For example, neighbourhoods designated for New Deal for Communities funding were usually made up of around 4,000 households or around 10,000 people.
Network Management Manual		Highway Agency's Network Management Manual
Network occupancy criteria		The time stipulated for the onset of traffic management up until the complete removal of the traffic management system. The times vary from road to road dependent upon traffic volumes.
Nitrate Vulnerable Zone	NVZ	A Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) is designated where land drains and contributes to the nitrate found in "polluted" waters.
Nitrates Directive		<i>Council Directive (91/676/EEC) concerning the protection of waters against pollution caused by nitrates from agricultural sources</i> (European Union, 1991).
Nitrogen dioxide	NO₂	

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
No observed effect level	NOEL	This is the level below which no effect can be detected. In simple terms, below this level, there is no detectable effect on health and quality of life due to the noise.
Non-motorised user	NMU	A term to describe users of the highway, such as pedestrians, cyclists or horse riders, who do not travel by motorised vehicles.
Not applicable or not available	N/A or n/a	
	NOx	Oxides of Nitrogen
Number of scoring taxa	NTAXA	NTAXA is a standard biological metric - the number of scoring taxa in an aquatic invertebrate survey sample.
Office of National Statistics	ONS	
Off-line		The new road deviates from the line of the existing road such that there is land between the existing highway boundary and the new highway boundary.
On-line		The new road follows the line of the existing road overlapping such that there is no land between the existing highway boundary and the new highway boundary.
Ordinary watercourse		All watercourses that are not designated main rivers, and which are the responsibility of local authorities or, where they exist, Internal Drainage Boards. Note that ordinary watercourse does not imply a 'small' river, although it is often the case that ordinary watercourses are smaller than main rivers.
Ordnance Survey	OS	The official map-making body of the Government of the United Kingdom.
Outfall		A discharge point into a watercourse.
Particulate matter	PM	Minute airborne liquid or solid particles (such as dust, fume, mist, smog, smoke) that cause air pollution.
Peak particle velocity	PPV	Instantaneous maximum velocity reached by a vibrating element as it oscillates about its rest position.
Permeability		Measures the ability of a material to allow fluids to pass through it.
Physico-chemical elements		Physico-chemical assessment looks at elements including temperature and the level of nutrients, which support the biology

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Planning Inspectorate	PINS	The Planning Inspectorate deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, examinations of local plans and other planning-related and specialist casework in England and Wales.
Planning Policy Statements	PPS	A series of statements issued by the Government, setting out policy guidance on different aspects of planning. The majority of PPSs have now been replaced by the National Planning Policy Framework.
Pluvial		Temperature and the level of nutrients, which support the biology.
	PM₁₀	Particulate matter with a diameter of 10 micrometres or less.
	PM_{2.5}	Particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 micrometres or less.
Pollution climate modelling	PCM	Modelling carried out by Defra to report air quality concentrations to the European Union.
Pollution prevention guidance	PPG	Environment Agency guidance notes to advise industry and the public on legal responsibilities and good environmental practice.
Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons	PAH	
Pool		A topographic low point in the bed of a channel providing a relatively deep area of water.
Post Opening Project Evaluation	POPE	POPE compares the costs, benefits and other impacts predicted at the appraisal (pre-construction) stage with the 'out-turn' effects (after completion).
Potential effect		The predicted consequential change may occur upon the environment as a result of a development, in the absence of mitigation.
Potential foraging or commuting habitat	PFH	Potential habitat used for feeding or moving between areas. In relation to this EIA, the abbreviation is used to refer to a potential habitat for barn owls.
Potential nest site	PNS	A potential breeding site. In relation to this EIA, the abbreviation is used to refer to a potential breeding site for barn owls.
Potential roost feature	PRF	A landscape feature (such as a hollow tree or a barn or other outlying building) which has the potential to function as a bat roost.
Principal aquifer		Layers of rock or drift deposits that have high intergranular and/or fracture permeability, meaning they usually provide a high level of water storage.
Public right of way	PRoW	

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
	Q95	The flow equalled or exceeded 95% of the time in a watercourse.
Rapid (mini) HIA		A rapid or “mini” HIA, as the name suggests, is done quickly. It may be a “desk top” exercise, reliant on information which is already available “off the shelf”, or through a half day or one day workshop with key stakeholders. In either case, there is usually a minimum quantification of the potential health impacts which are identified.
Receptor		A defined individual environmental feature usually associated with population, fauna and flora that has the potential to receive an impact or impacts from a development.
Red Data Book	RDB	A collection of the available information relative to Endangered and Threatened Species. Each volume contains coloured loose-leaf information sheets arranged by species. The sheets are updated as the status of a species changes. Red sheets are used for those species that are endangered. The book is maintained by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN).
Reed beds		Natural habitats found in floodplains and waterlogged areas.
Regionally important geological and geomorphological site	RIGS	
Residual effect		The predicted consequential change on the environment from the impacts of a development after mitigation.
Residual risk		A measure of the remaining risks following the application of appropriate mitigation. This is relevant to all water disciplines including flood risk and water quality.
Riffle		A riffle is a short, relatively shallow and coarse-bedded length of stream. It is a natural topographical high point in the bed of the channel.
Riparian zone		Land adjacent to stream where vegetation is strongly influenced by the presence of water. A healthy riparian zone is evidence of wise land use management.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
River basin management plan	RBMP	River basin management plans are drawn up for the 10 river basin districts in England and Wales as a requirement of the water framework directive. They set out measures to improve water in rivers, lakes, estuaries, coasts and in groundwater.
River ecosystem	RE	The ecosystem of a river is the river viewed as a system operating in its natural environment, and includes biotic (living) interactions amongst plants, animals and micro-organisms, as well as abiotic (non-living) physical and chemical interactions.
River Ecosystem Classification		The River Ecosystem Classification system consists of five classes (1-5) and is based on the same determinands used in chemistry assessments of BOD, ammonia and dissolved oxygen but also includes the additional determinands of (free (or un-ionised) ammonia, pH, hardness, dissolved copper and total zinc) that reflect the requirements of a river ecosystem.
River Invertebrate Classification Tool	RICT	The Water Framework Directive tool used to classify the ecological quality of macro-invertebrate communities in a water body. RICT compares the observed community with communities observed at reference sites (expected community under no stress) allowing a more detailed interpretation of the metric scores at each site.
River terrace deposits		River terrace deposits represent ancient floodplain deposits that became isolated as the river cut down to lower levels. Generally comprise medium dense to dense gravels with varying sand content.
<i>Routine and Winter Service Code</i>		<i>Routine and Winter Service Code</i> (Highways Agency, 2009). Routine and winter service is the name for the work traditionally carried out under the name of routine and winter maintenance, but is now better described as the provision of a service to the road users. The code covers performance requirements for highways and structures and the operational winter service on the strategic road network.
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds	RSPB	
Samian ware		High status, bright red polished pottery, used throughout the Roman Empire.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Scoping		The process of identifying the issues to be addressed by an environmental impact assessment process. It is a method of ensuring that an assessment focuses on the important issues and avoids those that are considered unlikely to be significant.
Secondary A aquifer		Rock or soil layers capable of supporting water supplies at a local rather than strategic scale, and in some cases forming an important source of base flow to rivers.
Secondary B aquifer		Predominantly lower permeability rock or soil layers which may store and yield limited amounts of groundwater due to localised features such as fissures, thin permeable horizons and weathering.
Section 41	S41	<i>Section 41 of the Natural Environmental and Rural Communities Act 2006.</i>
Section 61	S61	<i>Section 61 of the Control of Pollution Act 1974 (which sets out procedures seeking and obtaining local authority consent to measures for the control of noise and vibration on construction sites).</i>
Sediment transport		The movement of solid particles (sediment), typically due to gravity acting on the sediment, and/or the movement of the fluid in which the sediment is entrained.
Semi volatile organic compound	SVOC	Organic compounds which exhibit some evaporation under normal circumstances.
Significance		A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effect, defined by significance criteria specific to the environmental topic.
Significant observed adverse effect level	SOAEL	This is the level above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur.
Site of special scientific interest	SSSI	Site designated for its special nature conservation interest under the <i>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)</i> .
Site specific assessment criteria	SSAC	Values for concentrations of contaminants that have been derived using detailed site-specific information on the characteristics and behaviour of contaminants, pathways and receptors and that correspond to relevant criteria in relation to harm or pollution for deciding whether there is an unacceptable risk.
Site waste management plan	SWMP	Good practice documents setting out the management of construction and demolition wastes. These were a statutory requirement in England up until October 2013.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Soil management strategy	SMS	The aim of the soil management strategy is to ensure that as much topsoil as practicable is retained in good condition for restoration to agriculture and for re-use within the landscaping proposals for the scheme. The SMS also aims to ensure that land disturbed by temporary construction impacts, including borrow pit works, is re-instated to a suitable standard appropriate to the afteruse.
Soluble		Able to be dissolved, especially in water.
Sound pressure level	L_p	The sound power emitted by a source results in pressure fluctuations in the air, which are heard as sound. The sound pressure level (L _p) is ten times the logarithm of the ratio of the measured sound pressure (detected by a microphone) to the reference level of 2 x 10 ⁻⁵ Pa (the threshold of hearing). Thus $L_p \text{ (dB)} = 10 \log (P_1/P_{ref})^2$ where P _{ref} , the lowest pressure detectable by the ear, is 0.00002 pascals (i.e. 2x10 ⁻⁵ Pa). The threshold of hearing is 0dB, while the threshold of pain is approximately 120dB. Normal speech is approximately 60dB _{L_{pA}} and a change of 3dB is only just detectable. A change of 10dB is subjectively twice, or half, as loud.
Source protection zone	SPZ	SPZs are used to identify those areas close to drinking water sources where the risk associated with groundwater contamination is greatest. SPZs are a tool for identifying highly sensitive groundwater areas and for focusing control or advice beyond the general groundwater protection measures applied to aquifers as a whole.
Source Protection Zone 1	SPZ1	Defined as the 50 day travel time from any point below the water table to the source. This zone has a minimum radius of 50 metres.
Source Protection Zone 2	SPZ2	Defined by a 400 day travel time from a point below the water table. The previous methodology gave an option to define SPZ2 as the minimum recharge area required to support 25 per cent of the protected yield. This option is no longer available in defining new SPZs and instead this zone has a minimum radius of 250 or 500 metres around the source, depending on the size of the abstraction.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Source Protection Zone 3	SPZ3	Defined as the area around a source within which all groundwater recharge is presumed to be discharged at the source. In confined aquifers, the source catchment may be displaced some distance from the source. For heavily exploited aquifers, the final Source Catchment Protection Zone can be defined as the whole aquifer recharge area where the ratio of groundwater abstraction to aquifer recharge (average recharge multiplied by outcrop area) is >0.75. There is still the need to define individual source protection areas to assist operators in catchment management.
South Cambridgeshire District Council	SCDC	
Special area of conservation	SAC	European site designated for the international importance of wild animals, plants and habitats under the <i>Habitats Directive</i> .
Special protection area	SPA	European site designated for the international importance of birds under the <i>Birds Directive</i> .
Species of European Conservation Concern	SPEC	Species listed under Section 41 of the <i>Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006</i> .
Spillage containment basin		A surface mounted basin with the purpose of containing spillages of potentially polluting liquids. As 'spillage containment tank', but surface mounted.
Spillage containment tank		A sealed underground tank with a shut off mechanism located upstream of any attenuation pond or tank with the purpose of containing spillages of potentially polluting liquids.
Statement of community consultation	SoCC	The purpose of a Statement of community consultation is to set out how a developer will consult the local community about its proposals. The SoCC provides details of where further information can be obtained or viewed and how comments on the proposals can be made. The document also provides background to the scheme and how the application to build it will progress.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Statistical sound pressure level	$L_{pA10, 18hr}$	For levels of sound that vary widely with time, for example road traffic noise, it is necessary to employ an index which allows for this variation. The L_{10} , the level exceeded for 10% of the time period under consideration, and can be used for the assessment of road traffic noise (note that L_{Aeq} may also be used for assessing traffic noise). In this example, it is the A-weighted sound pressure level (in decibels, dB) that is exceeded for 10% of the 18 hour day (06:00 – 24:00).
Strategic flood risk assessment	SFRA	This considers local flood risk and informs the planning process information on the future risk over a wide spatial area.
Strategic road network	SRN	The network of motorways and major trunk roads in England used to move people and freight around the country. Operated by the Highways Agency.
Substrate		Organic and inorganic material that has precipitated from water to accumulate on the floor of a water body, watercourse or trap.
Sulphur dioxide	SO₂	
Supplementary planning documents	SPD	Documents which add further detail to the policies in the local plan.
Surface artefact collection		Systematic field walking method for the recovery and recording of archaeological artefacts found on the surface (particularly of ploughed fields).
Sustainable Drainage Systems	SuDS	SuDS is a technique that manages surface water and groundwater sustainably.
Swales		Wide shallow grassed channels normally located adjacent to carriageways, but often separated by a section of verge.
Taxon		A taxonomic group, for instance a group of related animals.
The London Healthy Urban Development Unit	HUDU	
Total petroleum hydrocarbon	TPH	The measurable amount of petroleum-based hydrocarbon in an environmental media.
Traffic management working group	TMWG	Part of the consultation process on traffic management and other traffic related measures during the construction of the scheme, as stipulated by the CoCP.
Traffic reliability area	TRA	The area where the transport modelling results are closest to monitored traffic flows.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Trans-European Network	TEN	Set of road, rail, air and water transport networks in the European Union.
Transport analysis guidance	TAG	Guidance on transport modelling and appraisal published by the Department of Transport.
Treatment pond		A pond which is for the treatment of highway run-off only i.e. no attenuation provided. Treatment would be provided by planting specific species (such as reed beds). The pond would retain some water at all times. These ponds would be lined to prevent contamination of ground water.
Tree preservation order	TPO	Order made by local planning authorities for the protection of particular trees.
Trial trenching		A method of intrusive archaeological investigation which uses targeted trenches to estimate the archaeological potential of a site. An archaeological evaluation method required as part of the planning permission of large developments to determine whether sub-surface archaeology is present in a site and any likelihood of impact.
UK Biodiversity Action Plan	UKBAP	A national plan for the conservation of certain species or habitats.
Unacceptable adverse effect level	UAEL	This is the level, as defined in <i>PPG on Noise (DCLG, 2014)</i> , at which noise (or vibration) is “very disruptive”. The <i>PPG</i> notes that exposure above such levels should be ‘prevented’.
Unexploded ordnance	UXO	Explosive ordnance which has been primed, fused, armed or otherwise prepared for use in an armed conflict. It may have been fired, dropped, launched or projected and should have exploded, but failed to do so. In the context of this report it also refers to explosive ordnance which has not been used in an armed conflict, that has been left behind or dumped by a party to an armed conflict, and which is no longer under control of the party that left it behind or dumped it.
United Nations Economic Commission for Europe	UNECE	
Univallate hillfort		A hilltop enclosure bounded by a single rampart, usually accompanied by a ditch.
Variable message signs	VMS	Electronic road signs that can display variable messages. These can be either mounted on permanent gantries/posts or on mobile units.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Vernacular architecture		Structures built using locally available materials in accordance with local tradition and custom, rather than mainstream architectural fashion.
Vibration dose value	VDV	This is a complex metric that has been identified as being the best objective measure of human disturbance from intermittent/transient vibration. The VDV is the fourth root of the time integral of the fourth power of the weighted acceleration. VDV are measured in units of m/s ^{1.75} . The frequency weightings are defined in <i>BS6472-1: 2008 Guide to evaluation of human exposure to vibration in buildings (1Hz to 80Hz)</i> and <i>Vibration sources other than blasting (BS 6472-1: 2008 and in BS 6841: 1987)</i> . The VDV doubles in magnitude with a doubling of vibration amplitude. However, a 16-fold increase in the duration of exposure to the vibration is required to double the VDV (without any change in amplitude).
Volatile Organic Compound	VOC	Organic chemicals that have a high vapour pressure and easily form vapours at normal temperature and pressure.
Wapentake		An Anglo-Saxon administrative meeting place.
Water body		Discrete section of a river, groundwater area, lake or coast that is a defined management unit under the <i>WFD</i> .
Water framework directive	WFD	<i>Council Directive (2000/60/EC) on establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy</i> (European Union, 2000). A substantial piece of EU water legislation that came into force in 2000, with the overarching objective to get all water bodies in Europe to attain good or high ecological status. River basin management plans (RBMP) have been created which set out measures and potential mitigation to ensure that water bodies in England and Wales achieve 'Good Ecological Status'.
Water Framework Directive Chemical Status		The chemical status is assessed by compliance with environmental standards for chemicals that are priority substances and priority hazardous substances carried over from the <i>Dangerous Substance Directive</i> . Chemical status is recorded as good or fail.
World Health Organisation	WHO	
Written scheme of investigation	WSI	A programme for archaeological investigation works.

Term	Abbreviation	Definition
Zone 1 Low Probability		<i>NPPF</i> Flood Zone, defined as areas outside of Zone 2 Medium Probability. This zone comprises land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1%).
Zone 2 Medium Probability		<i>NPPF</i> Flood Zone which comprises land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%) in any year.
Zone 3 High Probability		<i>NPPF</i> Flood Zone which comprises land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%) in any year.
Zone of theoretical visibility	ZTV	The extent to which the scheme would theoretically be visible, as determined using 3D computer modelling techniques.