

A1 Birtley to Coal House

Scheme Number: TR010031

6.1 Environmental Statement Chapter 0 Table of Contents, Glossary and Abbreviations

APFP Regulation 5(2)(a)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms
and Procedure) Regulations 2009



Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and
Procedures) Regulations 2009**

**A1 Birtley to Coal House
Development Consent Order 20[xx]**

Environmental Statement

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ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT - NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY

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A1 Birtley to Coal House Non-Technical Summary

Glossary

TERM	DEFINITION
µg/m ³ micrograms per cubic metre	A measure of concentration in terms of mass per unit volume. A concentration of 1µg/m ³ means that one cubic metre of air contains one microgram (millionth of a gram) of pollutant.
Above-Ground Heritage Asset	Historic earthworks, historic buildings and structures, historic landscapes and hedgerows.
Agricultural Land Classification (ALC)	A framework for determining the physical quality of the land at national, regional and local levels. This is based on the long term physical limitations of land for agricultural use. There are a number of factors that affect the grade and the main ones are climate, site and soil characteristics, and the interactions between them.
ALARP	As low as reasonably practicable.
Ambient Sound	The total encompassing sound in a given situation, at a given time, including sound from any source in any direction.
Ancient Woodland	Ancient woodland is defined as an area that has been wooded continuously since at least 1600 AD. Ancient Woodland is divided into ancient semi-natural woodland and plantations on ancient woodland sites. Both types are classed as ancient woods.
Application	The DCO Application.
The Applicant	Highways England
Baseline	A reference level of existing environmental conditions against which a project is measured and controlled.
Baseline Studies	Work done to determine and describe the environmental conditions against which any future changes can be measured or predicted and assessed.
Below-Ground Heritage Asset	Both known and hitherto unknown buried archaeological remains.
Best and most versatile agricultural land (BMV)	Defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). This is the land that is determined to be most flexible, productive and efficient in response to inputs and which can best deliver future crops for food and non-food uses such as biomass, fibres and pharmaceuticals. Grades 3b, 4, and 5 are used to classify land that is of moderate quality to very poor quality.

TERM	DEFINITION
Biodiversity	Abbreviated form of 'biological diversity' referring to variability among living organisms from all sources including, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part.
Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	Plans which set specific, measurable, achievable, realistic and time bound conservation targets for species and habitats. The UK BAP is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) signed in 1992. More information is available at www.ukbap.org.uk .
Birds Directive	Directive 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on the conservation of wild birds (codified version).
Breeding Bird Survey (BBS)	The main scheme coordinated by the BTO/JNCC/RSPB for monitoring the population changes of the UK's common breeding birds. Commonly used in commercial ecological consultancy to survey for birds.
British Geological Survey	Provider of objective and authoritative geoscientific data, information and knowledge for the UK.
Characterisation	The process of identifying areas of similar landscape character, classifying and mapping them and describing their character.
Characteristics	Elements, or combinations of elements, which make a contribution to distinctive landscape character.
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)	The professional membership body representing and supporting Ecologists and Environmental professionals in the UK, Ireland and abroad. Previously known as Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM).
Climate Change	Large scale, long term shift in the planet's weather patterns or average temperature.
Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP)	Document setting out methods to avoid, minimise and mitigate environmental impacts on the environment and surrounding area and the protocols to be followed in implementing these measures in accordance with environmental commitments during construction.
Cultural Heritage Significance	The value of a Heritage Asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a Heritage Asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

TERM	DEFINITION
Cumulative effects	The summation of effects that result from changes caused by a development in conjunction with other reasonably foreseeable development that is either consented but not yet constructed or is in the process of seeking consent.
DCO Application	The application for a DCO in respect of the Proposed Scheme.
Decibel (dB)	The decibel scale is used in relation to sound because it is a logarithmic rather than a linear scale. The decibel scale compares the level of a sound relative to another. The human ear can detect a wide range of sound pressures, typically between 2×10^{-5} and 200 Pa, so the logarithmic scale is used to quantify these levels using a more manageable range of values.
Designated Heritage Assets	World Heritage Site, scheduled monument, listed building, protected wreck site, registered park and garden, registered battlefield or conservation area.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	A Development Consent Order (DCO) is made by the Secretary of State (SoS) pursuant to the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) to authorise a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). A draft DCO was submitted with the Application and revised versions of the draft will be submitted throughout the Examination by the Applicant.
Direct impact	An impact that is directly attributable to the Proposed Scheme.
Direct employment	Refers to the initial injection of expenditure, i.e. people employed in the construction of the Proposed Scheme (direct and contracted employment) and expenditure of goods, services and capital for the construction.
Disaster	In the context of the Proposed Scheme, a naturally occurring phenomenon such as an extreme weather event (e.g. storm, flood, temperature) or ground-related hazard events (e.g. subsidence, landslide, earthquake) with the potential to cause an event or situation that meets the definition of a Major Accident.
'Do nothing' scenario	Continued change in the absence of the Proposed Scheme.
Dust	Dust comprises particles typically in the size range 1-75 micrometres (μm) in aerodynamic diameter and is created through the action of crushing and abrasive forces on materials.
Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA)	A recommended procedure for the ecological component of Environmental Impact Assessment.
Effect	The consequence of an impact on the environment.

TERM	DEFINITION
Elements	Individual parts which make up the landscape, such as, for example, trees, hedges, and buildings.
Emission	A material that is expelled or released to the environment. Usually applied to gaseous or odorous discharges to the atmosphere.
Emission rate	The quantity of a pollutant released from a source over a given period of time.
Enhancement	Proposals that seek to improve the landscape resource and the visual amenity of the Proposed Scheme and its wider setting, over and above its baseline condition.
Environment Agency	A non-departmental public body sponsored by the United Kingdom Government's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), with responsibilities relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment in England.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	A systematic means of assessing a development project's likely significant environmental effects undertaken in accordance with the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
EIA Regulations 2017	The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 which prescribe the information to be included in the Environmental Statement and the consultation to be carried out in connection with development requiring an Environmental Statement.
Environmental Statement	A statement that includes the information that is reasonably required to assess the environmental effects of a development and which the applicant can, having regard in particular to current knowledge and methods of assessment, reasonably be required to compile, but that includes at least the information required in the EIA Regulations 2017 and which is prepared in accordance with the latest Scoping Opinion adopted by the Secretary of State (where relevant).

TERM	DEFINITION
Equivalent Continuous Level (Lea, T)	<p>The Equivalent Continuous Level represents a theoretical continuous Sound Pressure Level, over a stated time period, T, which contains the same amount of energy as a number of sound events occurring within that time, or a source that fluctuates in level. It is essentially the average noise level over a specified time period.</p> <p>For example, a noise source with an SPL of 80 dB(A) operating for two hours during an eight-hour working day, has an equivalent A-weighted continuous level over eight hours of 74 dB, or LAeq,8hrs = 74 dB.</p> <p>The time period over which the LAeq is calculated should always be stated.</p>
European Commission (EC)	<p>The executive body of the European Union responsible for proposing legislation, enforcing European law, setting objectives and priorities for action, negotiating trade agreements and managing implementing European Union policies and the budget.</p>
European Protected Species (EPS)	<p>European Protected Species are animals and plants that receive protection under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, in addition to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended).</p>
Examining Authority (ExA)	<p>The panel appointed from the Planning Inspectorate to be responsible for conducting the Examination of, and recommendation to the SoS as to a decision on, the DCO Application.</p>
Exceedance	<p>A period of time where the concentrations of a pollutant is greater than the appropriate air quality standard.</p>
Feature	<p>Particularly prominent or eye-catching elements in the landscape, such as tree clumps, church towers or wooded skylines OR a particular aspect of the Proposed Scheme.</p>
Flood Map for Planning	<p>Defines flood zones based on annual probability of flooding from fluvial and tidal sources to inform development planning and flood risk assessment. Nationally consistent delineation of 'high', 'medium' and 'low' flood risk updated by the Environment Agency as deemed appropriate, typically on a quarterly basis.</p>
Flood Zone 1	<p>This zone comprises land assessed as having less than a 1 in 1000 (0.1%) annual probability of flooding from rivers or the sea in any year.</p>

TERM	DEFINITION
Flood Zone 2	This zone comprises land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 (1%) and 1 in 1000 (0.1%) annual probability of flooding from rivers, or between a 1 in 200 (0.5%) and 1 in 1000 (0.1%) annual probability of flooding from the sea in any year.
Flood Zone 3a	This zone comprises land assessed as having a 1 in 100 (1%) or greater annual probability of flooding from rivers or a 1 in 200 (0.5%) or greater annual probability of flooding from the sea in any year.
Flood Zone 3b	This zone comprises land where water has to flow or be stored in times of flood.
Fluvial	Of, or relating to, or inhabiting a river or stream.
Free Field Conditions	In free field conditions sound behaves as if in open air without reflecting surfaces to interfere with its propagation.
Geographical Information System	A system that captures, stores, analyses, manages and presents data linked to location. It links spatial information to a digital database.
Greenhouse Gas (GHG)	Greenhouse gases are gases that absorb and emit radiation at specific wavelengths within the spectrum of infrared radiation emitted by the Earth's surface, the atmosphere, and clouds. The six main GHGs whose emissions are human-caused are: carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbon and sulphur hexafluoride. In combination, these GHG emissions are commonly expressed in terms of 'carbon dioxide equivalents' (CO ₂ e) according to their relative global warming potential. For this reason, the shorthand 'carbon' may be used to refer to GHGs.
Groundwater Source Protection Zone	Source Protection Zones (SPZs), defined for 2000 groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs used for public drinking water supply, show the risk of contamination from any activities that might cause pollution in the area. The closer the activity, the greater the risk. The maps show three main zones (inner, outer and total catchment) and a fourth zone of special interest, which the Environment Agency occasionally apply, to a groundwater source.
Habitat	The environment in which populations or individual species live or grow.
Habitats Directive	Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
Habitats Regulations	The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, which implement the Habitats Directive.

TERM	DEFINITION
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	<p>An appropriate assessment of the implications of a plan or project for a European site or a European offshore marine site in view of that site's conservation objectives. Such an assessment is required pursuant to the Habitats Regulations where a plan or project —</p> <p>(a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and</p> <p>(b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of that site.</p>
Harm	Change for the worse, here primarily referring to the effect of inappropriate interventions on the heritage values of a Heritage Asset.
Heritage	The historic environment and especially valued assets and qualities such as historic buildings and cultural traditions.
Heritage Asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage Assets include Designated Heritage Assets and Non-Designated Heritage Assets.
Hydrology	The movement, distribution and quality of water throughout the earth.
Impact	A physical or measurable change to the environment attributable to the Proposed Scheme.
Important Ecological Features	Species and habitats present within the zone of influence of the Proposed Scheme that are of sufficiently high value that an effect upon them as a result of the Scheme could be considered to be significant.
Indices of Multiple Deprivation	The indices of deprivation, measure relative deprivation in local authorities across England. The index of multiple deprivation is the most widely used of these indices.
Indirect impacts	Impacts that result indirectly from the proposed project, in this case the Scheme, as a consequence of the direct effects, often occurring away from the site, or as a result of a sequence of interrelationships or a complex pathway. They may be separated by distance or in time from the source of the effects.
Key characteristics	Those combinations of elements which are particularly important to the current character of the landscape and help to give an area its particularly distinctive sense of place.

TERM	DEFINITION
Land cover	The surface cover of the land, usually expressed in terms of vegetation cover or lack of it. Related to, but not the same as, land use.
Land use	What land is used for, based on broad categories of functional land cover, such as urban and infrastructure use and the different types of agricultural and forestry.
Landform	The shape and form of the land surface which has resulted from combinations of geology, geomorphology, slope, elevation and physical processes.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, the character of which is a result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment	A tool used to identify and assess the likely significant effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity.
Landscape Character	A distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another.
Landscape Character Areas	These are single unique areas which are the discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape type.
Landscape Character Assessment	The process of identifying and describing variation in the character of the landscape and using this information to assist in managing change in the landscape. It seeks to identify and explain the unique combination of elements and features that make a landscape distinctive. The process results in the production of a Landscape Character Assessment.
Landscape Character Types	These are distinct types of landscape that are relatively homogenous in character. They are generic in nature in that they may occur in different areas in different parts of the country, but wherever they occur they share broadly similar combinations of geology, topography, drainage patterns, vegetation and historical land use and settlement patterns, and perceptual and aesthetic attributes.
Landscape Effects	Effects on the landscape as a resource in its own right.
Landscape Receptors	Defined aspects of the landscape resource that have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Lead Local Flood Authority	The local authority responsible for taking the lead on local flood risk management as defined within the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

TERM	DEFINITION
Likely significant effect	An effect is the consequence of an impact or change to the environment. Effects do not have quantifiable values (e.g. opening up of new views as a result of loss of trees/hedgerows), but have significance (e.g. major, moderate or minor). Those effects predicted to have a significance of moderate to major are classified as likely significant effects.
Limit of Deviation (LoD)	The LOD are the limits within which the DCO authorises the Scheme to be constructed. The LOD allows limited flexibility in the positioning of the highway in order that it can be positioned optimally reflecting factors identified during the detailed design of the Scheme or even during construction. Changes to the indicative route may occur typically as a result of ground conditions or environmental factors which it may not be possible to identify in the period prior to DCO submission. The LOD allow for a small tolerance with respect to any distances and points shown on the plans accompanying the application, although all works will take place within the LOD, the extent of which have been subject to full consideration as part of the EIA for the Scheme.
Lmax and Lmin	<p>The Lmax or Lmaximum represents the highest measured sound pressure level during a measurement period T.</p> <p>The Lmin or Lminimum represents the lowest measured sound pressure level during a measurement period T.</p>
Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)	A strategy and set of objectives aimed at conserving, monitoring and raising awareness of the fauna, flora and habitats- collectively referred to as biodiversity- usually along local authority boundary lines.
Local Development Plan (LDP)	The set of documents and plans that sets out the local authority's policies and proposals for the development and use of land in their area. The Local Development Plan for Gateshead Council is the Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan (CSUCP) for Gateshead and Newcastle upon Tyne 2010 – 2030, Gateshead Local Plan Policies March 2015 and Making Spaces for Growing Places (MSGP) Draft Plan. .
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	A site of importance for wildlife, geology, education or public enjoyment. Some are also nationally important Sites of Special Scientific Interest. Local Nature Reserves must be controlled by the local authority through ownership, lease or agreement with the owner.

TERM	DEFINITION
Local Planning Authority (LPA)	The local authority or council that is empowered by law to exercise statutory town planning functions for a particular area of the United Kingdom.
Lower Super Output Area (LSOA)	A geographic unit used for statistical purposes.
Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL)	The level above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected as a result of noise or vibration.
Made Ground	Areas where material is known to have been placed by people on the pre-existing (natural or artificial) land surface (including engineered fill).
Magnitude	A combination of the scale, extent and duration of an impact.
Main river	Main rivers are usually larger streams and rivers, but also include smaller watercourses of strategic drainage importance. A main river is defined as a watercourse shown as such on the Flood Map for Planning (Rivers and Sea) and can include any structure or appliance for controlling or regulating the flow of water in, into or out of a main river. Main rivers are under the jurisdiction of the Environment Agency who have powers to carry out flood defence works to main rivers.
Major Accident	In the context of the Proposed Scheme, an event that threatens immediate or delayed serious damage to human health, welfare and/or the environment and requires the use of resources beyond those of the Applicant or its contractors to respond to the event. Serious damage includes the loss of life or permanent injury and/or permanent or long-lasting damage to an environmental receptor that cannot be restored through minor clean-up and restoration efforts. The significance of this effect will take into account the extent, severity and duration of harm and the sensitivity of the receptor.
Mitigation Hierarchy	The mitigation hierarchy is to first try to avoid, then prevent and then reduce likely significant adverse effects on the environment and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment.
Mitigation Measures	Actions proposed to avoid, reduce and where possible offset likely significant adverse effects arising from the whole or specific elements of a development.
Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC)	Authoritative geographic information about the natural environment from across government.

TERM	DEFINITION
National Nature Reserve (NNR)	Established to protect sensitive features and to provide 'outdoor laboratories' for research.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	A document that sets out government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied.
National Policy Statement (NPS)	Overarching policy designated under the Planning Act 2008 concerning the planning and consenting of NSIPs in the UK. The relevant NPS for the Scheme is the National Networks National Policy Statement (referred to as NPS NN within this ES).
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)	<p>A project meeting the criteria for a "nationally significant infrastructure project" set out in section 14 of the Planning Act 2008, and therefore requiring authorisation under the PA 2008 by way of a DCO.</p> <p>The Scheme constitutes a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) by virtue of s.14(1)(h) and s.22(1)(b) of the PA 2008 as it is an alteration of a highway which is wholly within England, the Applicant is the strategic highways authority and the area of development is greater than the relevant limit set out in s.22(4) which is 12.5 ha, as speed limits will be in excess of 50mph for any class of vehicle.</p>
Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)	This document outlines the government's vision for the natural environment over the next 50 years. It also describes the actions that will be taken to deliver that vision.
No Observed Effect Level (NOEL)	The level below which no effect from noise or vibration can be detected. In simple terms, below this level, there is no detectable effect on health and quality of life due to the noise.
Noise	A noise can be described as an unwanted sound. Noise can cause nuisance.
Noise Sensitive Receptors	Any identified receptor likely to be affected by noise. These are generally human receptors, and may include residential dwellings, work places, schools, hospitals, community facilities, places of worship, recreational spaces and ecological receptors.
NOMIS	Official labour market statistics provided by the Office for National Statistics (ONS).
Non-Designated Heritage Assets	Buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions and which could be locally listed, but which are not formally designated heritage assets.

TERM	DEFINITION
Ordinary watercourse	An ordinary watercourse is every river, stream, ditch, drain, cut, dyke, sluice, sewer (other than a public sewer) and passage through which water flows that does not form part of a main river. The Lead Local Flood Authority, or Internal Drainage Board where relevant, has powers for ordinary watercourses that are similar to those held by the Environment Agency for main rivers.
Ordnance Survey (OS)	Great Britain's national mapping agency.
PA 2008	The Planning Act 2008 (as amended) which is the legislation in relation to applications for NSIPs, including pre-application consultation and publicity, the examination of applications and decision making by the SoS.
Parameters	A limit or boundary which defines the scope of a particular process or activity.
Phase 1 Habitat Survey	An ecological survey technique that provides a standardised system to record vegetation and wildlife habitats. It enables a basic assessment of habitat type and its potential importance for nature conservation.
Photomontage	A visualisation which superimposes an image of a proposed development upon a photograph or series of photographs.
Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate)	The government agency responsible for administering and examining applications for development consent for NSIPs under the Planning Act 2008 on behalf of the SoS.
Potential Roost Feature (PRF)	Any feature within a building or tree that has potential for a bat to roost in.
Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)	Preliminary ecological surveys have a range of purposes; one key use is to gather data on existing conditions, often with the intention of conducting a preliminary assessment of likely impacts of development schemes or establishing the baseline for future monitoring. As a precursor to a proposed project, some evaluation is usually made within these appraisals of the ecological features present, as well as scoping for notable species or habitats, identification of potential constraints to proposed development schemes and recommendations for mitigation.
Preliminary Ground Level Roost Assessment for trees (PGLRA)	A detailed inspection of the exterior of the tree from ground level to look for features that bats could use for roosting (PRFs). The aim of this survey is to determine the actual or potential presence of bats and the need for further survey and/or mitigation.

TERM	DEFINITION
Principal Aquifer	These are layers of rock or drift deposits that have high intergranular and/or fracture permeability - meaning they usually provide a high level of water storage. They may support water supply and/or river base flow on a strategic scale. In most cases, Principal Aquifers are aquifers previously designated as major aquifer.
Ramsar Site	Wetlands of international importance, designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat adopted 1971 (known as the Ramsar Convention).
Rating Level	As part of the BS4142 assessment method the Rating Level is the sum of the Specific Sound and any acoustic feature corrections, which may be applied for tonal, impulsive or intermittent characteristics. Acoustic feature corrections are added linearly to the Specific Sound and can range from 2 dB to 5 dB, depending on the characteristic.
Receptor	A component of the natural, created or built environment such as a human being, water, air, a building, or a plant that has the potential to be affected by the Proposed Scheme.
Requirements	The 'requirements' at Schedule 2 to the draft DCO that, amongst other matters, are intended to control the final details of the Proposed Scheme as to be constructed and also to control its operation, amongst other matters, to ensure that it accords with the EIA and does not result in unacceptable impacts.
Residual Effects	Those effects of a development that cannot be mitigated following implementation of mitigation proposals.
Residual Sound	Another component of the ambient sound, associated with any sources other than the specific source(s) under consideration.
Risk	The likelihood of an impact occurring combined with effect or consequence(s) of the impact on a receptor if it does occur.
Risk Event	An identified, unplanned event, which is considered relevant to the Proposed Scheme and has the potential to be a Major Accident or Disaster subject to assessment of its potential to result in a significant adverse effect on an environmental receptor.
Scoping	An exercise undertaken pursuant to regulation 10 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 to determine the topics to be addressed within the Environmental Statement.

TERM	DEFINITION
Scoping Opinion	A written statement by the Secretary of State as to the information to be provided in the Environmental Statement; for the Proposed Scheme. This was provided by the Planning Inspectorate on 18 December 2017.
Secondary Aquifer	<p>These include a wide range of rock layers or drift deposits with an equally wide range of water permeability and storage. Secondary Aquifers are subdivided into two types:</p> <p>Secondary A - permeable 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. These are generally aquifers formerly classified as minor aquifers;</p> <p>Secondary B - predominantly lower permeability layers which may store and yield limited amounts of groundwater due to localised features such as fissures, thin permeable horizons and weathering. These are generally the water-bearing parts of the former non-aquifers.</p> <p>The term “Secondary Undifferentiated” is also used in cases where it has not been possible to attribute either category A or B to a rock type. In most cases, this means that the layer in question has previously been designated as both minor and non-aquifer in different locations due to the variable characteristics of the rock type.</p>
Sensitivity	A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor.
Sequential	Where two or more features are not present in views from the same point on a route and cannot therefore ever be seen at the same time even if the arc of view experienced by the observer changes. The observer must move to another point along the same route to see the second or more of them and then they appear in a sequence. Sequential views often occur when moving along a linear route as the observer moves from one point to another and may occur in both directions.
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)	The level above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur as a result of noise or vibration.

TERM	DEFINITION
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation are usually selected within a local authority area and support both locally and nationally threatened wildlife. Many sites will contain habitats and species that are priorities under the county or UK Biodiversity Action Plans (BAP).
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	A site statutorily notified under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) as being of special nature conservation or geological interest. SSSIs include wildlife habitats, geological features and landforms.
Sound Power Level (SWL)	<p>The Sound Power Level defines the rate at which sound energy is emitted by a source, and is also expressed in dB. It is defined as follows:</p> $SWL (dB) = 10 \text{ Log}_{10}(W/W_{ref})$ <p>Where:</p> <p>W = Sound Power (in Watts)</p> <p>Wref = Reference Power 1 picoWat</p> <p>A few approximate examples of point source SWL are provided as follows;</p> <p>A very quiet ticking watch: 30 dBw</p> <p>Quiet communication in a library: 50 dBw</p> <p>An alarm clock: 70 dBw</p> <p>Loud shouting: 90 dBw</p> <p>A jackhammer: 130 dBw</p>
Sound Pressure Level (SPL)	<p>The Sound Pressure Level has units of decibels, and compares the level of a sound to the smallest sound pressure generally perceptible by the human ear, or the reference pressure. It is defined as follows:</p> $SPL (dB) = 10 \text{ Log}_{10}(P/P_{ref})^2$ <p>where:</p> <p>P = RMS Sound Pressure (in Pa)</p> <p>Pref = Reference Pressure 2×10^{-5} Pa</p> <p>An SPL of 0 dB suggests the Sound Pressure of a sound is equal to the reference pressure. This is known as the threshold of hearing. An SPL of 140 dB represents the threshold of pain.</p>

TERM	DEFINITION
Source Protection Zone (SPZ)	Designated zones around public water supply abstractions and other sensitive receptors that sign there are particular risks to the groundwater source they protect.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Areas of protected habitats and species as defined in the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Sites classified in accordance with Article 4 of the Birds Directive (79/409/EEC). They are classified for rare and vulnerable birds (as listed on Annex 1 of the Directive), and for regularly occurring migratory species.
Species	A group of interbreeding organisms that seldom or never interbreed with individuals in other such groups, under natural conditions; most species are made up of subspecies or populations.
Specific Sound	A component of the ambient sound, associated with a specific source/s under consideration.
Standard of Protection (SoP)	The SoP that a flood defence offers is expressed in terms of the likelihood of a particular flood event (or level) being equalled or exceeded in any given year. Therefore, if a flood defence offers a SoP of 1 in 50, it will take a 1 in 50 (or greater) flood event to overtop it.
Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)	A Statement of Common Ground is a means of capturing the areas of agreement and material differences between the Applicant and third parties.
Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)	The Planning Act 2008 requires the Applicant to undertake public consultation in advance of submitting the DCO Application to the Secretary of State. A Statement of Community Consultation must be prepared, setting out how the Applicant proposes to consult people living in the vicinity of the Proposed Scheme.
Substitution	Where a firm substitutes one activity for a similar activity (e.g. to take advantage of public sector assistance).
Susceptibility	The ability of a defined landscape or visual receptor to accommodate the Proposed Scheme without undue negative consequences.
Townscape	The character and composition of the built environment including the buildings and the relationships between them, the different types of open urban space, including green spaces, and the relationship between buildings and open spaces.
Trial trenching	Archaeological intrusive evaluative technique.

TERM	DEFINITION
Visual amenity	The overall pleasantness of the views people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people living, working, recreating, visiting or travelling through the area.
Visual Effects	Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.
Visual Receptors	Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by a proposal.
Visualisation	A computer simulation, photomontage or other technique illustrating the predicted appearance of a development.
Vulnerability	In the context of the 2014 EU Directive, the term refers to the 'exposure and resilience' of the Proposed Scheme to the risk of a major accident and/or disaster. Vulnerability is influenced by sensitivity, adaptive capacity and magnitude of impact.
Waste Hierarchy	Sets out the priorities that must be applied when managing waste.
Water Framework Directive	European Union directive which commits member states to achieve good qualitative status of all water bodies.
Wildlife and Countryside Rights of Way Act 1981 (as amended)	The principal piece of UK legislation relating to the protection of wildlife.

Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
AADT	Annual Average Daily Traffic
AD	Anno Domini
ADMS	Advanced Dispersion Modelling System
ADS	Advanced Direction Signage
AEP	Annual Exceedance Probability
AGI	Above Ground Installation
AIP	Approval in Principle
ALC	Agricultural Land Classification
AM	Ante meridiem
AMAA	Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
AOD	Above Ordnance Datum
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
APIS	Air Pollution Information System
APP	Appendix
AQ	Air Quality
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
AQU	Air Quality Unit
ARN	Appraised Road Network
ARW	Ancient Replanted Woodland
ASNW	Ancient Semi Natural Woodland
BA	Bachelor of Arts
BAI	Bat Activity Index
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BC	Before Christ
BCH	Birtley to Coal House
BCR	Benefit to Cost Ratio
BCT	Bat Conservation Trust
BGL	Below Ground Level
BGS	British Geological Survey
BMV	Best and Most Versatile
BNL	Basic Noise Level

Acronym	Definition
BoCC	Birds of Conservation Concern
BPM	Best Practicable Means
BS	British Standard
BSc	Bachelor of Science
BSI	British Standards Institute
CA	Conservation Area
CBC	Common Bird Census
CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
CDE	Construction, Demolition and Excavation
CDF	Collaborative Delivery Framework
CDM	Construction Design and Management
CEDA	Centre for Environmental Data Analysis
CEMP	Construction Environmental Management Plan
CIEEM	Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management
CifA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CIRIA	Construction Industry Research and Information Association
CIWEM	Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management
CKDU	Combined Kerb and Drainage Units
CL:AIRE	Contaminated Land: Applications in Real Environments
CMLI	Chartered Members of the Landscape Institute
CMRA	Coal Mining Risk Assessment
ComMA	Combined Modelling and Appraisal
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
COPA	Control of Pollution Act 1974
CRoW	Countryside and Rights of Way Act
CRTN	Calculation of Road Traffic Noise
CSS	Countryside Stewardship Scheme
CSUCP	Core Strategy and Urban Core Plan
CTMP	Construction Traffic Management Plan
DBA	Desk Based Assessment
dBA	A-weighted decibels
DC	Development Consent
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government

Acronym	Definition
DCO	Development Consent Order
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DfT	Department for Transport
DG	District Governor
DM	Do Minimum
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
DPD	Development Plan Document
DS	Do Something
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
EA	Environment Agency
EAR	Environmental Assessment Report
EC	European Commission
ECML	East Coast Main Line
ECoW	Ecological clerk of works
EEA	European Economic Area
EEC	European Economic Community
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EIA Regulations	Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017
EMC	Event Mean Concentrations
EMSC	Event Mean Sediment Concentrations
END	Environmental Noise Directive
EPA	Environmental Protection Act 1990
EPDs	Environmental Product Declarations
EPS	European Protected Species
EQS	Environmental Quality Standard
ERIC	Eliminate, Reduce, Isolate, Control
ES	Environmental Statement
ESS	Environmental Stewardship Scheme
EU	European Union
FRA	Flood Risk Assessment

Acronym	Definition
FRGS	Fellowship of the Royal Geographical Society
FUL	Full (planning permission)
GA	General Arrangement
GC	Gateshead Council
GCN	Great crested newt
GCR	Geological Conservation Review
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education
GDMS	Highways Agency Geotechnical Data Management System
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GI	Ground Investigation
GIR	Ground Investigation Report
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
GLVIA	Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
GNFH	Great North Forest Heritage (Trail)
GPP	Guidance for Pollution Prevention
GRP	Glass-reinforced Plastic
ha	Hectares
HADDMS	Highways Agency Drainage Data Management System
HAWRAT	Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool
HDV	Heavy Duty Vehicle
HE	Highways England
HEDP	Highways England Delivery Plan
HEMP	Handover Environmental Management Plan
HER	Historic Environment Record
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HM	Her Majesty's
HMSO	Her Majesty's Stationary Office
HP	High Pressure
HPI	Habitats of Principal Importance
HRA	Habitats Regulation Assessment
HS	Health & Safety
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
HSI	Habitat Suitability Index

Acronym	Definition
IAN	Interim Advice Note
IAQM	Institute of Air Quality Management
ICE	Institute of Chartered Engineers
ICM	Integrated Catchment Modelling
ID	Identifier
IEA	Institute of Environmental Assessment
IEMA	Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation
IP	Intermediate Pressure
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
KPI	Key Performance Indicators
LAQM	Local Air Quality Management
LBAP	Local Biodiversity Action Plan
LCA	Land Compensation Act 1973
LDF	Local Development Frameworks
LDP	Local Development Plan
LED	Light Emitting Diode
LLCA	Local Landscape Character Area
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LOAEL	Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level
LoD	Limits of Deviation
LP	Low Pressure
LPA	Local Planning Authority
LSOA	Lower-layer Super Output Area
LTT	Long Term Trends
LVIA	Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment
LWS	Local wildlife site
MAC	Managing Agent Contractor
MAD	Major Accidents and Disasters
MAGIC	Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside
MCHW	Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works

Acronym	Definition
MCIEEM	Member of CIEEM
MCIfA	Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
MCIWEM	Member of CIWEM
MICE	Member of ICE
MIDAS	Motorway Incident Detection Automatic Signalling
MIOA	Member of the Institute of Acoustics
MMP	Material Management Plan
MoRLiCS	Motorway Road Lighting Control System
MP	Medium Pressure
MRSS	Maintenance and Repair Strategy Statement
MSc	Master of Science
MSGP	Making Spaces for Growing Places
MSP	Maintenance service provider
MT	Motorised Travellers
MW	Megawatt
NCA	National Character Area
NCB	National Coal Board
NCC	Newcastle City Council
NE	Natural England
NERC	Natural Environment and Rural Communities
NEWP	Natural Environment White Paper
NGN	Northern Gas Networks
NGWB	Newcastle Gateshead Western Bypass
NHBC	National House-Building Council
NHLE	National Heritage List for England
NIA	Noise Important Area
NIR	Noise Insulation Regulations 1975
NMT	Non-Motorised Traveller
NMU	Non-Motorised User
NN	National Networks
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NO	Nitrogen Oxide
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide

Acronym	Definition
NOEL	No Observed Effect Level
NOx	Oxides of Nitrogen
NP	National Parks
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPS	National Policy Statement
NPS NN	National Policy Statement for National Networks
NPSE	Noise Policy Statement for England (published March 2010)
NRTM	Northern Regional Transport Model
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NS	Not Significant
NSIP	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
NTS	Non-Technical Summary
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
NVZ	Nitrate Vulnerable Zone
NW	North-west
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
ONS	Office for National Statistics
OS	Ordnance Survey
OUT	Outline (planning permission)
PA	Planning Act 2008
PAH	Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons
Part IIA	Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act 1990
PCE	Pedestrians, Cyclists and Equestrians
PCM	Pollution Climate Mapping
PDR	Project Design Report
PEA	Preliminary Ecological Appraisal
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PHE	Public Health England
PIEMA	Practitioner in IEMA
PM	Post meridiem
PM _{10,2.5}	Particulate matter
PMCM	Pennine Middle Coal Measures
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment

Acronym	Definition
PPG	Planning Practice Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statements
PPV	Parts Per Volume
PRA	Preliminary Risk Assessment
PRF	Potential Roof Features
ProW	Public Right of Way
pSAC	Possible Special Areas of Conservation
pSPA	Potential Special Protection Areas
PSSR	Preliminary Sources Study Report
PWMS	Precautionary working method statement
RAMS	Risk Assessments and Method Statements
RBMP	River Basin Management Plan
RCB	Rigid concrete barrier
RCP	Representative Concentration Pathways
REAC	Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments
REM	Reserved matters (planning permission)
RIGS	Regionally Important Geological Site
RIS	Road Investment Strategy
RP	Road Period
RPA	Root Protection Area
RPE	Respiratory Protective Equipment
RST	Runoff specific thresholds
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SCC	Sunderland City Council
SCI	Sites of Community Importance
SEE	Suitably experienced ecologist
SFAIRP	So far as is reasonably practicable
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SGAR	Stage Gate review
SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
SM	Scheduled monument
SMP	Smart Motorway Programme
SNB	Scotswood and North Brunton

Acronym	Definition
SNCI	Sites of Nature Conservation Importance
SNRHW	Stable Non-Reactive Hazardous Waste
SOAEL	Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level
SOBC	Strategic Outline Business Case
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
SoS	Secretary of State
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPI	Species of Principal Importance
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SR	Scoping Report
SRN	Strategic Road Network
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable drainage system
SW	South-west
SWMP	Site Waste Management Plan
TA	Transport Assessment
TAG	Transport and Analysis Guidance
TCPO	The Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015
TM	Traffic Management
TMP	Traffic Management Plan
TPO	Tree Protection Order
TRA	Traffic Reliability Area
TSCS	Thin Surface Course System
UDP	Unitary Development Plan
UK	United Kingdom
UKCP	United Kingdom Climate Projections Programme
UV	Ultraviolet
UXO	Unexploded Ordnance
VED	Visual Effects Drawings
VMS	Variable Messaging Signs

Acronym	Definition
WCA	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
WCH	Walking, Cycling and Horse Riding
WCHAR	Walking, Cycling and Horse Riding Assessment and Review
WFD	Water Framework Directive
WTN	Waste transfer note
WWTW	Waste Water Treatment Works
ZOI	Zone of Influence
ZVI	Zone of Visual Influence

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