

GLOSSARY

Anaerobic digestion

A process where biodegradable waste material is broken down in an enclosed vessel in the absence of oxygen. The solid product can be used for fertiliser and the gas by-products used to power electricity turbines or to generate heat.

Affordable Housing

Low cost market and subsidised housing irrespective of tenure, ownership or financial arrangements, available to people who cannot afford to occupy homes generally available to the local market.

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs)

Designated by the Countryside Agency primarily to conserve and enhance natural beauty.

Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land

Land falling within Grades 1, 2 or 3a of the Agricultural Land Classification system.

Best Practical Environmental Option

The Best Practicable Environmental Option procedure establishes the waste management option, or mix of options, that provides the most benefits or least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost, in the long-term as well as in the short-term.

Biodiversity

The variability among living organisms from all sources including terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems.

Biomass

Wood resources and grown energy crops such as willow and poplar.

Business Uses

Defined in Class B of the Use Classes Order 1987 (as amended) as:

- B1 business use, comprising
 - offices other than financial or professional,
 - research and other development of products or processes
 - light industrial
- B2 general industrial
- B8 storage or distribution.

Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies

The aims of Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) are to make more information on water resources and licensing practice available to the public, and also that they are developed in consultation with the local community and other interested parties. Water abstraction is the removal of water, (permanently or temporarily) from rivers, canals, reservoirs or underground strata. The main challenge in managing abstraction is to meet the needs of abstractors and other water users (e.g. boat users), while leaving water in the environment to conserve aquatic habitats, especially during low river flows.

Community Strategies

Plans established under the Local Government Act 2000, which are developed through community participation, including collaboration with Local Strategic Partnerships, which seek to improve the economic, social and environmental well being of the area and its inhabitants.

Compulsory purchase

A power vested in local authorities and government agencies to purchase land or buildings from an owner unwilling to sell where the land or property is required in the public good.

Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan

The Cumbria Biodiversity Action Plan was published by the Cumbria biodiversity Partnership in 2001. The purpose of the document is to promote the protection of vulnerable wildlife and habitats and to raise public awareness and understanding of the natural environment. The Action Plan indicates how national biodiversity targets will be met locally.

Development Plan

The Development Plan consists of the Structure Plan, the Minerals and Waste Local Plan and the relevant Local Plan.

Environmental Assessment

Research carried out into the potential effect a development proposal would have on a range of environmental factors such as nature conservation interests, landscape provided and paid for by the proposed developer but agreed with the Local Authority.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The term 'environmental impact assessment' (EIA) describes a procedure that must be followed for certain types of project before they can be given 'development consent'. The procedure is a means of drawing together, in a systematic way, an assessment of a project's likely significant environmental effects. This helps to ensure that the importance of the predicted effects, and the scope for reducing them, are properly understood by the public and the relevant competent authority before it makes its decision. EIA's enable environmental factors to be given due weight, along with economic or social factors, when planning applications are being considered. It helps to promote a sustainable pattern of physical development and land and property use in cities, towns and the countryside. If properly carried out, it benefits all those involved in the planning process.

Gross Value Added

Gross Value Added (GVA) measures the contribution to the economy of each individual producer, industry or sector in the UK. GVA is the difference between the value of goods and services produced and the cost of raw materials and other inputs that are used up in production.

Flood Risk Assessment

These can be of a relatively minor nature, evaluating a small development on a low risk site with minimal secondary effects, or may comprise major basin-wide studies for significant infrastructure developments. On occasions, preliminary or scoping studies may be undertaken prior to a fuller assessment. Developers should consult the Environment Agency and other relevant operating authorities to determine what information is already available on flood risk potentially affecting or affected by their site and its proposed development. A flood-risk assessment is an essential element in the

[overall assessment of the economic viability of the development as well as its acceptability in planning terms. The detailed requirements of a Flood Risk Assessment can be obtained from the Environment Agency.](#)

Indigenous growth

New development generated by local people and businesses.

Land reclamation

Work carried out to land which removes or makes safe any contamination or dereliction so that it is capable of beneficial reuse.

Indicative Flood Plain Map

[The indicative floodplain map is produced by the Environment Agency and shows the natural river and coastal floodplains in England and Wales. A floodplain is the natural 'overspill' area when a river rises above its banks or when high tides or stormy seas cause flooding of low-lying coastal areas. River floodplains are coloured blue and coastal floodplains are coloured green on the map. Some areas are at risk of flooding from rivers and the sea. In this case the colour of the flooding with the greatest extent will be shown. They use the best information available based on computer models, survey data and historical records and are updated as new information becomes available.](#)

Infrastructure

Services necessary to serve development eg roads and footpaths, electricity, water, and sewerage.

Listed Buildings

Buildings of special architectural or historic interest listed by the Secretary of State on the advice of English Heritage.

Local Nature Reserves (LNRs)

Habitats of local significance which make a useful contribution both to nature conservation and to the opportunities for the public to see, learn about and enjoy wildlife and established under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949.

Mechanical and Biological Treatment of Waste

[A facility using mechanical and biological processes to extract recyclable and compostable materials from mixed waste streams.](#)

National Land Use Database (NLUD)

[NLUD is a partnership with the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister \(ODPM\) and Ordnance Survey \(OS\). The Database is a collection of data on vacant and derelict sites and other previously developed land and buildings that may be available for redevelopment in England.](#)

National Nature Reserves (NNRs)

Sites of Special Scientific Interest identified by English Nature as having sufficient national importance to warrant management by or for English Nature.

Parish Plans

[Parish Plans are a vision of how communities would like to see their town or village develop. They help rural communities have a greater say in their own affairs, setting out a vision for the future of their town or village and can form a foundation for other applications or local action. Parish Plans should reflect the policies of the local authority's local development plan and identify how they can be put into practice in the local community.](#)

Photovoltaics

Cells used to convert solar energy into electrical energy.

Previously developed land

Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure and associated infrastructure. The definition covers the whole curtilage of the development including incidental open space. It can be found in urban or rural areas and includes Ministry of Defence buildings and land used for mineral extraction and waste disposal where provision for restoration has not been made. It excludes agricultural or forestry buildings, land within urban areas such as parks and allotments and land which although previously used has through the process of time blended into the landscape. (Annex C of PPG3)

Proximity Principle

Disposing of waste water as near as practicable to its place of production.

Pyrolysis

The thermal degradation of organic waste in the absence of oxygen to produce a carbonaceous char, oils and combustible gases.

Ramsar Sites

Sites designated by the Government under the Ramsar Convention to protect wetlands that are of international importance, particularly as waterfowl habitats.

Regionally Important Geological or Geomorphological Sites (RIGGs)

Non statutory sites worthy of protection for their educational, research, historical or aesthetic importance, selected and conserved at a local level by voluntary groups but recognised by English Nature and local authorities as of regional importance.

Renewable energy

Energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment and which can be replenished if harnessed. They include energy from the sun, wind, sea and water. Plant material and combustible or digestible industrial, agricultural and domestic waste materials are also normally categorised as renewable sources.

Route Management Strategy (RMS)

A Route Management Strategy is a technique being developed by the Highways Agency to provide a framework for managing individual trunk routes as part of wider transport networks. Route Management Strategies will interlock with Local transport strategies (set out in Local transport Plans) within the context established by regional planning guidance.

Rural diversification

The development of a wider range of economic activities linked to the rural economy and designed to support those people engaged in a rural way of life.

Scheme of Management (coastal)

Identifies conservation measures and action needed to avoid the deterioration of the natural habitats and species for which European Marine Sites have been designated.

Section 3 Conservation Map

A map which each National Park Authority is required to prepare and which shows mountain, moor and heath, woodlands and coastal features the natural beauty of which the Authority feels is particularly important to conserve.

Shoreline Management Plans

Provide a strategic framework for the Management of the coastal zone including development and coastal defence.

Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)

Sites identified by English Nature as being of special value by reason of any flora, fauna, geological or physiographic features.

Social inclusion

The needs of all members of society are met in a way that enables them to develop their own potential.

Special Areas of Conservation (SACs)

Areas designated by the UK Government under the European Community Conservation and of Natural Habitats and Wild Flora Directive for the contribution they make to the survival of species and habitats of European importance.

Special Protection Areas (SPAs)

Areas designated by the UK Government under the European Community Conservation of Wild Birds Directive which requires special measures to be taken to conserve the habitat of certain wild birds.

Sustainability Appraisal

A Sustainability Appraisal involves assessing the extent to which the proposed land use policies will contribute to sustainable development and making recommendations, where appropriate, to help during the preparation of planning policies to ensure that the policy outcomes will support sustainable development. In addition, the Sustainability appraisal for the Structure Plan included assessment against the Lake District National Parks main aims which include: - to conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Park; and to promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the National park by the public.

Sustainable development

Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Brundtland Commission 1987)

Sustainable pattern of development

Development, which through its location, seeks to secure sustainable development (see above), including, addressing the needs of existing communities and reducing the need to travel.

Sustainable (urban) drainage systems

A means of controlling surface water run off as close as possible to its origin before it enters a watercourse. Such measures aim to reduce the speed and volume of run off.

Transport Assessments

Replace 'Traffic Impact Assessments' and are submitted alongside planning applications giving details, consistent with the scale of development, of the transport aspects of the application. The assessment should cover access to the site by all modes and the likely modal split of journeys to and from the site. It should give details on measures proposed to improve access by public transport, walking and cycling, to reduce the need for parking and to mitigate transport impacts.

Travel Plan

Is a package of measures for a specific site aimed at reducing reliance on the car and promoting sustainable transport alternatives. Depending on site circumstances it addresses commuter journeys, business travel undertaken by staff, visitors, deliveries and fleet vehicles.

UNESCO

UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Through its strategies and activities, UNESCO actively pursues to halve the proportion of people living in extreme poverty in developing countries; achieve universal primary education in all countries; eliminate gender disparity in primary and secondary education; and help countries implement a national strategy for sustainable development to reverse current trends in the loss of environmental resources.

Urban Potential (Capacity) Studies

In accordance with national policy, Local Planning Authorities are required to undertake Urban Potential (Capacity) Studies. This is in order to establish how much additional housing can be accommodated within urban areas, and to indicate the potential for development on brownfield land. The study should help determine targets for the recycling of buildings and land, and also inform the application of the sequential test.

Use Class

All development is categorised into different types of use by the Use Classes Order 1987. This has implications for the need to obtain planning permission should a person wish to use the land or building in another way.

Windfall development

Development proposals e.g. housing and employment that are brought forward because of unforeseen opportunities, normally as a result of the readiness of a land or building owner to sell land, and for which no allocation was made when the Local Plan for that area was prepared.