



Teddington Direct River Abstraction

Preliminary Environmental Information Report
Glossary

Date: June 2025

1. Glossary

Term	Definition
Abnormal Indivisible Load (AIL)	A large load which cannot be divided for road transportation.
Additional (secondary) mitigation	Modifications to the location or design of the Project which are a result of design evolution. Modifications which are an inherent part of the Project design for the purpose of avoiding, preventing or reducing likely significant environmental effects. For example, reducing the height of a development to reduce visual impacts or inclusion of areas of habitat planting in the design to mitigate ecological impacts.
Affected Road Network (ARN)	The network of roads that may be impacted by traffic or environmental changes, such as pollution or congestion.
Air Quality Focus Area	A designated area where air quality issues are a priority and require focused management.
Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	An area within a local authority's boundary identified where Air Quality Objectives (AQOs) are unlikely to be achieved.
Amenity	A feature of a place that enhances the quality of life for a community, such as parks, public spaces, and other services.
Ammonia	Ammonia, primarily generated from agricultural activities, is a gas that, when mixed with other gases in the atmosphere, such as nitrogen oxides and sulphur dioxide, can form particulate matter
Anadromous	Anadromous fish live in saltwater and migrate into freshwater to spawn, such as the Atlantic salmon.
Ancient tree	An ancient tree is one which is remarkably old for its species. The age varies from species to species.
Ancient woodland	Designated land that has been continuously wooded since at least 1600 AD in England, often considered ecologically significant.
Annual Average Daily Traffic	The average number of vehicles passing a specific point on a roadway each day over the course of a year.
Annual Average Weekday Traffic (AAWT)	The average number of vehicles passing a specific point on a roadway each weekday (Monday-Friday) over the course of a year.
Applicant	The party who seeks development consent on an EIA project (IEMA, 2022a).
Archaeological Interest	There will be archaeological interest in a heritage asset if it holds, or potentially holds, evidence of past human activity worthy of expert investigation at some point.

Term	Definition
Archaeological Potential	An estimate based on the available evidence of the likely presence of buried archaeological remains within a specific site or area. This taking into account previous impacts from development or other historic processes such as agriculture or quarrying which can have a negative impact on the survival of archaeological remains.
Archaeological Priority Area (APA)	An APA is a defined area where, according to existing information, there is significant known archaeological interest or particular potential for new discoveries. APAs are set out in the London boroughs' local plans. They inform the practical use of national and local planning policies for the recognition and conservation of archaeological interest. The Greater London APAs are based on evidence held in the GLHER. APAs are not considered heritage assets in their own right, they simply identify areas where heritage assets with archaeological interest may be present.
Asset Management Plan	Five year period to outline the price of water for the defined period as well as an outline of the key performance indicators (e.g. water quality, sewer overflows and customer service).
Atmospheric Dispersion Modelling System	A computer-based model used to simulate the dispersion of pollutants in the atmosphere and predict their concentration levels.
Automatic monitoring	The continuous or periodic measurement of environmental parameters, typically air quality, using automated systems.
Automatic Traffic Counter (ATC)	A device which is installed to collect traffic data at a given point on the road network.
Avoidance and prevention	Design and mitigation measures to prevent the effect (e.g. alternative design options or avoidance of environmentally sensitive sites).
A-weighting	This is a measure of the overall level of sound across the audible spectrum with a frequency weighting (i.e. 'A' weighting) to compensate for the varying sensitivity of the human ear to sound at different frequencies.
Basic noise level (BNL)	The BNL is a measure of source noise at 10m before any corrections, for example for distance, are applied.
Bat roost	A bat's home.
Best practicable means (BPM)	Measures to reduce noise and vibration from construction activities that are reasonably practicable having regard among other things to local conditions and circumstances, to the current state of technical knowledge and to the financial implications.

Term	Definition
Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	An internationally recognised programme addressing threatened species and habitats and designed to protect and restore biological systems. The original impetus for these plans derives from the 1992 Convention on Biological Diversity.
Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG)	An approach to development and land management which aims to ensure that development leaves the natural environment, in terms of biodiversity, in a measurably better state than beforehand.
British Geological Survey (BGS)	A partly publicly-funded body that provides technical advice to public and private sectors and aims to advance geological knowledge of the United Kingdom.
Carbon	Greenhouse gases
Carbon budget	A carbon budget is the cumulative amount of carbon emissions permitted over a period of time to keep within a certain temperature threshold.
Carbon dioxide equivalent	A measure used to compare the emissions from various greenhouse gases on the basis of their global-warming potential, by converting amounts of other gases to the equivalent amount of carbon dioxide with the same global warming potential.
Catadromous	Catadromous fish live in freshwater and migrate out to sea to spawn, such as the European eel.
Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM)	A professional membership body representing and supporting ecologists and environmental managers in the UK, Ireland and abroad
Circular economy	Circular economy is a systems-based approach that prioritises the elimination of waste and enabling the continual use of resources by designing for durability, adaptability, reuse and recovery. It involves looking at the entire asset lifecycle, promoting a circular flow of resources at their highest value to reduce environmental impact and deliver positive long-term economic and social outcomes.
Climate change risk assessment	A process of identifying potential consequences, likelihood, vulnerabilities and opportunities due to the impacts of climate change on assets, systems and/or operations.
Code of Construction Practice (CoCP)	A set of guidelines or principles that will be adhered to during the construction of the Project.
Commitments Register	A document that records and tracks all environmental and social commitments made by a project or organisation, ensuring accountability and compliance with regulations and stakeholder agreements.

Term	Definition
Compensation	Measures taken to make up for the negative environmental impacts, loss of or permanent damage to, resources through the provision of replacement areas, similar to those lost.
Contaminated land	Land that contains substances which, when present in sufficient quantities or concentrations, are likely to cause harm to human health or the environment.
Controlled waters	Bodies of water protected by law, including inland freshwaters, groundwaters and coastal waters. These are regulated to prevent pollution and maintain water quality.
Construction Logistics and Community Safety (CLOCS)	The National Standard for ensuring the safest journeys for construction vehicles, focusing on reducing risks to vulnerable road users, improving air quality and congestion, and enhancing operational efficiencies.
Construction Logistics Plan (CLP)	A tool used to manage construction supply chains on the road network. It aims to limit the impact of the movement of goods, waste and servicing activities associated with the construction site(s).
Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP)	A document providing a structured approach to the management and coordination of movements of people and vehicles in and around the given construction site(s).
Construction Workforce Management Plan (CWTP)	A document which outlines the means by which workers will travel to and from the construction site(s) during a project's construction phase.
Cumulative effects assessment	An assessment that considers the potentially significant environmental effects of a project with those of other existing and/or approved projects, and the combined environmental effects interacting with one another within the Project.
Decibel	The scale on which sound pressure level is expressed. In air it is defined as 20 times the logarithm of the ratio between the root-mean-square pressure of the sound field and a reference pressure ($2 \times 10^{-5} \text{Pa}$).
Defra	The UK government department responsible for policy and regulations on the environment, food and rural affairs
Design Manual for Roads and Bridges	The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) contains information about current standards relating to the design, assessment and operation of motorway and all-purpose trunk roads in the United Kingdom.
Development Consent	This is the decision of the competent authority or authorities which entitles the applicant to proceed with the project (IEMA, 2022a).
Diadromous	Diadromous fish migrate between freshwater and seawater environments.

Term	Definition
Diffusion tubes	Small, passive air quality monitoring devices used to measure the concentration of pollutants, particularly nitrogen dioxide.
Direct River Abstraction	The process of extracting water directly from a river for consumption or use.
Draft licence	A protected species mitigation licence that is written, prepared and agreed prior to a Development Consent Order (DCO) being granted but which cannot be officially granted until the DCO planning consent has been given.
Draft Order limits	The draft spatial boundaries of the Project.
Dry spell	Not formally defined but generally considered a period of 15 or more consecutive days to none of which is credited 1.0mm or more of precipitation (as defined by Met Éireann).
Effluent (Trade Effluent)	Any liquid, either with or without particles of matter in suspension in the liquid, which is wholly or partly produced in the course of any trade or industry carried on at trade premises; and in relation to any trade premises, means any such liquid which is so produced in the course of any trade or industry carried on at those premises, but does not include domestic sewage.
Electronic Service Delivery for Abnormal Loads (ESDAL)	An online system by Department for Transport and National Highways for notifying authorities of planned abnormal load movements on Great Britain's road network.
Embedded design (primary) mitigation	Modifications to the location or design of the Project which are a result of design evolution. Modifications which are an inherent part of the Project design for the purpose of avoiding, preventing or reducing likely significant environmental effects. For example, reducing the height of a development to reduce visual impacts or inclusion of areas of habitat planting in the design to mitigate ecological impacts.
Enhancement	Measures taken to achieve a net benefit, which are unrelated to an adverse impact, or which go beyond that required to mitigate for an impact. For example, restoration of a degraded habitat to leave it in a measurably better state than it was before the Project, or other interventions to leave a positive legacy for the environment and community.
Environment Agency	Regulatory Agency in England responsible for licences and consents relevant to flooding, discharge consents, waste licences and the protection of the environment
Environment (Health)	Environment includes health. The two are inextricably linked as one system. EU Directive 2014/52/EU Article 3 on EIA is explicit that human health is a factor within the definition of environment. Similarly, EU Directive 2001/42/EC Annex 1 and the Protocol on SEA Article 2 are explicit that environment includes health projects (IEMA, 2022a).

Term	Definition
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.
Environmental Statement	A document that describes the results of an Environmental Impact Assessment and its effects on the environment.
Epoch	A word used to refer to a timeframe.
Equivalent continuous sound pressure level (Leq)	The equivalent continuous sound pressure level is the notional steady sound level which, over a stated period of time, would contain the same amount of acoustical energy as the A-weighted fluctuating sound measured over that period.
Façade noise level	A noise level that is 1m from a vertical reflecting surface.
Final effluent	Wastewater that has had solids removed and is treated to meet strict regulatory standards ahead of being discharged to rivers and the sea.
Free field noise level	A noise level that is away from any reflecting surfaces (excluding the ground).
Geoarchaeology	Geoarchaeology is the use of earth sciences to understand the archaeological record. It is a branch of archaeological science involving the study of stratigraphy, sites and landscapes with techniques from soil science, sedimentology and geology.
Global warming potential	Global warming potential is used to allow comparisons of the global warming impacts of different gases. Specifically, it is a measure of how much energy the emission of 1 tonne of a gas will absorb over a given period of time, relative to the emission of 1 tonne of carbon dioxide. The larger the global warming potential, the more that a given gas warms the Earth compared to carbon dioxide over that time period. The time period usually used for GWPs is 100 years.
Green and blue infrastructure	The network of parks, green spaces, gardens, woodlands, rivers and wetlands (as well as features such as street trees and green roofs) that is planned, designed and managed to promote healthier living, lessen the impacts of climate change, improve air quality and water quality, encourage walking and cycling, store carbon, and improve biodiversity and ecological resilience. (Greater London Authority, 2018b).
Greenhouse gases	Greenhouse gases refer to gaseous compounds that absorb infrared radiation and trap heat in the atmosphere and include carbon dioxide (CO ₂), methane (CH ₄), nitrous oxide (N ₂ O), hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), perfluorocarbons (PFCs), sulphur hexafluoride (SF ₆) and nitrogen trifluoride (NF ₃).
Gross Domestic Product (GDP)	The total monetary value of the total final output of all goods and services produced within a country or region in a specific period of time.

Term	Definition
GVA	Gross Value Added The measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry, or sector of an economy.
H++	Low likelihood high end climate projection scenarios produced as part of the UK Climate Projections 2009 (UKCP09) dataset.
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	A Habitats Regulations Assessment refers to the several distinct stages of assessment which must be undertaken in accordance with the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) if a plan or project may affect the protected features of a habitats site, before a decision can be made on whether to authorise it.
Hazardous waste	Waste which displays one or more of the hazardous properties listed in Annex III of the Waste Framework Directive.
Health and human health	A state of complete physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. The definition of 'health' has not changed since 1946, and it is clear that mental and social wellbeing are also to be considered in addition to effects on physical health. Health and wellbeing are influenced by a range of factors, termed the 'wider determinants of health.' The terms 'health' and 'health and wellbeing' are used interchangeably (IEMA, 2022a).
Health Impact Assessment	HIA is a process which systematically judges the potential, and sometimes unintended, effects of a project, programme, plan, policy or strategy on the health of a population and the distribution of those effects within the population. HIA identifies appropriate actions to mitigate health risks and to promote health opportunities, and guides the establishment of a framework for monitoring and evaluating changes in health as part of sustainable development (IEMA, 2022a).
Health inequality	This refers to observed difference in health status between groups of people or in their exposure to health risk factors IEMA, 2022a).
Heat wave	A threshold when a location records a period of at least three consecutive days with daily maximum temperatures meeting or exceeding the heatwave temperature threshold.
Heavy-Duty Vehicles (HDVs)	Vehicles designed for carrying heavy loads, such as trucks, lorries, and large buses.
Heavy Goods Vehicles	Vehicles with a gross weight of more than 3.5 tonnes.
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. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Term	Definition
Historic Environment Record	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. For the TDRA Project this is operated by the GLHER part of Historic England.
Hot spell	Above-average temperature conditions.
In-combination climate impacts	The amplified or reduced impacts due to climate change on environmental topics. For example, impacts of the Project on water quality of the River Thames may be different in future decades due to climate changes in temperatures and rainfall patterns and the effect of these on the river.
Inert waste	<p>Inert waste can be defined when it meets one of the following categories:</p> <p>Does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations</p> <p>Does not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm to human health</p> <p>Where the total leachability and pollutant content and the ecotoxicity of its leachate are insignificant and, in particular, do not endanger the quality of any surface water or groundwater.</p>
Institute of Air Quality Management	A UK professional body that provides guidance on air quality management and the technical and regulatory aspects of air pollution.
Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS)	Species that have been released either deliberately or accidentally outside of their natural range, where they have become established and cause adverse ecological, environmental, or economic impacts.
L90 or LA90	Acoustic nomenclature indicating that the value is exceeded for 90% of the period of interest. This index is taken to be a good indicator of the background noise level remaining at a location in the absence of any easily identifiable sources.
Landscape/ Townscape and Visual Impact Assessment	<p>‘A tool used to identify and assess the likely significance of the effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape [townscape] as an environmental resource in its own right and on people’s views and visual amenity.’</p> <p>(Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (3rd edition) (GLVIA3) (Landscape Institute and Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, 2013)</p>
Landscape/Townscape Character Areas	‘These are single unique areas which are the discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape [townscape] type.’ (GLVIA3)

Term	Definition
Landscape/Townscape Character Types	'These are distinct types of landscape [townscape] that are relatively homogenous in character.' (GLVIA3)
L _{Ar} , Tr	The rating noise level is the sound pressure noise level produced by a sound source, plus any adjustment for the characteristic feature of the sound.
L _{Asmax}	A maximum noise level calculated or measured using the A-weighted slow response.
Level of Protection	The degree of safety measures implemented to protect workers and the environment during remediation activities, often categorised based on the potential hazards present.
Light goods vehicles (LGVs)	Vehicles used for the movement of goods of up to 3.5 tonnes.
L _{night}	The free-field noise level in the L _{Aeq} index from 23:00 to 07:00.
Local Biodiversity Action Plan	Local Biodiversity Action Plans identify local priorities for biodiversity conservation and work to deliver agreed actions and targets for specific habitats and species. Local Biodiversity Action Plans often regard priorities for biodiversity conservation within a local authority area.
Locally Listed Building or BTM	A locally designated heritage asset (also known as a 'Building of Townscape Merit' in LBR) is a building or structure which is not statutorily listed, but is recognised for its significance to the history and character of the local environment.
Local Nature Recovery Strategies (LNRS)	Strategies that propose how and where to recover nature and improve the wider environment across England, as defined by (accessed May 2025): Local nature recovery strategies - GOV.UK
Local Nature Reserve (LNR)	A site that is designated by the local authority under section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 for nature conservation, which has wildlife or geological features that are of special interest locally.
Local Wildlife Site (LWS)	Local Wildlife Sites are non-statutory designated sites that have been identified and selected for their 'substantive nature conservation value'.
London Highway Assignment Model (LoHAM)	A strategic model which represents the movement of motorised highway trips on London's road network and surrounding areas.
London Local Air Quality Management Technical Guidance	A framework for managing air quality in London, including technical aspects of pollution monitoring and management.
London Lorry Control Scheme (LLCS)	The mechanism used to control the movement of heavy goods vehicles above a maximum gross weight of 18 tonnes.

Term	Definition
Lowest observed adverse effect level (LOAEL)	The level above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected.
Made Ground	Artificial deposits or anthropogenic ground in which the material has been placed without engineering control and/or manufactured by in some way, such as through crushing or washing, or arising from an industrial process.
Major Road Network (MRN)	A-roads of the most economic importance that are managed by local authorities.
Materials	Substances and objects which will be used during any lifecycle stage of a development. Physical resources that are used across the lifecycle of a development, typically expected to be in solid form.
Mental health	A 'state in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community'. This definition clarifies the 'mental wellbeing' element within the WHO health definition (IEMA, 2022a).
National Adaptation Programme (NAP)	Report outlining the actions that government and other entities will take to adapt to the impacts of climate change. NAP3 (Defra, 2023a) outlines the actions between 2023 and 2028.
National Air Quality Objective	The national standard for air quality, designed to protect human health and the environment from harmful pollutants.
National Nature Reserves (NNR)	Land declared under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 or Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981).
National Policy Statement (NPS)	A national policy statement is a formal document outlining a government's policy for a specific area of national significance, like infrastructure development. It provides a framework for decisions regarding applications for development consent for projects falling within its scope.
National Policy Statement for Water Resources Infrastructure	A policy statement for nationally significant projects which provides a clear framework for the consideration of development consent applications for water infrastructure.
Nature Recovery Action Plan	A document that sets out the strategic actions and delivery plan to lead to nature recovery
Net zero carbon	Net zero carbon emissions describes circumstances where the amount of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases emitted by human activity is equal to the amount removed from the atmosphere.

Term	Definition
NH3	Ammonia, primarily generated from agricultural activities, but also emitted from road traffic, can harm sensitive ecological features in its gaseous state and also through its contribution to eutrophication (nitrogen deposition).
NO2	An air pollutant measured in respect of Defra's AQO for the protection of human health. Nitrogen dioxide is a gas that is mainly produced during the combustion of fossil fuels.
Noise important area (NIA)	Areas identified with respect to noise from major roads and from roads within agglomerations where the 1% of the population that are affected by the highest noise levels from major roads are located according to the results of the strategic noise mapping.
Noise sensitive receptor	Receptors which are potentially sensitive to noise, for example dwellings, hospitals, healthcare facilities, education facilities.
Non-diadromous	Non-diadromous fish do not migrate between freshwater and saltwater environments and spend their entire lifecycle within freshwater.
Non-Road Mobile Machinery	Mobile machinery that is used on construction sites, farms, and industrial sites, but is not operated on public roads.
No observed effect level (NOEL)	The noise level below which no effect can be detected.
Offsetting	Measures used to make up for unavoidable negative impacts on the environment. These offsets aim to achieve a 'no net loss' or even a 'net environmental gain' by implementing positive actions to ensure positive outcomes to the environment. This may be located outside of the Project site. Offsets can include activities like habitat restoration, creation of new habitats, or other conservation actions.
Otter holt	A 'holt' (or 'couch') refers to an otter's home or den. A holt is essentially a hole in the ground which is used by an otter for sleeping and resting.
Parch mark	A variation in the vegetation coverage, usually detected by aerial reconnaissance or use of satellite imagery, which may relate to differences in the underlying geology/soil, such as porosity or depth of overburden, and which can indicate the presence of buried archaeological features.
Particulate Matter (PM)	Airborne particulate matter is made up of a collection of solid and/or liquid materials of various sizes that range from a few nanometres in diameter (about the size of a virus) to around 100 micrometres (about the thickness of a human hair).
Pathway	The route by which changes to determinants of health lead to changes in health outcomes (IEMA, 2022a).

Term	Definition
Peak particle velocity (PPV)	PPV is defined as the maximum instantaneous positive or negative peak of the vibration signal. It is specified in millimetres per second (mm/s). It should be noted that the PPV refers to the movement within the ground of molecular particles and not surface movement.
Percentile	A number denoting the position of a data point within a numeric dataset by indicating the percentage of the dataset with a lesser value. For example, the 50th percentile has a value equal to or greater than 50% of the data points within the dataset.
PM10	Particulate matter with an aerodynamic diameter of 10 microns or less.
Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) is an executive agency of the UK government that deals with planning appeals, national infrastructure planning applications, and examinations of local plans in England, according to GOV.UK ¹ . They act on behalf of the Secretary of State, making decisions and recommendations on a range of planning-related matters, including everything from small household extensions to large infrastructure projects.
Planning Act 2008	Act of Parliament which, amongst other things, establishes the regime for the consenting of infrastructure projects ² (nationally significant infrastructure projects ³ (NSIPs)) and introduces National Policy Statements ⁴ (NPSs).
Population	Any group of people with shared characteristics. This could be the entire population of a defined area, or a population defined by relevant characteristics that make them more vulnerable to a proposal change, such as age or socioeconomic status (IEMA, 2022a).
Population health	This means the health outcomes of a group of individuals, including the distribution of such outcomes within the group (IEMA, 2022a).
Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA)	A rapid assessment of the ecological features present, or potentially present, within a site and its surrounding area.
Preliminary Environmental Information	Initial environmental data and assessments provided early in the Development Consent Order process to inform decision making.

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/planning-inspectorate>

² <https://www.lexisnexis.co.uk/legal/glossary/infrastructure>

³ <https://www.lexisnexis.co.uk/legal/glossary/nationally-significant-infrastructure-projects->

⁴ <https://www.lexisnexis.co.uk/legal/glossary/policy>

Term	Definition
Priority habitats	Priority habitats are the habitats of conservation priority which are listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.
Priority species	Priority species are species of conservation priority which are listed under Section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006
Protected and notable species	Species of plant and animal protected by legislation, and species of conservation importance such as priority species.
Public health	This is a theoretical and practical discipline in its own right and is the science and art that focuses on: population health, human systems and interventions intended to improve population health, and interactions between these two systems (IEMA, 2022a).
Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	Routes that the public have the legal right to pass and re-pass. This includes footpaths (for pedestrian use), bridleways (for pedestrian, cyclist and horse-rider use), restricted byways (any transport without a motor), and byways open to all traffic (any kind of transport, including cars).
Ramsar site	A wetland area designated under the Ramsar Convention 1971 for its international ecological importance, particularly for biodiversity conservation and the support of migratory bird species.
Recovery	Any operation which results in a waste serving a useful purpose by replacing materials which would otherwise have been used to fulfil that particular function. Recovery also includes waste being prepared to fulfil that particular function.
Recycled water	Final effluent that has been treated through enhanced treatment processes to remove further impurities to create recycled water.
Recycling	Any recovery operation where waste is reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for its original or other purposes. Recycling includes the reprocessing of organic material, but excludes energy recovery and the reprocessing of waste into materials to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.
Reduction	Where avoidance is not possible, then mitigation is used to lessen the magnitude of impact or significance of effects.
Refuges	Habitat features where an animal may take shelter.
Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites (RIGs)	Locally designated sites of local, national and regional importance for geodiversity (geology and geomorphology) in the UK

Term	Definition
Remediation	The process of removing, treating, or containing contamination from soil, groundwater, or surface water to reduce risks to human health and the environment.
Representative Concentration Pathways (RCP)	Climate change scenarios outlining the concentration of greenhouse gases into the future (up to 2100).
Reuse	Any operation by which products or components that are not waste are used again for the same purpose for which they were conceived.
Riparian mammals	Collective term for water vole and otter (for the purpose of this PEI Report).
Saproxyllic	Refers to organisms, particularly invertebrates, that are dependent on dead or decaying wood at some stage of their life cycle e.g. stag beetle.
Sett	A badger's home, usually consisting of a network of tunnels with multiple entrances.
Setting	The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.
Sewage treatment works	A facility designed to treat wastewater to remove contaminants before it is released back into the environment.
Significance	This relies on informed, expert judgement about what is important, desirable or acceptable for public health with regard to changes triggered by the proposal in question. The use of 'significance' in this guide is distinct from 'statistical significance'. Statistical significance is routinely used in scientific analysis to refer to whether the effects are real rather than chance occurrences, and is not necessarily a test of importance, desirability or acceptability (IEMA, 2022a).
Significance (heritage value)	The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. The interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting. For World Heritage Sites, the cultural value described within each site's Statement of Outstanding Universal Value forms part of its significance.
Significant health effect	An effect triggered by the project that is judged to be important for public health (a beneficial or adverse effect), highly desirable for public health (a beneficial effect) or unacceptable for public health (a adverse effect) (IEMA, 2022a).

Term	Definition
Significant observed adverse effect level (SOAEL)	The level of noise exposure above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur.
Site of Biological Importance (SBI)	In London, Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) (see the LWS entry above) are known as Sites of Biological Importance (SBI).
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)	In London, Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) (see the LWS entry above) are known as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	A site designated as being of special interest for its flora, fauna or geological or physiographical features and protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Special Areas of Conservation (SAC)	An area within the UK which has been identified as being important for a range of vulnerable habitats, plant and animal species within Europe and is designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	Sites within the UK designated under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 due to their international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds.
Special Sites	Areas designated under Part 2A of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 due to their complex contamination or significant environmental impact. These sites require specialised management and oversight.
Stakeholders	People or organisations from public, private and/or voluntary sectors and the communities or groups involved in, or affected by, a project (IEMA, 2022a).
Standard good practice (tertiary) mitigation	Standard good practice measures or actions to reduce impacts, regardless of the design process and EIA assessment. These include actions that will be undertaken to meet existing legislative requirements, and/or actions that are considered to be standard good practice used to manage commonly occurring environmental effects during the construction and operational phases. For example, root protection zones when working near trees and considerate contractors' practices that manage activities which have potential nuisance and environmental effects, such as the spillage of fuels, oils or other chemicals.
Standardised admissions ratio (SAR)	A method of calculating the rate of hospital admissions adjusting for the age structure of the population, so that any differences found are due to other factors, rather than simply due to difference in age structure. The ratio is compared to the rate for England (100%). An SAR of 125% would indicate a rate of admissions that was 25% higher than the rate for England as a whole.

Term	Definition
Standardised mortality ratio (SMR)	A method of calculating the rate of deaths in a population adjusting for the age structure of the population, so that any differences found are due to other factors, rather than simply due to difference in age structure. The ratio is compared to the rate for the population of England as a whole (i.e. the 'standardised' population, set at 100%). An SMR of 85% would indicate a death rate that was 25% lower than the rate for England as a whole.
Statutory Biodiversity Metric	The statutory biodiversity metric version 1.0.3. published by Defra, Accessed May 2025 ⁵ .
Statutory Biodiversity Metric User Guide	The statutory biodiversity metric user guide first published February 2024, last updated July 2024, published by Defra, accessed May 2025 ⁶ .
Strategic Road Network (SRN)	Motorways and major A-roads that are managed by National Highways.
Technical Annex 1 (of the Statutory Biodiversity Metric)	The technical annex that provides the habitat condition assessment sheets to inform the Statutory Biodiversity Metric version 1.0.3, accessed May 2025
Tertiary treatment plant	A water treatment facility that further purifies water following primary and secondary treatment stages.
Townscape	'The character and composition of the built environment including the buildings and the relationships between them, the different types of urban open space, including green spaces, and the relationship between buildings and open spaces.' (GLVIA3)
Tranquillity	'A state of calm and quietude associated with peace, considered to be a significant asset of landscape.' (GLVIA3)
Transport for London Road Network (TLRN)	The road network in London which is managed and maintained by Transport for London.
Tree Preservation Order (TPO)	An order made by local planning authorities in England to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity.
Tunnel boring machine	A machine used to excavate tunnels through rock and soil.

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https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fassets.publishing.service.gov.uk%2Fmedia%2F669e4698ab418ab055592a24%2FThe_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_Calculation_Tool_-_Macro_disabled_tool_23.07.2024.xlsx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK

⁶ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/669e45fba3c2a28abb50d426/The_Statutory_Biodiversity_Metric_-_User_Guide__23.07.24_.pdf

Term	Definition
UK Eutrophying and Acidifying Atmospheric Pollutants	A category of pollutants that contribute to nutrient enrichment and acidification of ecosystems.
Unacceptable Adverse Effect Level (UAEL)	A level which noise should be prevented from reaching.
Veteran tree	A tree that by recognised criteria shows features of biological, cultural or aesthetic value that are characteristic of, but not exclusive to, individuals surviving beyond the typical age range for the species concerned.
Vibration dose value (VDV)	A measurement of human exposure to vibration in buildings over a period of time that takes account of magnitude and frequency of the vibration.
Volume over Capacity Ratio (VCR)	A measure of the traffic flow on a given road link against its designed total vehicle capacity.
Vulnerable groups or sub-populations	Sensitive to changes in health determinant in a given context. Can include groups such as ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, people who are homeless, people living in poverty, those struggling with addiction and substance abuse, and isolated older people (IEMA, 2022a).
Waste	Any substance or object which the holder disposes of or is required to dispose of pursuant to the provisions of national law in force.
Waste hierarchy	The rank of waste management options according to what is best for the environment, as set out in Regulation 12 of the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011. It gives top priority to waste prevention in the first place. When waste is created, it gives priority to preparing it for reuse, then recycling, then recovery (including energy recovery), and last of all disposal (e.g. landfill).
Wastewater	Wastewater is defined as ‘a combination of one or more of: domestic effluent consisting of blackwater (excreta, urine and faecal sludge) and greywater (kitchen and bathing wastewater); water from commercial establishments and institutions, including hospitals; industrial effluent, stormwater and other urban runoff; agricultural, horticultural and aquaculture effluent, either dissolved or as suspended matter’ (Corcoran et al. 2010)
Water Framework Directive (WFD)	The Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC) is an EU directive which was transposed into law in England and Wales by the Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations 2017 (‘the WFD Regulations’.) and prevent any deterioration to these waterbodies. It has introduced a comprehensive River Basin Management Plan system to protect and improve the

Term	Definition
	ecological quality of the water environment. It is underpinned by published environmental standards.
Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP)	Regulatory requirement that sets out how water companies intend to achieve a secure supply of water for their customers and protect and enhance the environment.
Water Resources South East (WRSE)	This is an alliance of the six water companies that supply drinking water across South East England – Affinity Water, Portsmouth Water, SES Water, South East Water, Southern Water and Thames Water. It is one of the five regional groups across England, each of which is preparing a strategic water resource plan for its region.
Water treatment works	A facility where water is treated to remove contaminants and ensure it meets drinking water standards.
Well-being	Wellbeing is multi-dimensional and incorporates each, and all, of the following: material living standards (income, consumption and wealth); health; education; personal activities including work; political voice and governance; social connections and relationships; environment (present and future conditions); and insecurity, of an economic as well as a physical nature. It is subjective and is typically measured by self-reporting (IEMA, 2022a).
Wider determinants of health	Biological, behavioural, socioeconomic, cultural or environmental factors which contribute to the health status of individuals or populations (IEMA, 2022a).
Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)	A formal method statement outlining a programme of archaeological work that forms a measurable standard against which that work is undertaken. Usually, the WSI is prepared by an appointed archaeological contractor and approval of the document is provided by the relevant planning authority.
Zone of influence	The study area for intra- and inter-project cumulative effects where one or more aspects and other developments may interact.
1 in 200-year drought	A 1 in 200-year drought, in the context of water resource planning, refers to a drought event with a historical return period of approximately 200 years. This means that such a drought event, defined by specific criteria like duration, severity, and geographic spread, is expected to occur, on average, once every 200 years.

