

GLOSSARY

Alternative Options	Different design possibilities considered during project development that have potential to fulfill the Project objectives.
Assessment	A process by which information about effects of a proposed plan, project or intervention is collected, assessed and used to inform decision-making.
Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP)	A plan to conserve or enhance biodiversity. More specifically, a BAP can be defined as a set of future actions that will lead to the conservation or enhancement of biodiversity.
Baseline Conditions	The environment as it appears (or would appear) immediately prior to the implementation of the project together with any foreseeable future changes that will take place before completion of the project.
Buffer Zone	An area of land separating certain types of development from adjoining sensitive land uses.
Contaminant	Any substance present at a concentration above that found naturally. Contaminants do not necessarily cause harm if the degree of the contamination is not significant.
Competent Authority	Those which the member states designate as responsible for performing the duties arising from the Directive.
Cumulative Impact	Impacts that develop from incremental effects caused both past, present or reasonably foreseeable actions with the project.
Decision makers	In Scotland this is the ultimately Scottish Ministers.

Design and Access Statements			A written statement that accompanies all planning applications explaining how design and access has been assessed for the proposed Project. The statement includes illustrative materials, layouts, maps etc.
Detailed Assessment			Method applied to gain an in-depth appreciation of the beneficial and adverse consequences of the Project and to inform project decisions. Detailed assessment is likely to require field surveys and/or qualified modeling techniques.
Designer			The organisation commissioned to undertake the various stages of the scheme preparation and supervision of construction. This includes specialists, sub-consultants brought in to advice on specific area of assessment and mitigation.
Developer			The applicant for authorisation for a private Project or the Public Authority which initiates the Project.
Environmental Directive	Impact Assessment		EC Directive 85/377/EEC as amended by EC Directive 97/11/EC and the Public Participation Directive 2003/35/EC.
Environmental Regulations	Impact Assessment		A collective name for the various statutory instruments through which the EC Council Directive on Environmental Assessment (Directive 85/377/EEC as amended by Directive 97/11/EC) and the Public Participation Directive.
Effect			Term used to express the consequences of an impact (expressed as the "significance of the effect"), which is determined by correlating the magnitude of the impact to the importance, or sensitivity, of the receptor or resource in accordance with defined significance criteria.

Environmental Assessment

A method and process by which information about environmental effects is collected, assessed and used to inform decision making. Assessment processes including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Assessment of Implications on European sites and environmental impact assessment.

Environmental Impact Assessment

A statutory process by which certain planned projects must be assessed before a formal decision to proceed can be made. Involves the collation and consideration of environmental information, which fulfills the assessment requirements of Directive 85/377/EEC (as amended), including the publication of an Environmental Statement.

Environmental Management Plan

Developed prior to any works commencing on site, the primary purpose of the Environmental Management Plan is to guide environmental management of implementation of the project as required by the Developer.

Environmental Statement

A document in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment Directive as transposed into UK law by the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.

Essential Mitigation

Mitigation which the Developer has the statutory power to achieve.

Evaluation

Part of the determination of the significance of effects. Evaluation involves making judgments as to the value of the receptor/resource that is being affected.

Flood Risk Assessment	An factual assessment of flood risk to a propose development based on existing available statistical information. Flood Risk is a material planning consideration.
Impact	An action which causes a change for example land clearing (impact) during construction which results in habitat loss (effect).
Mitigation	Measures intended to avoid, reduce and where possible, remedy significant adverse environmental effects.
Monitoring	A continuing assessment of the performance of the project, including mitigation measures. This determines if effects occur as predicted or if operations remain within acceptable limits, and if mitigation measures are as effective as predicted.
Non-Technical Summary (NTS)	Information for the non-specialist reader to enable them to understand the main environmental effects of the proposal without reference to the Environmental Statement.
Operational	The functioning of a project on completion of construction.
Plan	A document setting out the intention or intentions of the Developer.
Prefered Option	The chosen design option that most successfully achieves the project objectives and becomes subject to further design and assessment.
Programme	A series of steps that have been identified by the Developer or a series of projects that are linked by dependency.
Project	One or more aspects of a programme or plan that has been identified by the Developer to be progressed as an

	<p>independent proposal. The objectives of the project, set by the Developer and including those set out in the Project brief.</p>
Receptor	<p>A defined environmental feature usually associated with ecology, soil, water, air, climatic factors, landscape, and material assets, including the architectural and archeological heritage that has potential to be affected by a project.</p>
Scoping	<p>The process of identifying the issues to be addressed by the Environmental Impact Assessment process. It is a method of ensuring that an assessment focuses on the important issues and avoids those that are deemed to be not significant.</p>
Screening	<p>The formal process undertaken to determine whether it is necessary to carry out a statutory Environmental Impact Assessment and publish an Environmental Statement.</p>
Significance of Effects	<p>A measure of the importance or gravity of the environmental effects, defined by significance criteria often specific to the environmental topic.</p>
Statutory Consultee	<p>Organisations that the relevant determining authority is required to consult by virtue of the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.</p>
Study Area	<p>The spatial area within which the environmental effects are assessed (i.e. extending a distance from the project footprint in which significant environmental effects are anticipated to occur). This may vary between topic areas.</p>
Sustainable Development	<p>The overarching aim throughout the world to satisfy people's basic needs and enjoy a better life without</p>

compromising the quality of life and resources for future generations.

