

A358 Taunton to Southfields Dualling Scheme

Preliminary Environmental Information Report - Chapter 18
Glossary

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Table 18-1 Glossary table

Glossary term	Description
Abnormal load routes	Over the years a network of routes for heavy and high loads has been maintained by the Government department responsible for the trunk road network. Highways England currently maintains a system called ESDAL (Electronic Service Delivery for Abnormal Loads) for management of heavy and high loads in England.
Above ordnance datum (AOD)	Above ordnance datum (AOD) is a vertical measurement used by ordnance survey as the basis for deriving altitudes on maps, usually by comparison with the mean sea level.
Accurate Visual Representations (AVR)	A static or moving image which shows the location of a proposed development as accurately as possible; it may also illustrate the degree to which the development will be visible, its detailed form or the proposed use of materials. AVRs are produced by accurately combining images of the proposed building with a representation of its context.
Adverse (environmental) effect	A detrimental or negative effect to an environmental resource or receptor.
Affected Road Network (ARN)	Defined in Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) LA 105 – <i>Air Quality</i> [1] as those roads within the traffic reliability area which in the proposed scheme opening year meet specific criteria set out in the DMRB LA 105.
Air Quality Management Area (AQMA)	An Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) is declared for an area where the local air quality is unlikely to meet the Government's national air quality objectives.
Air Quality Plan	Documents setting out the UK's plan for reducing roadside nitrogen dioxide (NO ₂) concentrations.
Ambient noise	The totally encompassing sound in a given situation at a given time, usually composed of a sound from many sources both distant and near (LA _{F_{eq,T}}).
Amenity	A pleasant or advantageous aspect of the environment.
Annual average daily traffic (AADT)	Annual average daily traffic (AADT) is the total volume of vehicle traffic on a highway or road for a year divided by 365 days.
Aquifer	An aquifer is an underground layer of water-bearing permeable rock, rock fractures or unconsolidated materials (gravel, sand, or silt).
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is land protected by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 [2] (CROW Act). It protects the land designated to conserve and enhance its natural beauty.
Artificial ground	Artificial ground is a term used by the BGS for those areas where the ground surface has been significantly modified by human activity and includes areas of made ground, worked ground, landscaped and infilled ground.
Baseline	A description of the current state of the environment without implementation of the project.
Beneficial (environmental) effect	An advantageous or positive effect to an environmental resource or receptor.
Biodiversity	The diversity, or variety of plants and animals and other living things in a particular area of region. It encompasses landscape diversity, ecosystem diversity, species diversity and genetic diversity.
Biodiversity action plan (BAP)	A biodiversity action plan (BAP) is an internationally recognised program addressing threatened species and habitats and is designed to protect and

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	restore biological systems. BAPs can be implemented at the local, regional and national scales.
Biodiversity net gain (BNG) / loss	Biodiversity net gain is an approach to development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before. A negative BNG score shows a net loss of biodiversity (i.e. development that leaves biodiversity in a worse state than before).
Bund	A barrier, dam or earth mound used to contain or exclude water (or other liquids), or to provide noise attenuation. Can either refer to a bund made from earthworks material, sand, etc. or a metal/concrete structure surrounding, for example, a fuel tank.
Carbon	Carbon is used as short hand to refer to the basket of six greenhouse gases (GHGs) recognised under the Kyoto Protocol. GHGs are converted to carbon dioxide equivalents (CO ₂ e) based on their global warming potential per unit as compared to one unit of carbon dioxide (CO ₂).
Carbon dioxide (CO ₂)	Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) is a naturally occurring gas comprising 0.04% of the atmosphere. The burning of fossil fuels releases carbon dioxide fixed by plants many millions of years ago, and this has increased its concentration in the atmosphere by some 12% over the past century. It contributes about 60 per cent of the potential global warming effect of manmade emissions of greenhouse gases.
Chainage (Ch)	The term 'chainage' is used in surveying to refer to a distance measured in metres along a line, such as the centre line of a road.
Circular Economy	A circular economy is an economic model designed to minimise resource input, as well as waste and emission production. Circular economy aims to reach the maximum efficiency in the use of finite resources, the gradual transition to renewable resources, and recovery of the materials and products at the end of their useful life.
Climate	The composite or generally prevailing weather conditions of a region, as temperature, air pressure, humidity, precipitation, sunshine, cloudiness, and winds, throughout the year, averaged over a series of years.
Climate change	A change in global or regional climate patterns.
Climate change adaptation	Adaptation refers to adjustments in ecological, social, or economic systems in response to actual or expected climatic stimuli and their effects or impacts. It refers to changes in processes, practices, and structures to moderate potential damages or to benefit from opportunities associated with climate change.
Climate change allowance	<p>Climate change allowances are predictions of anticipated change for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • peak river flow • peak rainfall intensity • sea level rise • offshore wind speed and extreme wave height <p>The Environment Agency has provided guidance [3] on how to incorporate climate change allowances into flood risk assessments.</p>
Climate change resilience	Climate resilience is the ability to anticipate, prepare for, and respond to hazardous events, trends, or disturbances related to climate change.
Conservation	Conservation is the care and protection of resources (in this case natural resources; e.g. flora or fauna) so that they can persist for future generations.
Consultation Report	<p>The Consultation Report is a report giving details of the consultation activity carried out by the A358 at the Pre-Application stage, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what has been done to comply with the Planning Act 2008, including, s42 (consultation with prescribed consultees), s47 (consultation with the community), and s48 (publicity) • details of any relevant responses

Glossary term	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> the account taken of any relevant responses during the preparation of the application
Controlled waters	<p>These are fully defined in section 104 of the Water Resources Act 1991 [4]. Controlled waters include, in summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> relevant territorial waters which extend seaward for three miles from the low-tide limit from which the territorial sea adjacent to England and Wales is measured coastal waters from the low-tide limit to the high-tide limit or fresh-water limit of a river or watercourse inland freshwaters: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> natural and artificial lakes, ponds, reservoirs, rivers or watercourses above the fresh-water limit natural and artificial underground rivers and watercourses surface water sewers, ditches and soakaways that discharge to surface or groundwater it also includes those that may be currently dry groundwaters – any waters contained in underground strata.
Cultural heritage resource	<p>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. [5]</p>
Cumulative effects	<p>Impacts that result from incremental changes caused by other present or reasonably foreseeable actions together with the project.</p> <p>NOTE: For the purpose of this guidance, a cumulative impact can arise as the result of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> combined impact of a number of different environmental factors-specific impacts from a single project on a single receptor/resource combined impact of a number of different projects within the vicinity (in combination with the environmental impact assessment project) on a single receptor/resource
Decibel (dB)	<p>A scale for comparing the ratios of two quantities, including sound pressure and sound power. The difference in level between two sounds s_1 and s_2 is given by $20 \log_{10} (s_1 / s_2)$. The decibel can also be used to measure absolute quantities by specifying a reference value that fixes one point on the scale. For sound pressure, the reference value is $20\mu\text{Pa}$.</p>
Definitive Map (PC)	<p>A definitive map is a map prepared by a surveying authority which is a legal record of the public's rights of way in one of four categories (footpath, bridleway, restricted byway or byway open to all traffic). If a way is shown on the map, then that is legal, or conclusive, evidence that the public had those rights along the way at the relevant date of the map (and has them still, unless there has been a legally authorised change). But the reverse is not true. So the showing of a way as a footpath does not prove that there are not, for example, additional unrecorded rights for horse-riders to use the way. Nor is the fact that a way is omitted from the definitive map proof that the public has no rights over it [6].</p>
Department for Environment and Rural Affairs (Defra)	<p>UK government department responsible for safeguarding the natural environment, supporting the food and farming industry, and sustaining a thriving rural economy.</p>
Design fix 1 (DF1)	<p>The initial design fix that forms the basis of the initial red line boundary and issued to prepare the Environmental Scoping Report. Other works such as land referencing and cost estimates also commence following DF1.</p>
Design fix 2 (DF2)	<p>The design freeze to form the red line boundary, preliminary design, and the PEI Report that will be used for the statutory consultation.</p>

Glossary term	Description
Design fix 3 (DF3)	The design freeze that incorporates changes from the public consultation. It will allow the final red line boundary to be drawn and form the basis of DCO application and the ES.
Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB)	The Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) [7] contains information about current standards relating to the design, assessment and operation of motorway and all-purpose trunk roads in the UK.
Design speed	The design speed is a criterion used to determine geometric features of a new road design based on the anticipated vehicle speeds on the road.
Designated Environmentally Sensitive Sites	The Environmentally Sensitive Areas were introduced in 1987 to offer incentives to encourage farmers to adopt agricultural practices which would safeguard and enhance parts of the country of particularly high landscape, wildlife or historic value. The proposed scheme has now closed to new applicants. Defra introduced a new Environmental Stewardship Scheme on 3 March 2005 which supersedes (with enhancements) the Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Countryside Stewardship Schemes. There are 22 ESAs in England, covering some 10% of agricultural land [8].
Designated heritage resource	World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefield or Conservation Area designed under relevant legislation. [9]
Designer	The organisation commissioned to undertake the various stages of proposed scheme preparation and supervision of construction. This includes specialist subconsultants brought in to advise on specific areas of assessment and mitigation.
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 Assessments are likely to require detailed field surveys and/or quantified modelling techniques.
Development Consent Order (DCO)	A Development Consent Order (DCO) is the means of obtaining permission for developments categorised as Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. This includes energy, transport, water and waste projects.
Do-Minimum (DM)	<p>The 'Do-Minimum' forecast scenario in the Opening/Design Year is the base road and traffic network against which alternative improvements can be assessed. In many cases, the definition of the 'Do-Minimum' is straight forward; it is simply the 'Do-Nothing' scenario. However, one or more of the following four cases may arise, in which the 'Do-Minimum' differs from the 'Do-Nothing':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The case where works will be carried out regardless of whether or not the 'Do-Something' proposed scheme is built. • The case where the existing network may be improved to form a 'Do-Minimum' proposed scheme which can be tested as an alternative to carrying out major Do-Something improvements. • The case where traffic conditions can be improved without significant capital expenditure. • The case where the area covered by the modelled network includes road proposals other than the one under immediate consideration.
Do-Nothing (DN)	The 'Do-Nothing' forecasting scenario is simply the existing network without modification in the Opening/Design Year.
Do-Something (DS)	The 'Do-Something' forecast scenario is the road proposal under consideration in the Opening/Design Year.
Drainage basin	A drainage basin is any area of land where precipitation collects and drains off into a common outlet, such as into a river, bay, or other body of water. The drainage basin includes all the surface water from rain runoff, snowmelt, hail, sleet and nearby streams that run downslope towards the shared outlet, as well as the groundwater underneath the earth's surface.

Glossary term	Description
Ecological resources	The term ecological resources means all flora and fauna and the habitats that support them, excluding such biota as pets, livestock, and agricultural and horticultural crops.
Effect	Term used to express the result/consequence of an impact (expressed as the 'significance of effect').
Effluent discharge	Effluent discharge is liquid waste, other than waste from kitchens or toilets, surface water or domestic sewage.
EIA	See ' <i>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</i> '.
EIA Quality Mark	The EIA Quality Mark is a stamp of quality awarded by IEMA to successful registrants. It is based around a set of commitments, which registrants agree to comply with. The Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) operates the EIA Quality Mark and undertakes an independent review of an organisation's compliance with its EIA commitments both during the application process and once registered through an annual review process.
EIA Regulations	The <i>Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (EIA) Regulations 2017</i> (SI 2017/572) [10], which requires an Environmental Statement (ES) to be submitted with the DCO application that presents an assessment of the likely significant environmental impacts arising from the proposed scheme.
EIA Scoping	The process of considering the information required for reaching a (reasoned) conclusion on the likely significant effects of a project on the environment.
EIA Scoping Opinion	A written opinion of the relevant consenting authority, following a request from the applicant, as to the information to be provided in the Environmental Statement.
Embedded mitigation	Design measures which are integrated into a project for the purpose of minimising and/or preventing adverse environmental effects.
Emission	A material that is expelled or released to the environment. Usually applied to gaseous or odorous discharges to the atmosphere.
Enhancement	A measure that is over and above what is required to mitigate the adverse effects of a project.
Environment Agency	The Environment Agency is responsible for environmental protection and regulation in England and plays a central role in implementing the government's environmental strategy. The Environment Agency is the main body responsible for managing the regulation of major industry and waste, treatment of contaminated land, water quality and resources, fisheries, inland river, estuary and harbour navigations, and conservation and ecology. They are also responsible for managing the risk of flooding from main rivers, reservoirs, estuaries and the sea.
Environment Agency Recorded Pollution Incidents	A record of pollution incidents to water, land and air held by the Environment Agency.
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)	DMRB LA101 – Introduction to environmental assessment [11] defines EIA as: <i>"Statutory process consisting of:</i> 1) <i>preparation of an Environmental Statement;</i> 2) <i>consultation;</i> 3) <i>examination by the competent authority of the information contained within the Environmental Statement;</i> 4) <i>the reasoned (justified or evidenced) conclusion by the competent authority on the significant effects of the project on the environment; and</i> 5) <i>the reasoned (justified or evidenced) decision by the competent authority to grant or refuse development consent"</i>

Glossary term	Description
Environmental Management Plan (EMP)	An Environmental Management Plan (EMP) provides the framework for recording environmental risks, commitments and other environmental constraints and clearly identifies the structures and processes that will be used to manage and control these aspects. The EMP also seeks to ensure compliance with relevant environmental legislation, government policy objectives and scheme specific environmental objectives. It also provides the mechanism for monitoring, reviewing and auditing environmental performance and compliance.
Environmental Masterplan	An EMP at outline stage which will later be refined and expanded into a full EMP as more information becomes available and there is more certainty in terms of the proposed layout, construction methods, programme and the likely environmental effects.
Environmental Statement (ES)	A statutory report produced by the developer including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) a description of the project 2) a description of the likely significant effects of the project on the environment 3) a description of the features of the project and/or measures envisaged in order to avoid, prevent or reduce and, if possible, offset likely significant adverse effects on the environment 4) a description of the reasonable alternatives 5) a non-technical summary 6) any additional information relevant to the characteristics of a project
Essential mitigation	Mitigation critical for the delivery of a project which can be acquired through statutory powers.
European [designated] site (or Natura 2000 site)	The term 'European site' is being used in the UK to refer to what were previously known as 'Natura' sites. This recognises that Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) protect species and habitats shared across Europe and were originally designated under European legislation. In the UK, Ramsar sites are also included in this designation.
Fisheries	A place where fish are reared for commercial purposes.
Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)	An assessment of the likelihood of flooding in a particular area so that development needs and mitigation measures can be carefully considered.
Flood Zone	Flood Zone definitions are set out in the national Planning Policy Guidance (PPG): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Zone 1 – land assessed as having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding (<0.1%). • Flood Zone 2 – land assessed as having between a 1 in 100 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding (1% – 0.1%), or between a 1 in 200 and 1 in 1,000 annual probability of sea flooding (0.5% – 0.1%) in any year. • Flood Zone 3 – land assessed as having a 1 in 100 or greater annual probability of river flooding (>1%), or a 1 in 200 or greater annual probability of flooding from the sea (>0.5%) in any year.
Floodplain	An area of low-lying ground adjacent to a river, formed mainly of river sediments and subject to flooding.
Future baseline scenario	An outline of the likely evolution of the current state of the environment without implementation of the project.
Geopark	A geopark is a unified area that advances the protection and use of geological heritage in a sustainable way and promotes the economic well-being of the people who live there. There are global geoparks and national geoparks.
Grade I Listed Building	A listed building that is of exceptional interest.

Glossary term	Description
Grade II Listed Building	A listed building that is of special interest.
Grade II* Listed Building	A listed building that is of particular importance and of more than special interest.
Greenhouse gas (GHG)	A gas that contributes to the greenhouse effect by absorbing infrared radiation. Carbon dioxide (CO ₂) and chlorofluorocarbons are examples of greenhouse gases (GHG).
Ground borne noise	Audible noise caused by the vibration of elements of a structure, for which the vibration propagation path from the source is partially or wholly through the ground.
Groundwater	Groundwater is the water present beneath Earth's surface in rock and soil pore spaces and in the fractures of rock formations.
Groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE)	Groundwater dependent terrestrial ecosystems (GWDTE) are wetlands such as springs, flushes and fens which are fed by groundwater rather than rainfall or surface runoff. They are particularly sensitive to hydrological and ecological changes caused by development.
H++	High-end climate change scenarios which are typically extreme climate change scenarios on the margins or outside of the 10th to 90th percentile range presented in the 2009 UK climate change projections (UKCP09). For example, an estimate of sea level rise and river flood flow change beyond the likely range but within physical plausibility.
Hard standing	Ground improvement by the use of compacted stone or other materials which facilitates increased surface loading from vehicles or other plant.
Hazardous waste	Waste which displays one or more of the hazardous properties listed in Annex III of the Waste Framework Directive.
Heavy Duty Vehicles (HDV)	As HGVs with the inclusion of buses and coaches.
Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV)	Vehicles over 3.5 tonnes and includes rigid and articulate lorries.
Heritage Asset	A building, area or scene which makes a positive contribution of special architectural, historic or environmental interest.
Historic England	The public body that looks after England's historic environment. Championing historic places and helping people understand their value and care for them.
Hydromorphology	Hydromorphology considers the physical character and water content of water bodies. Good hydromorphological conditions support aquatic ecosystems (i.e. hydromorphological elements such as water flow and substrate provide physical habitat for biota such as fish, invertebrates and aquatic macrophytes).
Impact	The change or action. Either beneficial or adverse.
Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA)	The Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) is the professional body for everyone working, studying or interested in environment and sustainability. They provide resources, tools, knowledge and research sharing to meet the real world needs of our members.
In-situ	In the natural, original or appropriate position.
Inert materials	Inert material is material which is neither chemically or biologically reactive and will not decompose. Examples of this are sand, drywall, and concrete. This has particular relevance to landfills as inert materials typically require lower disposal fees than biodegradable waste or hazardous waste.
Internal Drainage Board (IDB)	Each internal drainage board (IDB) is a public body that manage water levels in an area, known as an internal drainage district, where there is a special need for drainage. IDBs undertake works to reduce flood risk to people and property, and manage water levels for agricultural and environmental needs within their district.

Glossary term	Description
Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA)	Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) are county councils and unitary authorities. They lead in managing local flood risks (i.e. risks of flooding from surface water, ground water and ordinary (smaller) watercourses).
Limits of deviation (LOD)	Limits of Deviation (LOD) are the limits within which the draft DCO will authorise the A358 to be constructed.
Listed building	A building which is considered by the Secretary of State (for Culture, Media and Sport) to be of special architectural or historic interest in accordance with the regime set out in The Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 [12].
Local authorities	An administrative body in local government. The proposed scheme is situated within three authority boundaries: Somerset County Council (SCC); South Somerset District Council (SSDC); and Somerset West and Taunton Council (SWTC).
Local Authority Pollution Prevention Controls	<p>Local authorities who regulate businesses are usually district or borough councils. If an area has only one council (a unitary council) then that's the regulator. The Port Health Authority may be the regulator in port areas.</p> <p>This guidance helps local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • follow statutory guidance under regulation 64 of the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016 [13] (EPR) • understand the EPR's main functions, procedures and terminology [14]
Local Development Framework	A local development framework is the spatial planning strategy introduced in England (and Wales) by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 [15] and given detail in Planning Policy Statements. Maintaining the framework is primarily the responsibility of local councils.
Locally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (LGS)	Locally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (LGS) exhibit important geological and geomorphological features and range from sarsen stones, rock outcrops to geological faces in active quarries.
Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL)	This the level of noise above which adverse effects on health and quality of life can be detected.
Made ground	An area of land that has been man-made, generally through the reclamation of marshes, lakes, or shorelines. An artificial fill is used, consisting of materials, refuse, etc.
Main river	Main rivers are usually larger rivers and streams. The Environment Agency carries out maintenance, improvement or construction work on main rivers to manage flood risk.
Material resources	Material resources include primary raw materials, such as aggregates and minerals, and manufactured construction products which include recycled and secondary aggregates. Many material resources originate offsite, purchased as construction products, and some arise onsite such as excavated soils or recycled road planings.
Materials Management Plan (MMP)	A Materials Management Plan (MMP) is a mechanism by which those who are developing a site can comply with Environment Agency regulations for excavated ground materials.
Mitigation measure	Measure aiming at preventing/reducing an adverse environmental effect.
National Air Quality Strategy (NAQS)	<p>The Air Quality Strategy intends to provide a clear framework for improving air quality through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a clear and simple policy framework • realistic but challenging objectives • regulation and financial incentives to help achieve the objectives • analysis of costs and benefits

Glossary term	Description
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • monitoring and research to increase our understanding • information to raise public awareness <p>The Air Quality Strategy proposals aim to protect health and the environment without imposing unacceptable economic or social costs. They form an essential part of the Government's strategy for sustainable development, which has four main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • social progress which meets the needs of everyone • effective protection of the environment • prudent use of natural resources • maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment
National Character Area (NCA)	A National Character Area (NCA) is a natural subdivision of England based on a combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and economic activity; defined by Natural England. There are 159 National Character Areas and they follow natural, rather than administrative, boundaries.
National Cycle Network (NCN)	The National Cycle Network (NCN) is a series of safe, traffic-free paths and quiet on-road cycling and walking routes that connect to every major town and city.
National Parks (NP)	Protected areas because of their beautiful countryside, wildlife and cultural heritage.
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)	The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's planning policies for England, replacing the previous system of topic-specific Planning Policy Guidance Notes (PPG) and Planning Policy Statements (PPS).
National Policy Statement for National Networks (NPSNN)	The <i>National Policy Statement for National Networks</i> (NPSNN) sets out the need for, and government's policies to deliver development of, NSIPs on the national road network in England and sets out the primary basis for making decisions of development consent for NSIPs in England.
National Policy Statements (NPS)	National Policy Statements (NPS) are of primary importance to the decision-making process when DCO applications are being examined. Section 104 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) [16] states that: <i>"(2) In deciding the application the Secretary of State must have regard to –</i> <i>(a) any national policy statement which has effect in relation to development of the description to which the application relates (a "relevant national policy statement") ...</i> <i>(3) The Secretary of State must decide the application in accordance with any relevant national policy statement, except to the extent that one or more of subsections (4) to (8) applies."</i>
National Pond Survey	This is a national scheme to develop a classification of ponds in Britain based on the composition of their plant and macroinvertebrate communities.
Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP)	Any infrastructure project that is deemed, according to the criteria set in the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) to be nationally significant. Such projects are authorised through a statutory process that requires an application for a DCO, rather than a conventional planning application or the traditional model through the publication of Statutory Orders and the holding of Public Inquiries.
Natura site (or 'European site')	The term 'European site' is being used to refer to what were previously known as 'Natura' sites. This recognises that Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) protect species and habitats shared across Europe and were originally designated under European legislation.
Natural England	Natural England are responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • helping land managers and farmers protect wildlife and landscapes • advising on the protection of the marine environment in inshore waters (0 to 12 nautical miles) • improving public access to the coastline

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • managing 140 National Nature Reserves and supporting National Trails • providing planning advice and wildlife licences through the planning system • managing programmes that help restore or recreate wildlife habitats • conserving and enhancing the landscape • providing evidence to help make decisions affecting the natural environment
Nature Conservancy	The Nature Conservancy is the leading conservation organisation working around the world to protect ecologically important lands and waters for nature and people.
Nearside	Represents the left side of a road vehicle.
Noise Important Areas (NIA)	These areas provide a framework for the local management of the Noise Important Areas (NIA).
Non-hazardous waste	Waste that is not covered under Article 2 (c) of the Landfill Directive (1999/31/EC) [17], i.e. neither classed as hazardous nor as inert.
Non-statutory consultee	Non-statutory consultees are organisations and bodies (e.g. National Trust), identified in national planning policy, who should be consulted on relevant applications.
NOx	Oxides of Nitrogen – which encompasses all nitrogen species although mainly NO and NO ₂ .
Offside	Represents the right side of a road vehicle.
Ordinary watercourse	An ordinary watercourse is a watercourse that is not part of a main river. It includes rivers, streams, land and roadside ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dykes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act 1991 [18]) and passages, through which water flows.
Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (oCEMP)	A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) at outline stage which will later be refined and expanded into a full CEMP as more information becomes available and there is more certainty in terms of the proposed layout, construction methods, programme and the likely environmental effects.
Paris Agreement (Climate)	The Paris Agreement, Paris climate accord or Paris climate agreement, is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) dealing with greenhouse gas emissions mitigation, adaptation and finance starting in the year 2020.
Parish Council	A parish council is a civil local authority found in England and is the lowest tier of local government. They are elected corporate bodies, have variable tax raising powers, and are responsible for areas known as civil parishes, serving in total 16 million people.
PCF (Project Control Framework) Stages	<p>The PCF, as defined by Highways England, provides a defined lifecycle with a clear start and end point, broken into phases and stages structured around key milestones. PCF Stages comprise:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCF Stage 0 – Strategy, shaping and prioritisation • PCF Stage 1 – Option identification • PCF Stage 2 – Option selection • PCF Stage 3 – Preliminary design • PCF Stage 4 – Statutory procedures and powers • PCF Stage 5 – Construction preparation • PCF Stage 6 – Construction, commissioning and handover • PCF Stage 7 – Closeout

Glossary term	Description
Peat	A build-up of organic material in waterlogged areas, producing marshes, fens, mires, blanket and raised bogs. Accumulation is due to inhibited decay in anaerobic conditions.
Planning Inspectorate (PINS)	On 1 April 2012, under the Localism Act 2011 [19], the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) became the agency responsible for operating the planning process for nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIP).
Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)	A web-based resource that came into force in 2014 and is periodically updated. It seeks to consolidate existing technical guidance into a consolidated online format and provides further detail on the policies contained within the NPPF.
PM ₁₀	Particulate matter with a diameter of 10 microns (μ) or less.
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns (μ) or less.
Pollutant	A substance that pollutes something, especially water or the atmosphere.
Pollution pathway	The pollution pathway determines how pollution travels from the pollution source to a receptor.
Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPG)	Practical advice and guidance for the prevention of pollution during construction and demolition projects. The guidance explains what is required by law and describes good practice measures to reduce the risks of a pollution incident. The guidance was withdrawn in 2015.
Potable water	Water that is safe to drink/consume.
Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report	The PEI Report (this document) has been prepared in compliance with the EIA Regulations to enable the local community, any other interested person and stakeholders to understand the environmental effects of the proposed scheme and enable an informed response to the consultation. The document sets out how each environmental topic area is being assessed, the potential environmental effects of the proposed scheme based on the information available at the time, and measures proposed to avoid or reduce such effects. This is to support consultees in developing an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the proposed scheme, and allow them to provide additional information for inclusion in the EIA.
Proposed scheme	The proposed upgrade of the A358 to dual carriageway between Southfields Roundabout on the A303 and the M5 at Taunton (as described in PEI Report Chapter 2).
Protected species	Fauna and flora that is legally protected by environmental regulations. This covers (but is not limited to) disturbance, killing or displacement of individuals.
Public Rights of Way (PRoW)	A way over which the public have a right to pass and repass. The route may be used on foot, on (or leading) a horse, on a pedal cycle or with a motor vehicle, depending on its status. Although the land may be owned by a private individual, the public may still gain access across that land along a specific route.
Receptor (sensitive)	A component of the natural, created, or built environment such as human being, water, air, a building, or a plant that is affected by an impact.
Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites (RIGS)	Regionally important geological and geomorphological sites (RIGS) (also known as regionally important geological sites or, especially in Wales, regionally important geodiversity sites) are locally designated sites of local, national and regional importance for geodiversity (geology and geomorphology) in the UK.
Registered Park and Garden	The Historic England 'Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in England', established in 1983, currently identifies over 1,600 sites assessed to be of particular significance.
Residual effects	Those effects of the proposed scheme that cannot be mitigated following implementation of mitigation proposals.
Resource	A defined but generally collective environmental feature usually associated with soil, water, air, climatic factors, landscape, material assets, including the

Glossary term	Description
	architectural and archaeological heritage that has potential to be affected by a project.
River basin	A river basin is an area of land drained by a river and its tributaries.
Road Investment Strategy (RIS)	The Road Investment Strategy outlines a long-term programme for England's motorways and major roads supported by stable funding needed to plan ahead.
Roost	A place where birds regularly settle or congregate to rest at night, or where bats congregate to rest in the day.
Scheduled Monument	A scheduled monument is a historic building or site that is included in the Schedule of Monuments kept by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport under the regime set out in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 [20].
Scheme Assessment Report	The main aims of the assessment reporting process are to permit consideration of the likely environmental, economic and traffic effects of alternative proposals, and to allow the public and statutory bodies to comment on proposals taking account of their environmental, economic and traffic implications.
Scoped In/Out	A term used in EIA, referring to whether a technical topic is included ('scoped in') or not ('scoped out') in the EIA – often presented as a discrete chapter in the ES if scoped in.
Setting	The surroundings in which a cultural heritage resource is experienced. [5]
Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level (SOAEL)	This is the level of noise above which significant adverse effects on health and quality of life occur.
Simple Assessment	Initial, brief assessment activity based on the assembly of data and information that is readily available, to fulfil one of the following functions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to address unknown aspects in the Scoping assessment level • to reach an understanding of the likely environmental effects to inform the final design and assessment • to reach an understanding of the likely environmental effects that identifies the need for a Detailed Assessment
Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC)	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) are designations used by local authorities in the United Kingdom for sites of substantive local nature conservation and geological value. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs has recommended the generic term 'local site', which is divided into 'local wildlife site' and 'local geological site'.
Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)	A Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is a conservation designation denoting a protected area in the UK, designated due to special interest in its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features. They are protected by law to conserve their wildlife or geology.
Site Waste Management Plan (SWMP)	Site Waste Management Plans (SWMP) encourage the effective management of materials and ensure waste is considered at all stages of a project – from design through to completion. Although no longer a regulatory requirement in England, SWMPs are still considered to be good practice.
Source protection zone (SPZ)	Source Protection Zones (SPZ) are defined around large and public potable groundwater abstraction sites. The purpose of SPZs is to provide additional protection to safeguard drinking water quality through constraining the proximity of an activity that may impact upon a drinking water abstraction.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	A Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is a site designated under the Habitats Directive. These sites, together with Special Protection Areas (or SPA), are called Natura sites (or European sites) and they are internationally important for threatened habitats and species.

Glossary term	Description
Special Protection Area (SPA)	A special protection area is a designation under the European Union (EU) Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds [21]. Under the Directive, Member States of the EU have a duty to safeguard the habitats of migratory birds and certain particularly threatened birds. These sites, together with Special Area of Conservation (SAC), are called Natura sites (or European sites) and they are internationally important for threatened habitats and species.
Specific noise level	The equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level at the assessment position produced by the specific noise source (the noise source under investigation) over a given time interval ($LA_{eq,T}$).
Stakeholder	A person or organisation with an interest or concern in something (in this case, the proposed scheme).
Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)	A written statement prepared jointly by the applicant and another party or parties, setting out any matters on which they agree. In some cases, statements of common ground will also identify areas where agreement has not been reached.
Statutory consultees	Groups or bodies that, by law, must be consulted as part of the DCO application process for EIA development.
Statutory environmental bodies (SEB)	Statutory environmental bodies (SEB) comprise the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England.
Strategic road network (SRN)	The strategic road network (SRN) is arguably the biggest and most important piece of infrastructure in the country. Its 4,300 miles of motorways and major A-roads at the core of the national transport system.
Study area	Defined area surrounding the site in which is collected and analysed in order to set the site into its context. This varies as stated within each technical assessment.
Surface water	Water that collects on the surface of the ground.
Topography	The natural and man-made features of an area collectively.
Transboundary effects	Regulation 32 of the EIA Regulations outlines a requirement to consider the likely significant effects of a proposed development on the environment of another European Economic Area (EEA) State.
Tributary	A river or stream flowing into a larger river or lake.
UK Climate Projections (UKCP)	The UK Climate Projections (UKCP) [22] provides future climate projections for land and marine regions as well as observed (past) climate data for the UK.
Unexploded ordnance (UXO)	Unexploded ordnance (UXO), unexploded bombs, or explosive remnants of war are explosive weapons that did not explode when they were employed and still pose a risk of detonation, sometimes many decades after they were used or discarded.
Vibration	The periodic movements of structures transferred by ground and parts of the building, due to events such as train pass-by, piling, blasting or use of heavy machinery.
Waste	Waste is defined in Article 3(1) of the European Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (OJL 312/3) [23] as any substance or object which the holder discards or intends or is required to discard. The term 'holder' is defined under article 3(6) as 'the waste producer or the natural or legal person who is in possession of the waste'. The waste 'producer' is defined under article 3(5) as 'anyone whose activities produce waste (original waste producer) or anyone who carries out pre-processing, mixing or other operations resulting in a change in the nature or composition of the waste'. Waste can be further classified as hazardous, non-hazardous or inert.
Waste facility	A facility where the main purpose of the facility is the treatment or disposal of waste.

Glossary term	Description
Waste hierarchy	The 'waste hierarchy' ranks waste management options according to what is best for the environment. It gives top priority to preventing waste in the first place. When waste is created, it gives priority to preparing it for re-use, then recycling, then recovery, and last of all disposal (e.g. landfill).
Waste infrastructure	The structures, systems and facilities for waste management within an area.
Waste Plan	The Somerset Waste Plan (adopted 2013) [24] provides further information in support of the implementation of waste planning policy.
Water Framework Directive (WFD)	The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC [25] is an EU directive which commits European Union member states to achieve good qualitative and quantitative status of all water bodies by 2015. It is a framework in the sense that it prescribes steps to reach the common goal rather than adopting the more traditional limit value approach.
Water quality	Water quality refers to the chemical, physical, and biological characteristics of water based on the standards of its usage.
WFD status	The WFD classification scheme for water quality includes five status classes: high, good, moderate, poor and bad. 'High status' is defined as the biological, chemical and morphological conditions associated with no, or very low, human pressure.
World Health Organisation (WHO)	The World Health Organization (WHO) is a specialised agency of the United Nations that is concerned with international public health.
Worst-case (scenario)	The definition of a 'worst-case' varies by the field to which it is being applied, however ultimately it is the most unfavourable foreseen scenario. Often assessments use a worst-case scenario.
Zone of influence (Zol)	The zone of influence is the area over which (e.g.) ecological features may be subject to significant effects. This area may differ for different receptors.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)	This is the zone from which the proposed scheme is theoretically visible over 'bare earth.'
Zone of Visual Influence (ZVI)	The area within which a project may be visible and may influence the quality of views. The 'zone of visual influence' (ZVI) approximately covers all land from which the proposed scheme is visible. It is limited by topographic features such as hill and valleys and by visual barriers such as woodland and buildings.

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