

Glossary

Word	Definition
Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)	The mean sea level at Newlyn (UK) used as a base measurement on Ordnance Survey Maps for contours.
Aquatic	Growing or living in or frequenting water, taking place in or on water or an aquatic animal or plant.
Avian	Birds or relating to birds.
Baseline	A basic standard or level used for comparison in future studies.
Batching Plant	A machine that combines various ingredients to form concrete.
Biodiversity	The concept of variety in all species of plants and animals.
Blanket Bog	An area of peatland, forming where there is a climate of high rainfall and a low level of evapotranspiration, allowing peat to develop not only in wet hollows but over large expanses of undulating ground.
Borrow Pit	An excavated area from which earth materials like soil, sand, gravel, or clay are removed for use as fill material elsewhere in a construction project.
Broadband Noise	Noise which covers a wide range of frequencies (e.g. from 10 Hz to 5 kHz).
Commercial Forestry	The growing of selected trees for the purpose of selling them in the market to earn money. It involves managing forest plantations for commercial purposes, including timber production and carbon farming.
Conservation	The protection of plants and animals, natural areas, and interesting and important structures and buildings, especially from the damaging effects of human activity.
Construction Traffic	Vehicles associated with site preparation and supply of plant and equipment (excluding AILs), construction materials and labour during construction phase and operated under normal Construction and Use Regulations.
dB(A)	The decibel (dB) is a logarithmic unit used in acoustics to quantify sound levels relative to a 0 dB reference (a sound pressure level of 2×10^{-5} Pa). The 'A' signifies A-weighting which is a frequency-response function that applies an international weighted scale of sound levels in each frequency band (octave band or third octave band) providing a good correlation with the sensitivity of the human ear which is less sensitive to very high and very low frequencies.
Ecology	The natural science of the relationships among living organisms and their environment. Ecology considers organisms at the individual, population, community, ecosystem, and biosphere levels.
Embedded	An action or element that has been built into the design from the initial stages of planning and will not need to be addressed with later secondary measures,



Word	Definition
ETSU-R-97	The Assessment and Rating of Noise from Wind Farms.
Fauna	All of the animal life present in a particular region or time.
Flora	All the plant life present in a particular region or time.
Frequency	Refers to how quickly the air vibrates, or how close the sound waves are to each other and is measured in cycles per second, or Hertz (Hz). The lowest frequency audible to humans is 20 Hz and the highest is 20,000 Hz. The human ear is most sensitive to the 1 kHz, 2 kHz and 4 kHz octave bands and much less sensitive at lower audible frequencies.
Geodiversity	The variety of earth materials, forms and processes that constitute and shape the Earth.
Geotextile	Versatile permeable fabrics that, when used in conjunction with soil, can effectively perform multiple functions, including separation, filtration, reinforcement, protection, and drainage.
Geographic Information System (GIS)	Computerised data base of geographical information that can easily be updated and manipulated.
Groundwater Dependent Terrestrial Ecosystems (GWDTE)	Terrestrial wetland ecosystem dependent upon a groundwater supply for their existence.
Hardstand	A paved or hard-surfaced area on which vehicles may be parked.
Heritage Asset	An item which has value because of its contribution to a nation's society, knowledge and/or culture.
Hertz (Hz)	Sound frequency refers to how quickly the air vibrates, or how close the sound waves are to each other (in cycles per second, or Hertz (Hz)).
Invasive	An organism that is not native to the place where found and tends to grow and spread easily usually to the detriment of native species and ecosystems.
Iterative	A process/processes or methods that involve repetition. It is used in mathematics, computing, and other fields to describe actions or procedures that are done again and again.
Landscape character	The way the physical components come together and can be defined as a distinct, recognisable and consistent pattern of elements in the landscape that makes one landscape different from another.
Landscape Character Areas	Discrete geographical areas of a particular landscape character type and can only occur at a single location.
Landscape Character Types	Tracts of landscape, which have a generic unity of character due to the particular combinations of landform, land cover, pattern and elements. The same landscape character type can occur at several different locations throughout a study area.



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Landscape Features	Landscape features refer to the various physical attributes and forms that make up the land surface of a geographic area. These features are characterized by their natural or human-made elements and contribute to the overall topography and appearance of the area.
Laydown Area	A designated location on a construction site where tools, materials, equipment, and vehicles are stored temporarily when they are not in use.
Lek	A mating system found in many species of animals. It involves groups of males displaying together to attract potential mates that visit the group to make their selection.
Master Plan	A detailed and organized set of decisions made by an individual or a team about how to accomplish a complex project successfully.
Methodology	The systematic plan and approach employed in a study to answer research questions or test hypotheses. It defines the tools, techniques, and procedures used to collect and analyse data, ensuring the research is structured and replicable.
Moorland	Type of habitat found in upland areas in temperate grasslands, savannas, and shrublands and montane grasslands and shrublands biomes, characterised by low-growing vegetation on acidic soils.
Micrositing	The process of choosing the type of wind turbine and its exact position.
Mitigation	The process or result of making something less severe, dangerous, painful, harsh, or damaging.
Mitigation Hierarchy	A widely used tool that guides users towards limiting as far as possible the negative impacts on biodiversity from development projects. It emphasises best-practice of avoiding and minimising any negative impacts, and then restoring sites no longer used by a project, before finally considering offsetting residual impacts.
Nacelle	A cover housing that houses all of the generating components in a wind turbine, including the generator, gearbox, drive train, and brake assembly.
Net Zero	Global greenhouse gas emissions from human activity are in balance with emissions reductions.
Noise Emission	The noise energy emitted by a source (e.g. a wind turbine).
Octave Band	Range of frequencies between one frequency ($f_0 \times 2^{-1/2}$) and a second frequency ($f_0 \times 2^{+1/2}$). The quoted centre frequency of the octave band is f_0 .
Ornithology	A branch of zoology that concerns the study of birds.
Peat	An organic surface horizon over 0.5m deep of partially decomposed remains of plants and organic matter that is formed in wet anaerobic ground.



Word	Definition
Percentile Sound Level (L_{90})	Sound pressure level exceeded for 90% of the time for any given time interval. For example, $L_{(A)90,10min}$ means the A-weighted level that is exceeded for 90% of a ten-minute interval. This indicates the noise levels during quieter periods, or the background noise level. It represents the lower estimate of the prevailing noise level and is useful for excluding such effects as aircraft or dogs barking on background noise levels.
Primary Effects	Those which are immediate or more predictable. A primary effect is one that is directly caused by the thing/event being studied and is an integral part of the thing/event itself.
Receptor	Specific locations or groups within a community that are particularly susceptible to environmental changes. Can be used as indicators for more widespread effects of a development.
Rewilding	A form of ecological restoration aimed at increasing biodiversity and restoring natural processes by reducing human influence on ecosystems.
Roost	A place where birds regularly settle or congregate to rest at night, or where bats congregate to rest in the day.
Scoping	The process of identifying likely significant effects of a development on the environment – which may be carried out in a formal or informal way.
Screening	The process of determining whether a project requires an EIA.
Secondary Effects	Indirect or subsequent effects that occur as a result of an thing or event, which are often less predictable than primary effects. They can include reasonably foreseeable indirect effects, such as changes in land use or population density caused by a project.
Sett	The underground home of a badger, consisting of a network of tunnels and numerous entrances.
Shadow Flicker	Rotating wind turbine blades repeatedly intercepting the position of the Sun in the sky. When this effect is experienced through the window of a neighbouring property, the phenomenon can cause varying light levels that negatively impact the amenity of its occupiers.
Socio-economic	The combination of social and economic factors. It encompasses how social structures, norms, and groups influence economic activities and vice versa.
Sphagnum	Mosses that grow only in wet acid areas where their remains become compacted with other plant debris to form peat.
Substation	The structure used to transform and transfer the energy collected by the wind turbines to land in the most efficient manner.
Sustainable Drainage Systems	A sequence of management practices and control structures designed to drain system's surface water (SuDS) in a more sustainable fashion than some conventional techniques.



Word	Definition
Switchgear	Wind turbine switchgear is used for protection and disconnection of feeder circuits. It can be associated with individual turbines or located within the turbine itself.
Temporal	Relating to time. It can be used to describe something that is temporary or transitory. It can also be used to describe something that is concerned with the present life or this world.
Terrestrial	Relating to the earth or its inhabitants, living on or in or growing from land or relating to terrestrial organisms.
Tonal Noise	Noise which covers a very restricted range of frequencies (e.g. a range of ≤ 20 Hz). This noise is more annoying than broadband noise.
Tributary	An adjoining stream which flows into the main river.
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)	The area predicted to have views of a proposed development on the basis of a digital terrain model or digital surface model, which may/may not take account of landcover features

