

Glossary of Terms

Affordable Housing

This term, which is used in Chapter 5 Housing, means owner-occupier, or shared ownership housing, provided at a price below market value.

Brownfield Development

This term refers to land that has been subjected to building, engineering or other operations (excluding temporary uses, agricultural buildings or urban green spaces) and associated fixed surface infrastructure. It is most generally used to describe redundant industrial lands or docks as well as former barracks, hospitals or obsolete housing areas.

Childcare Facilities

Full day care and sessional facilities and services for pre-school children and school-going children out of school hours. Includes services involving care, education and socialisation opportunities for children.

Comparison Retail

This term describes the retail of goods which include: clothing and footwear; furniture, furnishings and household equipment (excluding non-durable household goods); medical and pharmaceutical products, therapeutic appliances and equipment; and, educational and recreation equipment and accessories. It specifically does not include the wholesale of goods. (Compare to the separate definition of Convenience Retail).

Convenience Retail

This term describes the retail of goods which include food, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, tobacco and non-durable household goods. It specifically does not include the wholesale of goods. (Compare to the separate definition of Comparison Retail)

Development Boundary

The development boundary of a settlement defines the extent to which a settlement may grow during the lifetime of the Development Plan.

Green Field Sites

Potential open development land on the periphery of urban settlements having no previous building on it. Development on such lands will generally require the provision of new infrastructure, roads, sewers and ancillary social and commercial facilities, schools, shops, employment and community facilities.

Landscape Character

Landscape Character describes an area of visual distinctiveness and identity.

Landscape Sensitivity

The extent to which a landscape can accommodate change without unacceptable loss of existing character or interference with values.

Landscape Value

Landscape Value refers to the environmental or cultural benefits that are derived from various landscape resources.

Occupancy Conditions

In areas where controls exist, following a grant of permission, a dwelling house shall be first occupied as a place of permanent residence by the applicant for a minimum period of seven years as policy is made to cater for the genuine housing needs of local persons and the houses are occupied by the intended persons.

Park and Ride

Park and Ride is a facility that offers a choice to car users to change from their cars into public transport (rail or bus) with the benefit of reducing the number of cars entering the urban areas and thus easing congestion.

Peri-Urban

Immediately adjoining an urban area, between the suburbs and the countryside.

Progress Report

The planning acts require the County Manager to prepare a report, two years after a development plan comes into force, on progress made in achieving the objectives of the development plan. This report is then presented to the elected members of the Council for their consideration.

Sustainable Development

Development that is in compliance with EU environmental directives.

List of Abbreviations

DoEHLG – Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

NHA – Natural Heritage Area

The basic designation for wildlife is the Natural Heritage Area (NHA). This is an area considered important for the habitats present or which holds species of plants and animals whose habitat needs protection.

RPS - Record of Protected Structures

The principal mechanism for protection of buildings and structures of architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical importance in the county is through inclusion on the 'Record of Protected Structures'. This provides a positive recognition of the structures' importance, protection from adverse impacts and potential access to grant aid for conservation works.

SAC - Special Area of Conservation

The candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSACs) have been selected because they support habitats and plant and animal species that are rare or threatened in Europe and require particular measures, including the designation of protected sites, to conserve them. The sites are called 'candidate sites' because they are currently under consideration by the Commission of the European Union.

SEA - Strategic Environmental Assessment

Strategic Environmental Assessment is a process which attempts to evaluate the likely consequences on the environment of implementing the Development Plan. (Note: it is a requirement of the Planning and Development Act 2000 for a development plan to include information on the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the Plan).

SPA - Special Protection Area

These conservation areas have been selected because they support populations of birds of particular species that are rare or threatened in Europe and require particular measures, including the designation of protected areas to conserve them. Together with the cSACs (above) they form part of the 'Natura 2000' network of sites throughout Europe.

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