

## Glossary and Abbreviations

Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>1 in 200 year event</b>		A flood that has a 0.5% (1 in 200) or greater chance of happening each year.
<b>A' weighting dB(A)</b>		The human ear does not respond uniformly to different frequencies. A-weighting is commonly used to simulate the frequency response of the ear.
<b>Above Ordnance Datum</b>	<b>AOD</b>	The mean sea level at Newlyn (UK) used as a base measurement on Ordnance Survey Maps for contours.
<b>Abutment</b>		A structure that supports the end of the bridge or supports the bridge approach.
<b>Accidental spillage</b>		Contaminated road runoff directly resulting from spillages due to vehicle accident, leading to acute pollution incident impact on the receiving surface or groundwater body.
<b>Acid grassland</b>		Grassland that occurs on acidic soils (pH less than 5.5).
<b>Acoustics</b>		The study of sound, especially its generation, transmission and reception.
<b>Acrotelmic (Fibrous) Peat</b>		The upper layer of peat above the average water table level. It is only periodically saturated which allows air into the upper layer.
<b>Aggregate</b>		Materials used in construction, including gravel, slag, crushed stone, sand or recycled crushed concrete.
<b>Air Quality Management Area</b>	<b>AQMA</b>	An area where the National Air Quality Strategy objectives are not likely to be achieved in all relevant locations. AQMAs are designated by local authorities following a review and assessment process.
<b>Alien species</b>		A species that exists outside of its normal distribution.
<b>Allocation</b>		A proposal for land for housing, industry or other uses within a Local Plan / Local Development Plan that identifies a specific area of land to be developed within the time period of the plan.
<b>Alluvium</b>		Sediment deposited by a river.
<b>Amber list species</b>		Bird populations in moderate decline or previously in severe decline but are recovering.
<b>Amenity grassland</b>		Intensively managed and regularly mown grasslands. These areas are typically of low diversity and limited wildlife and landscape value.
<b>Amenity value</b>		Defined as the relative pleasantness of a journey and relates in particular to the exposure of pedestrians and others to traffic.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Ancient Woodland Inventory</b>	<b>AWI</b>	Aims to list all probable ancient semi-natural woodlands on a county basis together with those woodlands in other ancient categories of lesser woodland nature conservation interest.
<b>Ancient Woodland</b>		Land that is currently wooded and has been continually wooded, at least since 1750
<b>Annual Average Daily Traffic</b>	<b>AADT</b>	Forecast traffic flow expressed as 24 hour Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT), that is, forecast total annual traffic divided by 365.
<b>Area of Great Landscape Value</b>	<b>AGLV</b>	An area designated by a local authority in development plans as being of outstanding scenic quality and character and requiring special protection against inappropriate forms of development.
<b>Area of Outstanding Landscape Quality</b>	<b>AOLQ</b>	An area designated by a local authority as being of exceptional landscape quality and requiring special protection against inappropriate forms of development.
<b>Appropriate assessment</b>	<b>AA</b>	An assessment of likely impacts associated with a development on a European Protected Site. An Appropriate Assessment is required by law under Regulation 48 of the Habitats Regulations (1994), implementing Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC).
<b>Aquifer</b>		A body of rock through which appreciable amounts of water can flow.
<b>Arable land</b>		Land that is or can be used for growing crops.
<b>Archaeological watching brief</b>		An archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.
<b>At-grade junction</b>		A type of junction where there is no height (grade) difference or separation between the traffic carriageways of a junction, e.g. a roundabout or a T-junction is an at-grade junction.
<b>Attenuation</b>		Increase in duration of flow hydrograph with a consequent reduction in peak flow.
<b>Authority area</b>		The area administered by a local authority.
<b>Automatic Traffic Counter</b>	<b>ATC</b>	Temporary and / or permanent traffic counters to capture volume, classification and speed of vehicles
<b>Average Score Per Taxon</b>	<b>ASPT</b>	The average BMWP or WHPT score for scoring taxa within a macroinvertebrate sample.
<b>Bait-marking</b>		A technique used for determining the territorial boundaries of badger social groups, involving the use of bait laced with coloured plastic pellets.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Balancing pond</b>		Part of a Sustainable Urban Drainage System (SuDS). The purpose of the balancing pond is to contain the surge of water during/after a storm and release it slowly/in a controlled way, thus preventing flooding and potential pollution.
<b>Bank toe reinforcement</b>		Strengthening to the base of a river or stream bank to prevent erosion.
<b>Baseline</b>		The existing conditions which form the basis or start point of the environmental assessment.
<b>Basic Noise Level</b>	<b>BNL</b>	The baseline noise level at a reference distance of 10m away from the nearside carriageway edge, calculation of which takes account of time period, vehicle flow, speed, % heavy vehicles, gradient and road surface.
<b>Bedrock</b>		Hard rock that lies beneath a superficial cover of soils and sediments.
<b>Best Practicable Means</b>	<b>BPM</b>	Defined in the Control of Pollution Act 1974 as measures which are 'reasonably practicable having regard among other things to local conditions and circumstances, to the current state of technical knowledge and to financial implications'.
<b>Biodiversity</b>		Biological diversity or species richness of living organisms present in representative communities and populations.
<b>Biodiversity Action Plan</b>	<b>BAP</b>	Sets objectives, along with measurable targets for the conservation of biodiversity.
<b>Biodiversity Management Plan</b>		Document identifying the actions to be taken to ensure the maintenance and long-term viability of priority species and habitats in a defined site or area, and the parties responsible for these actions.
<b>Biological Monitoring Working Party</b>	<b>BMWP</b>	Biological metric using macroinvertebrate pressure sensitivity scores to provide an overall value to indicate stream health, related to water quality.
<b>Broadleaved woodland</b>		An area of woodland with predominantly deciduous tree species (less than 10% coniferous trees in the canopy).
<b>Brownfield</b>		Industrial or commercial property or land that is abandoned or underused and often environmentally contaminated
<b>Bund</b>		An embankment, wall or dam that can be used to minimise noise or alternatively built around an oil tank to contain the contents in the event of spillage.
<b>Burn</b>		A small stream.
<b>Cairngorms National Park Authority</b>	<b>CNPA</b>	The Planning Authority for the Cairngorms National Park.
<b>Cairngorms Nature Action Plan</b>	<b>CNAP</b>	Local biodiversity action plan for the Cairngorms National Park region, outlining key actions to take to



Term	Abbreviation	Description
		protect and enhance the environment between 2013 and 2018.
<b>Calculation of Road Traffic Noise</b>	<b>CRTN</b>	Produced by the Department of the Environment and the Welsh Office in 1988 and provides the method of calculating (and measuring) road traffic noise levels for new and altered highways
<b>Controlled Activities Regulations</b>	<b>CAR</b>	The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2011, which apply regulatory controls over activities which may affect Scotland's water environment (covering rivers, lochs, transitional waters (estuaries), coastal waters groundwater, and groundwater dependant wetlands).
<b>Catalogue of Rights of Way</b>	<b>CRoW</b>	A catalogue of all the known rights of way in Scotland compiled in the 1990s with the help of Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Local Authorities. The catalogue consists of two parts: a computer database with information about each route, and 1:50,000 scale digital maps.
<b>Catchment</b>		The area contributing flow to a point on a drainage system.
<b>Catotelmic (Fibrous) Peat</b>		The layer of peat below the acrotelm and above the amorphous catotelm layer, forming a stable colloidal substance which is generally impermeable. Comprises of peat between 0.3 and 1.0m depth.
<b>Catotelmic (Amorphous) Peat</b>		The layer of peat below both the acrotelm and the fibrous catotelm layer, with very little structure. Comprises of peat above 1.0m in depth.
<b>Centre for Ecology and Hydrology</b>	<b>CEH</b>	Centre of Excellence for integrated research in hydrology, terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems and their interaction with the atmosphere.
<b>Chainage</b>		Topographical reference for distance which is measured and marked between two points on the land.
<b>Channel morphology</b>		Physical characteristics of stream channels, such as width/depth ratio and sinuosity
<b>Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management</b>	<b>CIEEM</b>	The professional body which represents and supports ecologists and environmental managers.
<b>Code of Construction Practice</b>	<b>CoCP</b>	A series of objectives and measures to be applied throughout the construction period by the Contractor to manage and operate the construction works, to maintain satisfactory levels of environmental protection and limit disturbance.
<b>Community</b>		Assemblage of interacting populations that occupy a given area.
<b>Community Conservation Index</b>	<b>CCI</b>	Metric that provides a measure of overall community conservation value, and highlights specific species of conservation importance.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Community Severance</b>		The separation of residents from facilities and services they use within their community caused by new or improved roads or by changes in traffic flows.
<b>Compulsory Purchase Order</b>	<b>CPO</b>	A legal document giving the government (Scottish Ministers) power to compulsorily purchase the areas of land necessary for the construction of the scheme.
<b>Coniferous woodland</b>		An area of woodland with predominantly coniferous tree species (less than 10% deciduous trees in the canopy).
<b>Conservation Area</b>	<b>CA</b>	Area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Designated under section 61 Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997.
<b>Conservation (Natural Habitats, &amp;c.) Regulations 1994 (as amended)</b>		Regulations which transpose the EC Habitats Directive into national law. The Regulations place a duty on the Secretary of State to propose a list of sites which are important for either habitats or species (listed in Annexes I and II of the Habitats Directive respectively) to the EC. They also provide for the control of potentially damaging operations, whereby consent from the country agency may only be granted once it has been shown through appropriate assessment that the proposed operation will not adversely affect the integrity of the site.
<b>Construction Environmental Management Plan</b>	<b>CEMP</b>	This will be an expanded and more detailed version of the earlier Environmental Management Plan (EMP) and should contain all the information required for the appropriate management of environmental effects during construction of the project.
<b>Construction Industry Research and Information Association</b>	<b>CIRIA</b>	
<b>Construction Method Statement</b>	<b>CMS</b>	A document that details the way a work task or process is to be completed.
<b>Consultation Bodies</b>		Any body specified in the relevant EIA Regulations which the competent authority must consult in respect of an EIA, and which also has a duty to provide a scoping opinion and information.
<b>Contaminated land</b>		The Environment Protection Act 1990 defines contaminated land as ' <i>any land which appears to the local authority as to be in such condition, by reason of substances, on or under the land, that significant harm is being caused or there is a significant possibility of such harm being caused; ... or pollution of controlled water is being, or likely to be caused</i> '.
<b>Contractor</b>		The successful tenderer in the construction process.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Controlled Activity Regulations (Scotland) 2011 as amended</b>	<b>CAR</b>	Controls all engineering activity in or near watercourses.
<b>Core Path</b>		Paths, waterways or any other means of crossing land to facilitate, promote and manage the exercise of access rights under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, and are identified as such in access authority Core Path Plans.
<b>Couch</b>		Above-ground otter shelter.
<b>Cropmark</b>		Marks visible in growing and ripening crops, especially via aerial photography, which reflect the differences in the subsoil beneath.
<b>Culvert</b>		A metal, wooden, plastic, or concrete conduit through which surface water can flow under or across roads.
<b>Decibel</b>	<b>dB</b>	The range of audible sound pressures is approximately 0.00002 Pa to 00 Pa. Using decibel notation presents this range in a more manageable form, 0 dB to 140 dB.
<b>Deciduous</b>		Trees and shrubs that shed their leaves annually.
<b>Design Manual for Roads and Bridges</b>	<b>DMRB</b>	A series of 15 volumes that provide standards, advice notes and other documents relating to the design, assessment and operation of trunk roads, including motorways in the United Kingdom
<b>Desk study</b>		Assessment of a site usually preceding ground investigations typically incorporating a review of available site information, consultation with relevant bodies and a site visit.
<b>Detention pond</b>		A place for temporarily storing water which delays the flow of water downstream.
<b>Diffuse pollution</b>		Contamination and pollution arising from many dispersed and different sources.
<b>Do-Minimum Scenario</b>	<b>DM</b>	The base situation where there are no modifications to the existing road network. May also refer to the minimum modifications, which will necessarily take place in the absence of a proposed scheme.
<b>Do-Something Scenario</b>	<b>DS</b>	The situation following proposed modifications to the road network brought about as a result of the Proposed Scheme.
<b>Drainage network</b>		Specific catchments, including permeable and impermeable surfaces, collecting precipitation to be transferred from the Proposed Scheme to a local receiving water body via either surface water or groundwater discharge
<b>Drey</b>		The most common nest type or dwelling place for squirrels comprising a round ball of twigs, leaves and bark, which is frequently built close to the tree trunk or in branch forks to provide shelter from the elements.



<b>Term</b>	<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Drift deposits</b>		Drift geology overlying bedrock.
<b>Dual Carriageway</b>	<b>D2AP</b>	Dual, all-purpose, two-lane carriageway.
<b>Dualling</b>		The widening of an existing road in order to provide two carriageways in both directions.
<b>Dung pit</b>		A shallow hole or scrape dug by an animal into which dung and/or urine is deposited.
<b>Earthworks</b>		Works created through the moving of quantities of soil or unformed rock.
<b>Ecological Clerk of Works</b>	<b>ECoW</b>	A qualified ecologist who supervises construction sites, ensuring that ecological impacts are minimised and that the law relating to protected species etc. is complied with.
<b>Ecological receptors</b>		Living organisms, habitats, or natural resources that could be impacted by the construction or operation of the proposed scheme.
<b>Ecological Zone of Influence</b>	<b>EZoI</b>	The area surrounding a development in which potential ecological effects extend. Typically specified for individual ecological receptors.
<b>Ecology</b>		The branch of biology concerned with the relations of organisms to one another and to their physical surroundings.
<b>Ecosystem</b>		A biological community of organisms interacting with one another and the surrounding physical environment.
<b>Effect</b>		The result of change or changes on environmental receptors.
<b>Electrofishing</b>		A fish sampling technique using electric currents and fields to control fish movement and/or immobilize fish, allowing capture.
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b>	<b>EIA</b>	The process of evaluating the likely environmental impacts of a proposed project or development, taking into account inter-related socio-economic, cultural and human-health impacts, both beneficial and adverse.
<b>Environmental Management Plan</b>	<b>EMP</b>	Document which describes the processes to be followed to ensure compliance with environmental legislation and policy and minimise harm to the environment.
<b>Environmental Noise Directive</b>	<b>END</b>	European Directive 2002/49/EC, transposed into Scottish Law by the Environmental Noise (Scotland) Regulations 2006
<b>Environmental Quality Standards</b>	<b>EQS</b>	Environmental Quality Standards (EQS) are the maximum permissible annual average concentrations of potentially hazardous chemicals, as defined by the Water Framework Directive. The assessment of EQS considers long-term risks over the period of one year by comparing discharge concentrations of pollutants against EQS level



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Environmental Statement</b>	<b>ES</b>	Document provided by the Developer to the Competent Authority, containing environmental information required under Article 5 of Directive 85/337/EEC as amended.
<b>Ephemeroptera, Plecoptera, and Trichoptera</b>	<b>EPT</b>	Macroinvertebrate insect orders (of mayflies, stoneflies and caddisflies) that can be used as indicators of stream health. Often displayed as a percentage of an overall macroinvertebrate sample, or species richness value.
<b>European Protected Species</b>	<b>EPS</b>	Species of plants and animals (other than birds) protected by law throughout the European Union. They are listed in Annexes II and IV of the European Habitats Directive.
<b>Fauna</b>		Referring to animals of a particular region or habitat.
<b>Field Study</b>		Assessment in, at or in close proximity to the site.
<b>Fill</b>		Material deposited by man in ground depression or excavated area.
<b>Fish Habitat Survey</b>	<b>FHS</b>	Survey used to assess habitat suitability for key fish species.
<b>Floodplain</b>		Land adjacent to a river, which is subject to regular flooding.
<b>Flora</b>		Referring to plants of a particular region or habitat.
<b>Fluvial geomorphology</b>		The study of landforms associated with river channels and the sediment processes which form them.
<b>Gantry</b>		A framework that spans a road or railway track.
<b>General Binding Rules</b>	<b>GBRs</b>	GBRs represent a set of mandatory rules which cover specific low risk activities. Activities complying with the rules do not require an application to be made to SEPA, as compliance with a GBR is compliance with an authorisation.
<b>Geological Conservation Review Sites</b>	<b>GCRs</b>	The aim of the Geological Conservation Review Series is to provide a public record of the features of interest and importance at localities already notified or being considered for notification as 'Sites of Special Scientific Interest' (SSSIs). The sites selected – GCR sites – form the basis of statutory geological and geomorphological site conservation in Britain.
<b>Geomorphology</b>		The branch of geology concerned with the structure, origin and development of topographical features of the earth's crust.
<b>Glacial Till</b>		Glacial till is that part of glacial drift which was deposited directly by the glacier.
<b>Grade-separated junction</b>	<b>GSJ</b>	A type of junction where the connecting carriageways of a junction are separated by a height (grade) allowing vehicles to join and leave the main road using slip roads.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Ground Investigation</b>	<b>GI</b>	Exploratory investigation to determine the structure and characteristics of the ground influenced by a development. The collected information is used to establish or predict ground and groundwater behaviour during, and subsequent to, construction.
<b>Ground-truthing</b>		Verification on the ground of conditions on a site.
<b>Groundwater</b>		Water below the surface of the ground in the saturation zone and in direct contact with the ground or subsoil.
<b>Groundwater Dependant Terrestrial Ecosystem</b>	<b>GWDTE</b>	Wetlands which critically depend on groundwater flows and /or chemistries. These include dominant habitats, where the dominant habitat type(s) are groundwater dependent, and sub-dominant, where the majority of habitats are not groundwater dependent.
<b>Habitat</b>		Term most accurately meaning the place in which a species lives, but also used to describe plant communities or agglomerations of plant communities, as used, for example in a Phase 1 Habitat Survey.
<b>Habitat Action Plan</b>	<b>HAP</b>	Objectives set by the British government to conserve the biodiversity in given habitats.
<b>Habitats Directive</b>		EC Directive 92/43/EEC on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora.
<b>Habitat fragmentation</b>		Describes the breaking up of an organisms preferred environment/habitat. Occurs naturally through geological processes that alter the layout of the physical environment over long periods of time, or through human activities, such as land conversion.
<b>Habitat Modification Class</b>	<b>HMC</b>	Range of classes used to interpret a Habitat Modification Score. The classes range from 1 (near natural) to 5 (severely modified).
<b>Habitat Modification Score</b>	<b>HMS</b>	Score calculated from a River Habitat Survey, indicating the level of artificial modification on the surveyed channel.
<b>Heavy Duty Vehicle</b>	<b>HDV</b>	Any vehicle with a gross weight greater than 3.5t, including heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) and coaches.
<b>Heavy Goods Vehicle</b>	<b>HGV</b>	Vehicles with 3 axles (articulated) or 4 or more axles (rigid and articulated).
<b>Highlands and Islands Transport Partnership</b>	<b>HITRANS</b>	The statutory regional transport partnership covering the Western Isles, Orkney, Highland, Moray and most of the Argyll and Bute area
<b>Highland Historic Environment Record</b>	<b>HHER</b>	A record of known archaeological and cultural heritage sites and assets covering the Highlands.
<b>Highland-wide Local Development Plan</b>	<b>HwLDP</b>	A plan adopted in 2012 setting out the overarching spatial planning policy for the whole of The Highland Council area, except the area covered by the Cairngorms National Park Local Development Plan



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Highways Agency Water Risk Assessment Tool</b>	<b>HAWRAT</b>	Standard approach specified in Design Manual for Roads and Bridges document HD 45/09, a Microsoft Excel application designed to assess the short-term risks related to the intermittent nature of road runoff. Assesses acute and chronic pollution impacts on aquatic ecology associated with soluble and sediment bound pollutants (with dissolved copper and dissolved zinc used as indicators)
<b>Historic Environment Scotland</b>	<b>HES</b>	Historic Environment Scotland is the new lead public body for the country's historic environment. It brings together Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Scotland.
<b>Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes</b>	<b>HGDL</b>	Gardens and designed landscapes are an important element of Scotland's historic environment and landscape. They contribute to our culture, enrich the texture and pattern of our landscapes and form a unique record of social, cultural and economic change through time. They exemplify unique artistic talent, provide the setting of buildings and monuments, offer rich and varied habitats for nature conservation and can form critical repositories of rare or champion trees, shrubs and plant material.
<b>Holt</b>		Deep underground otter shelter.
<b>Great Crested Newt Habitat Suitability Index</b>	<b>HSI</b>	Method for determining whether a waterbody contains suitable habitat for amphibians (namely Great Crested Newts). The method involves assessing levels of shade, macrophyte cover and water quality.
<b>Hydrogeology</b>		The branch of geology that deals with the occurrence, distribution, and effect of ground water.
<b>Hydrological</b>		The exchange of water between the atmosphere, the land and the oceans.
<b>Hydromorphology</b>		A term largely created for the Water Framework Directive comprising a blend of hydrology and geomorphology.
<b>Impact</b>		Any changes attributable to the proposed scheme that have the potential to have environmental effects (i.e. the causes of the effects).
<b>Improved grassland</b>		Grasslands that have been so modified by fertilisers, drainage or grazing that they have lost most of the species expected in unimproved grassland.
<b>Incision</b>		Scouring of a river bed.
<b>Indicator species</b>		A species that is characteristic of a particular habitat. The disappearance of such a species is an early warning of habitat degradation.
<b>Infrastructure</b>		The basic structure or features of a system or organisation.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Infrastructure Investment Plan</b>	<b>IIP</b>	A plan (issued in 2015) setting out priorities for investment and a long-term strategy for the development of public infrastructure in Scotland.
<b>Interim Advice Note</b>	<b>IAN</b>	IANs are issued by Highways England from time to time. They contain specific guidance used in connection with works on motorways and trunk roads in England. Transport Scotland utilises IANs for roads projects in Scotland.
<b>Joint Nature Conservation Committee</b>	<b>JNCC</b>	Advisory committee to the UK Government on national and international nature conservation issues.
<b>LA</b>		A-weighted sound pressure level (in decibels, dB). The measured sound level incorporating a logarithmic base and weighting system to approximate the manner in which humans perceive sound. An increase of 10dB is approximately equivalent to a perceived doubling of loudness.
<b>LA10,T LA10,18hr</b>		A-weighted sound pressure level (in decibels, dB) that is exceeded for 10% of the given time period. 'T'. For road traffic, it is typically expressed as the arithmetic average of hourly LA10 values over an 18 hour day (06:00 – 24:00).
<b>Laeq, T</b>		Equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level (in decibels, dB), over a given time interval. Where a time interval is not given it is typically considered as a continuous level.
<b>Landform</b>		Combination of slope and elevation producing the shape and form of the land surface.
<b>Landscape</b>		Human perception of the land, conditioned by knowledge and identity with a place.
<b>Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment</b>	<b>LVIA</b>	A tool used to identify and assess the likely significance of the effects of change resulting from development both on the landscape as an environmental resource in its own right and on people's views and visual amenity.
<b>Land-take</b>		Acquired land which is necessary to construct the scheme and associated infrastructure and to undertake the essential environmental mitigation measures.
<b>Latrine</b>		A series of pits dug by a badger where faeces (and urine) is deposited or a collection of water vole droppings habitually deposited in a single location typically used to define territorial boundaries.
<b>Left-in/Left-out</b>		Junctions which remove cross-carriageway turning movements and are theoretically safer than junctions which allow all movements as they remove conflicting traffic streams. This is particularly useful on fast-moving roads, where high traffic speeds make judging suitable gaps in approaching traffic more problematic.

Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Limitations</b>		Those items/situations that impacted or constrained the research.
<b>Listed Building</b>		Building included on the list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest and afforded statutory protection under the 'Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Scotland) Act 1997' and other planning legislation. Classified categories A — C.
<b>Local Biodiversity Action Plan</b>	<b>LBAP</b>	A Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP) is a document that gathers together information about the ecosystems and their associated habitats and species in a particular area and sets out actions for their protection and enhancement.
<b>Local Landscape Character Area</b>	<b>LLCA</b>	An area outlined as having distinct characteristics based on landscape features.
<b>Local Nature Reserve</b>	<b>LNR</b>	Statutory designated site under Section 21 of the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and amended by Schedule 11 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006, by principal local authorities. LNRs are declared and managed for nature conservation.
<b>Local Transport Strategy</b>	<b>LTS</b>	A framework for how a local planning authority intends to deliver on its own and national objectives at a local level
<b>Lotic Invertebrate Index for Flow Evaluation</b>	<b>LIFE</b>	Biological metric used to evaluate flow conditions using known macroinvertebrate flow tolerances.
<b>Lying-up site</b>		An area where an otter will rest, usually a holt or couch.
<b>Made ground</b>		Ground comprised of material deposited by man i.e. not natural.
<b>Magnitude (of effect)</b>		A term that combines judgements about the size and scale of the effect, the extent of the area over which it occurs, whether it is reversible or irreversible and whether it is short or long term in duration.
<b>Mainline</b>		Main carriageway of the Proposed Scheme; A9 dual carriageway between Tomatin and Moy
<b>Main water body</b>		Designated under the WFD and visible on 1:50k OS maps.
<b>Mammal ledge</b>		A shelf built within a culvert to facilitate mammal passage, accessible at both ends from the bank and the water.
<b>Marshland</b>		Low-lying wet land with grassy vegetation; usually a transition zone between land and water.
<b>Maximum Sound Level, dB LAmax,T</b>		The highest value of the A-weighted sound pressure level that occurs during a given event or time period. The time-weighting should be specified.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Metres Below Ground</b>	<b>mbgl</b>	
<b>Mitigation</b>		Term used to indicate avoidance, remediation or alleviation of adverse impacts.
<b>Mixed plantation woodland</b>		Planted stands with either broadleaf or conifer species comprising 10-90% of the canopy.
<b>Morphological Impact Assessment System</b>	<b>MIMAS</b>	Database SEPA use to produce the morphology WFD classification - determining morphological impact from a single activity (or combinations of activities) for a length of channel.
<b>Natal den</b>		The small space (usually a holt or couch) used by a female otter to give birth and raise cubs for a period of up to three months.
<b>National Cycle Network</b>	<b>NCN</b>	The National Cycle Network is a series of traffic-free paths and quiet, on-road cycling and walking routes, that connect to every major town and city
<b>National Monuments Record of Scotland</b>	<b>NMRS</b>	The archive of the sites, monuments and buildings of Scotland's past maintained by Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
<b>National Planning Framework 3</b>	<b>NPF3</b>	The spatial expression of the Scottish Government's Economic Strategy, it sets out a long-term vision for development and investment across Scotland over the next 20 to 30 years
<b>National Pond Survey</b>	<b>NPS</b>	Standardised pond surveying method involving collection of biological and environmental data.
<b>National Transport Strategy</b>	<b>NTS</b>	Published in 2006 the NTS sets the long term vision for the Scottish Government's transport policies. A refresh of the NTS was published in January 2016.
<b>National Vegetation Classification</b>	<b>NVC</b>	A system to describe British vegetation types, whereby each vegetation type has a different 'code'.
<b>Native</b>		A species occurring naturally, in its normal geographic range.
<b>Neutral grassland</b>		Grassland communities that grow on neutral soils (pH 5.5 — 7).
<b>Non-motorised users</b>	<b>NMU</b>	Pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians.
<b>Non-prime land</b>		Agricultural land of Land Capability for Agriculture (LCA) classes 3.2 to 7.
<b>Notable species</b>		Species which are below Red Data Book species in terms of threat status.
<b>NOx</b>		A general term for the oxides of nitrogen including nitric oxide (NO), nitrogen dioxide (NO <sub>2</sub> ), and nitrous oxide (N <sub>2</sub> O).
<b>Number of Taxa</b>	<b>NTAXA</b>	Number of taxa identified in a sample. Also used to describe the number of scoring taxa used to calculate



Term	Abbreviation	Description
		specific biotic indices e.g. BMWP and LIFE scores, this may be different to the overall NTAXA in a sample.
<b>Offsetting</b>		The process of compensating for something with something else.
<b>Oligochaeta and Chironomidae</b>	<b>Oligo&amp;Chiro</b>	Macroinvertebrate taxa (segmented worms and non-biting midges) that can be used as indicators of stream health. Often displayed as a percentage of an overall macroinvertebrate sample.
<b>Open space</b>		Any land laid out as public parks or used for the purpose of public recreation, or land which is a disused burial ground.
<b>Ordnance Datum</b>	<b>OD</b>	Mean sea level calculated used as the official basis for height calculation on British maps.
<b>Ordnance Survey</b>	<b>OS</b>	Mapping provider.
<b>Ornithological</b>		The branch of zoology that deals with the study of birds.
<b>Outfall</b>		Discharge location for drainage network
<b>Paleochannel</b>		Remnant of an older river channel that has been filled or buried by younger sediment.
<b>Peatland</b>		Wetlands with a thick water-logged organic soil layer (peat) made up of dead and decaying plant material
<b>Perception</b>		Combines the sensory (that we receive through our senses) with the cognitive (our knowledge and understanding gained from many sources and experiences).
<b>Phase 1 Habitat Survey</b>		This identifies the different habitats that are contained within or make up a site, and the key plant species for each of those habitat types.
<b>Pile</b>		A heavy stake or post made out of timber, steel, reinforced concrete or pre-tensioned concrete, driven into the ground to support foundations.
<b>Piling</b>		The act of installing piles.
<b>Planform</b>		Channel shape and composition as viewed from above.
<b>Planning Advice Note</b>	<b>PAN</b>	Supporting document to National Planning Policy Guidelines, which disseminates good practice and provides more specific design advice of a practical nature.
<b>Plantation woodland</b>		Woodland of any age that obviously originated from planting.
<b>PM10</b>		Particulate matter – particles in this size range have an effective aerodynamic diameter of less than 10 micrometers (µm).

Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Point pollution</b>		A point source of pollution is a single identifiable localised source of air, water, thermal, noise or light pollution.
<b>Pollution Prevention Guidelines</b>	<b>PPG</b>	PPGs are based on relevant legislation and good practice. Following the guidelines will help contractors to manage environmental responsibilities, prevent pollution and comply with the law.
<b>Pool and riffle sequence</b>		In a flowing stream a riffle-pool sequence develops as an area of alternating areas of relatively shallow and deeper water. Riffles describe shallow water where the flow is rippling over gravel deposits whereas pools are deeper and calmer areas.
<b>Potential couch/holt/hover</b>		Tunnels, cavities or other structures which may be used by otters but which cannot be confirmed as being used in the absence of signs.
<b>Preliminary Engineering Services</b>	<b>PES</b>	The A9 PES includes the preparation of an A9 Dualling Preliminary Engineering Assessment which identifies the baseline (existing) conditions and constraints as well as assessing the advantages and disadvantages associated with each indicative A9 route corridor.
<b>Prime agricultural land</b>		Agricultural land of Land Capability for Agriculture (LCA) classes 1, 2 and 3.
<b>Priority habitat</b>		Those habitats which have been identified as being most threatened and requiring actions under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.
<b>Priority species</b>		Those species which have been identified as being most threatened and requiring actions under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.
<b>Proportion of Sediment Sensitive Invertebrates</b>	<b>PSI</b>	A biotic index designed to describe an invertebrate community's sensitivity to sedimentation. It is based on the known ecological responses of different macroinvertebrate species or family groups to the accumulation of sediment on riverine substrata. The index declines as the pressure of fine sediments covering the river bed increases.
<b>Proposed Scheme</b>		The scheme design for the Tomatin to Moy section of the A9 used as the basis for environmental assessment and reporting.
<b>Public Right of Way</b>	<b>PRoW</b>	A public right of way is a defined route which has been used by the general public for at least 20 years and which links two public places
<b>Q95</b>		The river flow that is exceeded for 95% of the year
<b>Ramsar sites</b>		Internationally important wetland identified for conservation under the Ramsar convention (1971).
<b>Receptor(visual)</b>		A dwelling, workplace or other building, outdoor space, viewpoint, road or footpath with views which may be changed in character and visual amenity by a proposed development.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Red list species</b>		Bird species in severe population decline.
<b>Refuge/refugia</b>		Any structure that provides animals temporarily with a place they can retreat to and feel secure. This can be rock or log piles, dense scrub or mammal burrows
<b>Regional Transport Strategy</b>	<b>RTS</b>	Strategies developed by the Scottish Regional Transport Partnerships which enhance economic well-being; promote safety, social inclusion and equal opportunity; plan for a sustainable transport system; and integrate across boundaries with other Partnerships. These Strategies take account of future needs and set priorities for transport development and improvement.
<b>Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites</b>	<b>RIGS</b>	Sites designated by regional geological groups on locally developed criteria.
<b>Residual impacts</b>		Residual impact means the environmental impact after the provision of mitigation measures, if any.
<b>Riparian habitat</b>		Natural home for plants and animals occurring in a thin strip of land bordering a stream or river.
<b>River Basin District</b>		The area of land and sea, made up of one or more river basins, together with the associated groundwater and coastal waters, identified by the Water Framework Directive as the main unit for the management of river basins.
<b>River Basin Management Plan</b>	<b>RBMP</b>	A plan setting out actions required within a river basin to achieve set environmental quality objectives, reviewed on a six yearly basis.
<b>River Habitat Survey</b>	<b>RHS</b>	A survey to assess the physical structure of freshwater streams and rivers, providing a broad assessment of habitat quality.
<b>River Invertebrate Prediction and Classification System/Software</b>	<b>RIVPACS</b>	Statistical model enabling estimates of the ecological health of rivers using macroinvertebrate and environmental data.
<b>Roads (Scotland) Act 1984</b>	<b>RSA</b>	Statute setting out the procedures which Scottish Ministers must follow in promoting orders for new roads.
<b>Roost</b>		Any resting site used by bats including maternity roosts which are used by females and their young, hibernacula which are used during winter hibernation and transitional roosts which may be used at any time.
<b>Route corridor</b>		A defined area around the route alignment.
<b>Routine runoff</b>		Contaminated road runoff from routine operation, including sediment and soluble metals





Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Runoff</b>		Water that flows over the ground surface to the drainage system. This occurs if the ground is impermeable or if permeable ground is saturated.
<b>Salmonid</b>		Water containing fish of the family Salmonidae, e.g. salmon, trout.
<b>Schedule I Protected Species</b>		Species protected under Schedule 1 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.
<b>Scheduled Monument</b>	<b>SM</b>	A monument which has been scheduled by the Scottish Ministers as being of national importance under the terms of the 'Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979'.
<b>Scottish Biodiversity list</b>	<b>SBL</b>	A list of animals, plants and habitats that Scottish Ministers consider to be of principal importance for biodiversity conservation in Scotland.
<b>Scottish Environment Protection Agency</b>	<b>SEPA</b>	Scotland's principal environmental regulator, protecting and improving Scotland's environment and's principal environmental regulator, protecting and improving Scotland's environment.
<b>Scottish Natural Heritage</b>	<b>SNH</b>	Public body responsible for Scotland's natural heritage, promoting, protecting and improving Scotland's nature and landscapes.
<b>Scottish Planning Policy</b>	<b>SPP</b>	A statement of Scottish Government policy on how nationally important land use planning matters should be addressed across the country
<b>Scrub</b>		Climax vegetation dominated by locally native shrubs, usually less than 5m tall.
<b>Secondary impacts</b>		Impacts that are caused by the proposed action and are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable. Secondary impacts may include induced changes to land-use patterns, population density, or growth rate and related effects on natural systems.
<b>Semi-improved grassland</b>		Grassland that has been modified by fertilizers, drainage or intensive grazing. Contain less species diversity than unimproved grasslands.
<b>Semi-natural Ancient Woodland</b>		Areas that appear as wooded on 1860 maps but not maps from 1750 i.e. woodland that appeared between these two dates.
<b>Sensitivity</b>		A term applied to specific receptors, combining judgements of the susceptibility of the receptor to the specific type of change or development proposed and the value related to that receptor.
<b>Sett</b>		The burrow system of badgers comprising a series of underground tunnels and chambers. There are several categories of sett including a main sett, annexe sett, subsidiary sett and outlier sett.

Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Severance</b>		The separation of communities from facilities and services they use within their community. Alternatively, in relation to agricultural land, the division of plots of land into separate land parcels, potentially affecting access or creating areas that may be impractical for agricultural use.
<b>Side roads</b>		New/upgraded side roads and accommodation tracks required to link with the mainline of the Proposed Scheme
<b>Significance</b>		A measure of the importance of environmental effect.
<b>Site compound</b>		A secure area close to the construction site which provides full site services including storage for equipment, materials and fuel, offices and amenity areas.
<b>Site of Importance to Nature Conservation</b>	<b>SINC</b>	Non-statutory designation which seeks to protect areas of high wildlife value at a local level.
<b>Sites and Monuments Record</b>	<b>SMR</b>	A list of known archaeological sites held by a local planning authority
<b>Sites of Special Scientific Interest</b>	<b>SSSI</b>	Areas of national importance. The aim of the SSSI network is to maintain an adequate representation of all natural and semi-natural habitats and native species across Britain. The site network is protected under the provisions of Sections 28 and 19 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 as well as the Amendment Act 1985 and the Environmental Protection Act 1990.
<b>Soakaway</b>		A deep hole used for drainage, where rainwater and other waste water drains directly into the ground, without connection to any mains drainage or sewerage pipes.
<b>Special Area of Conservation</b>	<b>SAC</b>	An area designated under the EC Habitats Directive to ensure that rare, endangered or vulnerable habitats or species of community interest are either maintained at or restored to a favourable conservation status.
<b>Special Landscape Areas</b>	<b>SLA</b>	Special Landscape Areas will be designated for their scenic quality, enjoyment, rarity and views. SLAs will replace existing Areas of Great Landscape Value (AGLVs) when new Local Development Plans are adopted.
<b>Special Protection Area</b>	<b>SPA</b>	An area designated under the Wild Birds Directive (Directive 74/409/EEC) to protect important bird habitats. Implemented under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Under the Habitats Directive, all SPAs will be proposed Special Areas of Conservation.
<b>Species Action Plan</b>		UK Biodiversity Action Plans detailing information on the conservation status of 382 species and the actions necessary to achieve the action plan targets.



Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Spey Fishery Board</b>	<b>SFB</b>	Organisation responsible for the protection, enhancement and conservation of the Spey Fishery District.
<b>Spraint</b>		Otter faeces.
<b>Stakeholder</b>		A person or group that has an investment, share or interest in something.
<b>Step-pool sequence</b>		Often occur in upland channel where the gradients are over 4%. Naturally forming features which regulate steep gradients and dissipate high flow energy.
<b>Strategic Environmental Assessment</b>	<b>SEA</b>	The process by which information about the environmental effects of proposed plans, policies and programmes are evaluated.
<b>Strategic Transport Project Review</b>	<b>STPR</b>	A two year review of the Scottish transport network being undertaken by Transport Scotland. It aims to identify and prioritise road, rail and other interventions of national significance, which will be taken forward to improve the network. Through selecting which transport projects of national significance should be progressed, the STPR would also affect regional and local transport networks.
<b>Superficial Deposits</b>		The youngest geological deposits formed during the most recent period of geological time, the Quaternary, which extends back 1.8 million years from the present.
<b>Supplementary Guidance</b>	<b>SG</b>	A suite of supplementary guidance sitting below the Local Development Plan policies that provides further details on topic areas and on how to comply with the policies
<b>Surface water discharge</b>		Drainage network that discharges via outfall to surface water body
<b>Susceptibility</b>		Capacity for receptor to accommodate change without undue adverse consequences
<b>Sustainable Drainage Systems</b>	<b>SuDS</b>	A sequence of management practices and control structures designed to drain surface water in a more sustainable fashion than some conventional techniques. Referred to in earlier guidance as 'Sustainable <i>Urban</i> Drainage Systems'.
<b>Topsoil</b>		The upper, outermost layer of soil.
<b>Tree Preservation Order</b>	<b>TPO</b>	Made by a Local Planning Authority (usually a local council) to protect specific trees or a particular area, group or woodland from deliberate damage and destruction.
<b>Undesignated cultural heritage assets</b>		An asset is taken as being any cultural heritage site, feature, area or landscape.
<b>Vibro-piling</b>		A method of driving a pile into the ground using rapid repeated oscillations of the pile.

Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Viewpoint</b>		The location from which a view representative of a visual receptor or group of visual receptors is situated.
<b>Visual Amenity</b>		The overall pleasantness of a view that people enjoy of their surroundings, which provides an attractive visual setting or backdrop for the enjoyment of activities of the people in that area
<b>Visual Effect</b>		Effects on specific views and on the general visual amenity experienced by people.
<b>Visual Envelope</b>		The visual envelope illustrates the extent of potential visibility to or from a specific area.
<b>Visual Receptors</b>		Individuals and/or defined groups of people who have the potential to be affected by the proposal.
<b>Vulnerable groups</b>		Children, elderly and disabled.
<b>Waterfowl Habitat</b>		Vegetation and water regimes which facilitate the breeding, nesting, feeding and cover required for the production and proliferation of ducks, geese and other waterfowl.
<b>Water Body</b>		A body of surface water, or a body of groundwater. The WFD defines discrete surface water bodies, but not necessarily a whole river, while groundwater bodies should be distinct.
<b>Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003</b>	<b>WEWS</b>	This Act granted power to Scottish Ministers to introduce regulatory controls (refer to Controlled Activities Regulations (CAR) above) to protect and improve Scotland's water environment, including wetlands, rivers, lochs, transitional waters (estuaries), coastal waters and groundwater.
<b>Water Framework Directive</b>	<b>WFD</b>	Wide-ranging European environmental legislation (2000/60/EC). Addresses inland surface waters, estuarine and coastal waters and groundwater. The fundamental objective of the WFD is to maintain "high status" of waters where it exists, preventing any deterioration in the existing status of waters and achieving at least "good status" in relation to all waters by 2015.
<b>Water quality</b>		The chemical and biological status of various parameters within the water column and their interactions, for example dissolved oxygen, indicator metals such as dissolved copper, or suspended solids (the movement of which is determined by hydrological process and forms geomorphological landforms).
<b>Whalley Hawkes Paisley Trigg</b>	<b>WHPT</b>	Biological metric used as an indicator of stream health, principally in relation to water quality and organic pollution.
<b>Wildfowl</b>		Any wild bird such as ducks, geese or swans.
<b>Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981</b>	<b>WCA</b>	Principal mechanism for wildlife protection in the UK.

Term	Abbreviation	Description
<b>Wide Single Carriageway with three lanes</b>	<b>WS2+1</b>	Wide single carriageway with three lanes, the middle of which switches direction every so often to provide an overtaking lane to each side in turn. Based on the principle that alternate WS2+1 layouts are provided to ensure balanced overtaking opportunities in each direction.
<b>Written Scheme of Investigation</b>	<b>WSI</b>	A method statement or a project design to cover a suite of archaeological works for a site. The WSI is prepared as a response to a project brief and details how the archaeologists will fulfil the requirements set out in that brief. The WSI is agreed by all relevant parties as this is the tool against which performance, fitness for purpose and standards can be measured.
<b>Zone of influence</b>		An area along a proposed development over which potential ecological effects extend.
<b>Zone of Influence (hydrogeological)</b>		The region extending from an area of cuttings in which the potential effects of groundwater dewatering may extend.
<b>Zone of Theoretical Visibility</b>	<b>ZTV</b>	Area in which a proposed development would theoretically be visible, based on a 'bare-ground' model which takes account of topography but not the screening effects of structures (e.g. buildings), vegetation (e.g. woodlands). May also be referred to as <i>Zone of Visual Influence</i> .