

## Appendix F – Acronyms and Glossary of Terms

### Acronyms

AA: Appropriate Assessment

ABTA: Area Based Transport Assessment

ACA: Architectural Conservation Area

ATU: Atlantic Technological University

CDP: County Development Plan

CFRAM: Catchment Flood Risk Assessment and Management

DCC: Donegal County Council

DCCAE: Department of Climate Action and Environment

DCCC: Donegal County Childcare Committee

DCHG: Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht

DES: Department of Education and Skills

DHLGH: Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage

DMURS: Design Manual for Urban Roads and Streets

DTTaS: Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport

EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment

EIAR: Environmental Impact Assessment Report

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency

ESB: Electricity Supply Board

EU: European Union

EV: Electric Vehicle

GHG: Greenhouse Gas

HNDA: Housing Need and Demand Assessment

IDA: Industrial Development Agency

LAP: Local Area Plan

NIR: Natura Impact Report

NPF: National Planning Framework

NRR: Northern Relief Road

NTA: National Transport Authority

NWCR: North West City Region

NWRA: Northern and Western Regional Assembly

NZEB: Nearly Zero Energy Building

RPS: Record of Protected Structures

RSES: Regional Spatial and Economic Strategy

SAC: Special Area of Conservation

SEA: Strategic Environmental Assessment

SFRA: Strategic Flood Risk Assessment

SSDS: Southern Strategic and Sustainable Development Site

SUDS: Sustainable Urban Drainage Solutions

TEN-T: Trans-European Network for Transport

TII: Transport Infrastructure Ireland

URDF: Urban Regeneration and Development Fund

WAW: Wild Atlantic Way

WRR: Western Relief Road

## Glossary

This glossary contains phrases relating to land use and planning matters. It covers a variety of issues ranging from new development and regeneration, to conservation and environmental protection.

The glossary is neither a statement of law nor an interpretation of the law, and its status is only an introductory guide to planning phrases. This glossary should not be used as a source for statutory definitions.

### **Active Travel**

Active Travel is travelling with a purpose using your own energy. Generally, this means walking (including all users of footpaths) or cycling as part of a purposeful journey. Increasingly, non-motorised scooters are also being used for urban transport, especially by school children, and this would also be considered as active travel. Walking as part of a commute to work, cycling to the shop or scooting to school are all considered active travel, whereas walking or cycling for purely leisure purposes is not.

### **Adaptability**

The potential to modify the spaces of a home by altering the fabric of the building to cater for the different needs of an individual's or family's life cycle (e.g. a study space becomes a bedroom; a living room area enlarges by merging with an adjacent room etc).

### **Appropriate Assessment**

A requirement to consider the possible nature conservation implications of any plan or project on the Natura 2000 site network before any decision is made to allow that plan or project to proceed.

### **Architectural Conservation Area (ACA)**

Designated areas where significant groupings or concentrations of heritage structures require protection and conservation. The special character of an ACA could include amongst other things its traditional building stock, material finishes, spaces, streetscape, landscape and setting.

### **Biodiversity**

The variety of life (wildlife and plant life) on earth.

### **Brownfield Land/Site**

Land within an urban area that has previously been subjected to building, engineering or other operations (excluding temporary uses or urban green spaces).

### **Climate change**

Climate change includes both the global warming driven by human emissions of greenhouse gases, and the resulting large-scale shifts in weather patterns.

### **Community Facilities**

Facilities, which are operated for the benefit of the public and which are open to the public.

### **Density (Housing)**

This is a measure of the intensity of use of land, specifically with regards to housing, the number of dwelling units provided on a given area of land, usually expressed in dwelling units per hectare. When a 'gross' density figure is used, land for main distributor roads, public open spaces and other facilities is added into the calculation. The area used for 'net' density figures includes only private open space, access roads and incidental public open spaces.

### **Development Contribution Scheme**

A scheme which allows a Planning Authority to levy financial contributions for the provision of public infrastructure, facilities, projects or services as a condition of planning permission.

**Development management:**

This is a term to describe the process where the local authority assesses the merits of a proposed development through the planning process (where planning applications are lodged) including the processing, evaluation, decision making and notification components of that process.

**Green field land/sites**

Potential development land/sites within, or on the periphery of the urban settlement, that has not been subject to previous development.

**Green Roof**

A green roof, also known as a living roof or rooftop garden, is a vegetative layer that is grown on a rooftop.

**Housing Need and Demand Assessment (HNDA)**

A HNDA estimates the future number of additional homes to meet existing and future need and demand within the local authority area. It also captures information on the operation of the housing system to assist the Council to develop policies for new housing supply, management of stock and provision of housing related services.

**Infill**

New building which fills in a gap in otherwise continuous built-up frontage, i.e. a small unused site within a built-up area.

**Infrastructure**

The services required to support new development – can include, inter alia, drainage, water supplies, sewage treatment plants, sewerage networks, lighting, and telephone lines, broadband, electricity supply, roads, buildings, schools, community facilities, cultural and recreational facilities.

**Mitigation**

An action that helps to lessen the impacts of a process or development on the receiving environment.

**Modal shift**

The process whereby people change their travel behaviour from a particular type of transport (private car for example) to another more sustainable form of travel (public transport for example).

**Modal Split**

The split of users of different modes of public and private transport.

**Natural Heritage Area (NHA)**

Areas which cover nationally important semi-natural and natural habitats, landforms or geomorphological features, wild plant and animal species or a diversity of these natural attributes.

**Permeability**

The degree to which an area has a variety of pleasant, convenient and safe routes through it.

**Protected Structure**

A building, feature, site or structure identified in the Record of Protected Structures (RPS) as worthy of protection or preservation in accordance with the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended).

**Record of Protected Structures (RPS)**

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.

**Special Area of Conservation (SAC)**

These are prime wildlife conservation areas in the country, considered to be important on a European as well as Irish level. The legal basis on which SACs are selected and designated is the EU Habitats Directive, and these sites form part of the 'Natura 2000' network of sites throughout Europe.

**Special Protection Areas (SPAs)**

Areas of special interest for the conservation of wild bird habitats, especially listed, rare or vulnerable species and migratory species. They are established under the Birds Directive (Council Directive 79/409/EEC), and form part of the 'Natura 2000' network of sites throughout Europe.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)**

Strategic Environmental Assessment is a process which attempts to evaluate the likely consequences on the environment of implementing a plan, programme or strategy.

**Sustainable urban Drainage Systems (SuDS)**

Sustainable urban drainage systems aim towards maintaining or restoring a more natural hydrological regime, such that the impact of urbanisation on downstream flooding and water quality is minimised. SuDS involve a change in our way of managing urban run-off from solely looking at volume control to an integrated multi-disciplinary approach which addresses water quality, water quantity, amenity and habitat. SuDS minimise the impacts of urban runoff by capturing runoff as close to source as possible and then releasing it slowly.

**Sustainability**

Refers to development, which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Traffic Impact Assessment**

A detailed assessment of the nature and extent of the impact of any substantial development on the immediate and surrounding road network and, if deemed necessary, on the wider transportation system.

**Urban Renewal**

The revitalisation of urban areas through specific development objectives and strategic planning principles.

**Urban Sprawl**

The excessive outward expansion of built development, away from the core city/ town centre and into the surrounding countryside. This form of development is viewed as unsustainable.