

Glossary

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| Ambient Air Quality | Background/present quality of air |
| Base Year | Assessment of the current conditions |
| Bathymetry | Measurement of ocean depth |
| Biotope | An area that is uniform in environmental conditions and in its distribution of animal and plant life |
| Cumulative Effects | The summation of effects that result from changes caused by a development in conjunction with other past, present or reasonably foreseeable actions |
| Do-Minimum Scenario | Assumes that the development would not go ahead in the opening year (2009) |
| Do-Something Scenario | Assumes that Penzance Harbour is re-developed to the Concept Design in the opening year (2009) |
| Direct Effects | An effect that is directly attributable to a defined element or characteristic of the proposed development |
| Extrusive Igneous Rocks | Formed from magma which has solidified on the earth's surface |
| Fault | A planar or gently curved fracture in the earth's crust across which there has been relative displacement |
| Geomorphology | The science of surface landforms and their interpretation on the basis of geology and climate |
| Hydrogeology | The study of geological factors relating to water below ground |
| Hydrology | The study of water on the surface of the earth, including rainfall, rivers, streams and embraces the concept of the hydrological cycle |
| Indirect Effects | Impacts on the environment, which are not a direct result of the development but are often produced away from it or as a result of a complex pathway. Sometimes referred to as secondary impacts |
| Intertidal Zone | The area between the land and sea that is covered by water at high tide and uncovered at low tide |
| Intrusive Igneous Rocks | Formed from magma which has solidified within the earth's crust |
| Landscape Capacity | The degree to which a particular landscape character type or area is able to accommodate change without unacceptable adverse effects on its character. Capacity is likely to vary according to the type and nature of change being proposed. |

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| Landscape Character | The distinct and recognisable pattern of elements that occurs consistently in a particular type of landscape, and how these are perceived by people. It reflects particular combinations of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement. It creates the particular sense of place of different areas of landscape. |
| Landscape Character Area | Are defined by unique individual geographical areas. They share generic characteristics with other areas of the same type but have their own particular identity. In the majority of cases there will be more landscape character areas than landscape character types, as some types will occur in more than one area |
| Landscape Character Type | A landscape type will have broadly similar pattern of geology, landform, soils, vegetation, land use, settlement and field pattern discernible in maps and field survey records. |
| Do-Minimum Scenario | Assumes that the development would not go ahead in the opening year. |
| Landscape Effects | Change in the elements, characteristics, character and qualities of the landscape as a result of development. These effects can be positive or negative. |
| Landscape Evaluation | The process of attaching value (non-monetary) to a particular landscape, usually by the application of previously agreed criteria, including consultation and third party documents, for a particular purpose (for example, designation or in the context of the assessment). |
| Landscape Quality (or Condition) | Landscape quality is based on judgements about the physical state of the landscape, and about its intactness, from visual, functional, and ecological perspectives. It also reflects the state of repair of individual features and elements that make up the character in any one place. |
| Landscape Resource | The combination of elements that contribute to landscape context, character and value. |
| Landscape Sensitivity | The extent to which a landscape can accept change of a particular type and scale without unacceptable adverse effects on its character. |
| Landscape Value | The relative value that is attached to different landscapes. In a policy context the usual basis for recognising certain highly valued landscapes is through the application of a local or national landscape designation. Yet a landscape may be valued by different communities for many different reasons without any formal designation, recognising, for example, perceptual aspects such as scenic beauty, tranquillity or wilderness; special cultural associations; the influence and presence of other conservation interests; or the existence of a consensus about importance, either nationally or locally. |
| Made Ground | Soil deemed to be man made or not natural |
| Magnitude | A combination of the scale, extent and duration of effect. |
| Metamorphism | The change in mineralogy and texture imposed on a rock by pressure and temperature in the earths interior |

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| Noise Sensitive Developments | Developments that are particularly susceptible to changes in air quality, usually determined by their function and the receptors within the development itself e.g. schools, hospitals |
| Palaeo-Channel | An ancient river system, which may potentially have a geological importance in terms of the fossils that may be preserved within them |
| Peak Particle Velocity Vibration Index | Measurement used for assessing disturbance due to vibration from construction activity |
| Soundscape | Used to describe an atmosphere or environment created by or with sound |
| Stratigraphy | The study of rock strata, especially the distribution, deposition, and age of sedimentary rocks. |
| Townscape | “is the physical and social characteristics of the built and unbuilt urban environment and the way in which we perceive those characteristics. It is this mix of characteristics and perceptions that make up and contribute to townscape character and give a 'sense of place' or identity.” Department of Transport (2004) |
| Visual Amenity | The value of a particular area or view in terms of what is seen. |
| Visual Effect | Change in the appearance of the landscape as a result of development. This can be positive (i.e. beneficial or an improvement) or negative (i.e. adverse or a detractor) |
| Visual Envelope | Extent of potential visibility to or from a specific area or feature |
| Zone of Visual Influence | Area within which the proposed development may have an influence or effect on visual amenity |