

## **Appendix A: Glossary**

**Core Strategy** Centrepiece of Local Development Framework (see below) designed to provide long term spatial vision and strategic objectives of planning and development for a Borough. This should be closely aligned to the SCS

**Development Control** The process whereby a local planning authority receives and considers the merits of a planning application and whether it should be given permission having regard to the development plan and all other material considerations.

**Development Plan Documents (DPDs)** These are documents that make up the Local Development Framework (LDF) prepared under the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act of 2004. DPDs are independently examined by an Inspector and form the key development goals for an area. DPDs include the Core Strategy and Area Action Plans. All DPDs must be subject to rigorous procedures of community involvement, consultation and independent examination, and adopted after receipt of the inspector's binding report. Policies in the DPD are then used in development control decisions.

**General Conformity** A Local Development Document must be in "general" conformity with the strategy and proposals set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy as assessed by the Regional Planning Body (GLA in London). Normally, it would only be where an inconsistency or omission of a policy causes significant harm to the implementation of the RSS that it would be considered not to be in general conformity.

**Independent Examination / EIP** The process by which a planning inspector may publicly examine a Development Plan Document (DPD) or a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), in respect, before issuing a binding report. The findings set out in the report are binding upon the planning authority that produced the Regional Spatial Strategy, DPD or SCI.

**Judicial Review** A procedure by which the High Court may review the reasonableness of decisions made by local authorities, the Secretary of State or lower courts, for example a planning decision.

**Local Area Agreements (LAAs)** Effectively the delivery mechanism for realising the Sustainable Community Strategy. Contain 35 targets from a national set of 198 indicators, plus a much larger number of locally negotiated targets. Basis of funding streams.

**Local Development Documents (LDDs)** General Term for Development Plan Documents

**Local Development Framework (LDF)** Non-legal term for the package of Local Development Documents and Local Development Scheme and monitoring report in the Borough prepared under the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act of 2004

**Local Planning Authority (LPA)** The local authority or council that is empowered by law to exercise planning functions. Often the local borough or district council.

**Local Strategic Partnerships** Set up under the Local Government Act 2000. An overall partnership of people that brings together organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sector within a local authority area, with the objective of preparing the Sustainable Community Strategy. The LSP has a role in setting and delivering Local Area Agreement targets.

**Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004** The Act updates elements of the 1990 Town & Country Planning Act. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduces a statutory system for regional planning and a new system for local planning

**Planning Inspectorate** The Planning Inspectorate is the government body responsible for, the processing of planning and enforcement appeals, holding inquiries into local development plans, reporting on planning applications called in for decision by the Secretary of State, examinations of development plan documents and statements of community involvement.

**Planning Obligations and Agreements** Legal agreements between a planning authority and a developer, or undertakings offered unilaterally by a developer, that ensure that certain extra works related to a development are undertaken. For example, the provision of highways. Sometimes called "Section 106" agreements.

**Planning Policy Statement (PPS)** Issued by central government to replace the existing Planning Policy Guidance notes in order to provide greater clarity and to remove from national policy advice on practical implementation, which is better expressed as guidance rather than policy.

**Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)** A long-term strategy for how a region should look. The Regional Spatial Strategy identifies the scale and distribution of new housing in the region eg London, indicates areas for regeneration, expansion or sub-regional planning and specifies priorities for the environment, transport, infrastructure, economic development, agriculture, minerals and waste treatment and disposal.

**Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)** Document within the LDF that explains who, how and when you can be involved in preparing a DPD or SPD and responding to planning applications.

**Statement of Consultation/Statement of Compliance** A report or statement issued by local planning authorities explaining how they have complied with their Statement of Community Involvement during consultation on Local Development Documents.

**Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG)** Supplementary Planning Guidance may cover a range of issues, both thematic and site specific and provide further detail of policies and proposals in a development plan.

**Sustainability Appraisal (SA)** Formal assessment of the social, environmental and economic impacts of Local Development Documents

**Sustainable Community Strategy** A strategy prepared by a local authority to improve quality of life and aspirations, and takes an integrated approach to social, economic and environmental concerns. Established by the Local Government Act 2000, this should be integrated and aligned with Core Strategy. Local Area Agreements are the delivery plan for the SCS.

**Unitary Development Plan** An old-style development plan prepared by a metropolitan district and some unitary local authorities, which contains policies equivalent to those in both a structure plan and local plan. These plans will continue to operate for a time after the commencement of the new development plan system, by virtue of specific transitional provisions

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These terms are adapted from the Planning Portal ([www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk)) Glossary page. The Planning Portal provides a comprehensive glossary of terms relating to planning. Please visit the Planning Portal Glossary for further terms relating to planning.