

Glossary

Accessibility

The opportunity to reach jobs, services, housing, recreation, shopping and entertainment within a reasonable time frame and without being impeded by physical, social or economic barriers.

Accession

Government-approved accessibility mapping software used by local authorities and other agencies which draws together transport, land use and socio-economic information to identify whether people can access jobs, education, health and other key activities.

APR Annual Performance Review

A yearly report which assesses progress made by highway authorities in delivering their LTP objectives.

AQAP Air Quality Action Plan

Once an Air Quality Management Area has been declared the council must develop an action plan which sets out how the air quality objectives will be met.

AQMA Air Quality Management Area

An AQMA must be designated under the Environment Act 1995, when, as a result of an air quality review, it is identified that any air quality standards or objectives are not being achieved in a particular area.

ATC Automatic Traffic Counter

AVL Automatic Vehicle Location

AVL is a computer-based vehicle tracking system which can be integrated with other Intelligent Transport Systems, including Real Time Passenger Information, automatic passenger counters, automated fare payment systems, automatic stop annunciation, automated destination signs and traffic signal priority.

Bus Priority

Bus priority measures assist buses through traffic, enabling more consistent journey times and delivering improved timetable reliability. Measures include bus lanes, selective vehicle detection at signalised junctions and bus gates.

Bus Punctuality Improvement Partnerships

A measure suggested by the Government's Bus Partnership Forum. Operators share their punctuality data with local authorities to identify trouble spots on routes and to plan and implement remedial action.

BVPI Best Value Performance Indicator

BVPIs are a national set of 94 performance measures that provide the public and local and central government with a means of monitoring, analysing and comparing the achievements and performance of local authorities.

Car Share Devon

Car sharing website supported by Torbay, Plymouth City and Devon County Councils.

Community Transport

Community Transport is the provision of non-profit making transport for members of the community who do not have suitable conventional public transport services available for their travel needs.

CPA Comprehensive Performance Assessment

The CPA is undertaken annually by the Audit Commission and provides an overall assessment of a council's performance through a combination of assessment and performance indicators for key services. The results give local residents an opportunity to gauge service delivery in their area and give councils a focus for improvements.

CPZ Controlled Parking Zones

A CPZ is an area where on-street parking controls have been introduced by the local authority to manage parking in the interests of the local community, e.g. to remove long-term non-residential parking so that residents can park close to their homes and local traders / businesses and their customers are also able to park close to their shops / premises.

Corporate Plan

The Council's Corporate Plan sets out the 10 priorities that, through extensive consultation, local residents consider most important to them. The Plan describes how it intends to improve the way the Council works in order to achieve the vision, goals and targets set out in the City Strategy.

Cycle Forum

The Plymouth Cycle Forum comprises representatives from local and national cycle groups, pedestrian groups, City Council access, transport, environmental and planning officers, elected members of the City Council, the police and neighbouring local authorities. It provides a very broad base from which future cycling policies and proposals can be developed taking a wide range of issues into consideration.

Demand Management

In transport planning, demand management describes measures used by planners to try to reduce car use by encouraging behavioural change in household travel choices.

DCRP Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership

The DCRP is one of the longest established and largest community rail partnerships in the country. It is a non-profit making organisation that works to promote travel on rural branch lines, to seek improvements to services and facilities and to promote the places served by the branch lines and help the local economy.

DEFRA Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs

Government department concerned with the interests of farmers, the countryside, the environment and the rural economy.

Development Control

The Council's Development Control team processes planning applications, enforces planning legislation and provides general advice on planning matters. The development control process tries to ensure that development is allowed where it is needed, while preventing the character and amenity of the area from being adversely affected by new buildings or changes in the use of existing buildings and land.

Devon Structure Plan

The Devon Structure Plan (2001-2016) sets out strategic planning policies for development in Devon in respect of housing, employment, conservation, minerals, waste, transportation, shopping, tourism, leisure and recreation. It provides a framework for detailed decisions by local authorities in the preparation of their Local Development Frameworks and Community Strategies.

DfT Department for Transport

Government department responsible for the transport network, run by the Secretary of State for Transport.

DRC Depreciated Replacement Cost

DRC is the replacement cost of an item less accrued depreciation (or plus appreciation). (See also GRC.)

Driver Improvement Scheme

The National Driver Improvement Scheme (NDIS) is a driver rectification scheme currently employed by an increasing number of police districts in the UK as a direct alternative to a court prosecution for minor traffic offences.

ETM Electronic Ticket Machine

FQP Freight Quality Partnership

A FQP with local and regional stakeholders aims to develop an understanding of freight distribution issues and problems and promote constructive solutions that reconcile the need for access to goods and services with local environmental and social concerns.

HQPT High Quality Public Transport.

HQPT is characterized by the following features: reliability; high quality information before and throughout the journey; a safe and pleasant walk to the station / stop; a safe and pleasant wait at the station / stop; good ride quality; a positive image of vehicles and infrastructure; and the aspiration to progress from bus services through intermediate technologies to LRT services.

Highway Authority

Highway authorities are responsible for producing the Local Transport Plan and for managing existing or proposed new local roads in their area. They can be county councils, metropolitan councils or unitary authorities.

Home Zone

Home Zones seek to provide a better quality of public space and enhanced streetscape usually incorporating pedestrian priority. They involve residents in the design process and raise awareness about street design and road safety.

Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 (IMD 2004) is a measure of multiple deprivation at the small area level. The factors taken into consideration are income, employment, health and disability, education, skills and training, barriers to housing and services, crime and living environment.

Indicators

Specific performance measures chosen to provide comparable measures of progress towards achieving objectives and target

ITS Intelligent Transport Systems.

ITS comprises hardware and software information systems technologies used to tackle transport congestion and other problems.

Kickstart

In 2005 the Government launched the Kickstart programme to replace the Urban Bus Challenge competition. £20m is being made available over a 3 year period to pump prime new bus services or service improvements which will contribute to the Government's overall objectives of increasing bus patronage and developing bus services as an alternative to car use.

KSI Killed and Seriously Injured.

The most serious category of road traffic accident.

LAQM Local Air Quality Management

LDF Local Development Framework.

The LDF is the portfolio of documents that will replace the current Local Plan by 2007. It will include Local Development Documents such as a Core Strategy, Specific Allocations of Land, Area Action Plans (if needed), Proposals Maps, General Development Control Policies and Supplementary Planning Documents. The Core Strategy is required to set out the key elements of the LDF - its vision and strategic objectives, its spatial strategy, the core policies that apply to the whole area, and a monitoring and implementation framework. The time horizon will be at least ten years. This Development Plan Documents will be one of the first to be prepared and other documents must be in conformity with it.

LRT Light Rapid Transit

LRT describes a variety of urban and suburban passenger railways that utilize equipment and infrastructure that is typically less massive than that used for rapid transit systems, with modern light rail vehicles usually running along the system.

LSP Local Strategic Partnership

LGA Local Government Association

The LGA is the national body that represents the interests of local authorities in the UK.

Major Scheme

In transport planning terms a major scheme a transport scheme with a gross projected cost of greater than £5m.

NAQS National Air Quality Strategy**NCN National Cycle Network**

The National Cycle Network is a network of cycle routes that cover most of mainland United Kingdom. The routes are chosen to minimise contact with normal traffic, for example by using former pedestrian routes and disused railways or using very minor roads or traffic-calmed routes in towns and cities.

NRS Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy**Modal Split**

Modal split describes the proportion of people using different modes of transport or the proportion of journeys made using those modes.

P&R

Park and Ride

Paramics

Paramics is a transport modelling software package that enables a wide range of real world traffic and transportation problems to be simulated. It can help to assess both individual transport schemes and broad transport strategy options for the city.

PCC Plymouth City Council**PCT Primary Care Trust**

PCTs are responsible for planning and securing of health services and improving the health of the local population e.g. ensuring there are enough GPs to provide for their population and that they are accessible to patients, and ensuring the provision of other health services including hospitals, dentists, mental health care, Walk-In Centres, NHS Direct, patient transport (including accident and emergency), population screening, pharmacies and opticians.

Peripherality

Significant spatial and temporal remoteness from other important population centres.

Plymouth 2020 Partnership

The Local Strategic Partnership for Plymouth responsible for producing the Community Strategy (City Strategy).

PNR

Private non-residential (parking).

Puffin Crossing

A puffin crossing (pedestrian user-friendly interface) is a type of pedestrian crossing in use in the United Kingdom.

QBP Quality Bus Partnerships

QBPs are agreements (either formal or informal) between one or more local authorities and one or more bus operators that set out measures to be implemented by all parties to enhance local bus services.

RES Regional Economic Strategy

An economic strategy produced by the regional development agency for a ten-year period up to 2015

RFA Regional Funding Allocation

The RFA sets out how regional funding received from national government will be spent by local authorities.

RSS Regional Spatial Strategy

The RSS is a plan up to the year 2026 produced by regional assembly. It will set a regional framework for 'where things go', what the scale of development should be and the links between broad issues like healthcare, education and crime, as well as basic infrastructure such as transport. It will aim to protect what is highly valued about the region, at the same time making provision for sufficient new homes, jobs, retail and leisure facilities to meet the needs of a growing and increasingly affluent population.

RTPI Real Time Passenger Information

Intelligent Transport Systems that provide real time information to passenger transport users and operators about the punctuality of services.

RTS Regional Transport Strategy

The South West Regional Assembly has to produce an RTS as part of its Regional Spatial Strategy. The RTS is informed by the delivery programmes of the Highways Agency and the Strategic Rail Authority and must be taken into account by highway authorities when compiling their Local Transport Plans.

SCOOTSplit Cycle Offset Optimisation Technique

A Traffic Signal Control System

Section 106 Agreement

Section 106 agreements are 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 e.g. junction improvements or contributions are collected to cope with increased traffic movements caused by the development.

Shared Priorities

Central and local Government have agreed seven shared priorities for Local Government. These are: raising standards across our schools; improving the quality of life of children, young people, families at risk and older people; promoting healthier communities by targeting key local services such as health and housing; creating safer and stronger communities; transforming our local environment; meeting transport needs more effectively; and promoting the economic vitality of localities.

Shopmobility

Shopmobility services enable independent access to retail facilities through the provision of wheelchairs, scooters and escorts for people with physical or visual impairments.

Smartcard

A smartcard is a plastic card, about the size of a credit card, with an embedded microchip that can be loaded with data, used for telephone calling, electronic cash payments and other applications and periodically refreshed for additional use.

SMS Short Message Service

A service for sending messages of up to 160 characters (224 characters if using a 5-bit mode) to mobile phones that use the Global System for Mobile (GSM) communication.

SOA Super Output Areas

SOAs are a new geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales. Until now the standard unit for presenting local statistical information has been the electoral ward / division. However, this had drawbacks, such as the size of wards varying from less than 100 to over 30,000 residents and their boundaries being subject to regular changes. It was therefore decided to develop a range of areas that would be of consistent size and whose boundaries would not change. These were built from groups of the Output Areas (OAs) used for the 2001 Census, and were named Super Output Areas.

SSCT Strategically Significant Cities and Towns

The RSS identifies 22 SSCTs across the southwest as places that currently play a critical strategic role regionally or sub-regionally and have potential to achieve further significant development sustainably.

STP School Travel Plan

A travel plan produced by a school with the object of identifying sustainable transport solutions to the problems of pupils on the journey to and from school.

Supported Bus Services

Commercially unviable bus services that are subsidised by highway authorities in order to meet social needs.

SWERDA South West of England Regional Development Agency

Organisation whose goal is to improve the economy of South West England.

SWRA South West Regional Assembly

A partnership of councillors from all local authorities in the region and representatives of various sectors with a role in the region's economic, social and environmental well-being. It is responsible for developing regional strategies such as the Regional Spatial Strategy.

TIF Transport Innovation Fund.

A new national funding stream which aims to support local authorities in developing innovative transport proposals to tackle congestion and improve productivity. Proposals including an element of road pricing are particularly encouraged.

Toucan crossing

A toucan crossing is a type of pedestrian crossing found in the UK that also allows bicycles to cross. Since two (both pedestrians and cyclists) can cross together, the name toucan was chosen. Some toucan crossings also are dedicated for horses to cross.

Trajectory

The path along which performance levels move against an indicator from a start point towards a target point.

TTWA Travel to Work Area.

A broadly self-contained labour market area usually focused on an urban employment centre.

Unitary Authority

A unitary authority is a type of local authority, which has a single-tier and is responsible for all local government functions within its area. This is opposed to a two-tier system where local government functions are divided between different authorities, such as District Councils and County Councils.

Urban Bus Challenge

The Urban Bus Challenge scheme invited local authorities to bid for funding for innovative urban bus services that contribute to regeneration by improving transport provision in areas of economic or social deprivation. This scheme is now being replaced by the Kickstart programme.

UTMC Urban Traffic Management and Control.

The co-ordination, control and monitoring of traffic signals over a wide area by central computer to optimise traffic flows and the efficiency of the network.

VMS Variable Messaging Signing.

VMS is located at key points on corridor routes and connecting routes. The UTMC system uses data obtained from computers to assess the volume and speed of traffic on different sections of the routes. Delays will be immediately spotted and appropriate advisory messages transmitted to motorists via the variable message signs.

WTP Workplace Travel Plan

A plan implemented by an employer with the object of promoting sustainable transport options for staff travelling to and from the workplace.