

JARGON BUSTER

A-Z of Local Council terms, acronyms, and phrases

A

AGAR Annual Governance & Accountability Return

AONB Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

C

CCG Clinical Commissioning Group

CLT Community Land Trust

D

DDCMS Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

DEFRA Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

DfE Department for Education

DfT Department for Transport

DPO Data Protection Officer

DWP Department for Work & Pensions

E

Easement A right to cross or otherwise use someone else's land for a specified purpose

F

FOI Freedom of Information (Act)

G

GDPR General Data Protection Regulations

GPDO General Permitted Development Order

Green Paper Consultation Paper issued by the Government prior to making something law

H

HMO A House in Multiple Occupation

HMRC Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs

I

ICO Information Commissioner's Office

Internal Audit A function procured by the council to review and report on the effectiveness of internal controls

Internal Controls An activity, process or system to ensure a local council's activities are carried out properly, as intended and within the law

L

LAA Local Area Agreement

LCAS Local Council Award Scheme

LCR	Local Council Review (NALC magazine)
LDF	Local Development Framework
LDO	Local Development Order
LGA	Local Government Act
LGA	Local Government Association
LGO	Local Government Ombudsman
LLG	Lawyers in Local Government

M

MHCLG	Ministry for Housing, Communities & Local Government
MO	Monitoring Officer
MoD	Ministry of Defence

N

NALC	National Association of Local Councils
NNDR	National Non-Domestic Rates
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework

O

OCS	Office for Civil Society
ONS	Office of National Statistics

P

PCSO	Police Community Support Officers
PPG	Planning Policy Guidance
PPS	Planning Policy Statements
Precept	The local council's share of council tax. Determined by the local council and collected by the principal authority.

R

RFO	Responsible Financial Officer – under section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, a local council must arrange for the proper administration of their financial affairs and that an officer is responsible for the administration of those affairs.
Riparian Rights and ownership	The rights and responsibilities attached to owning a watercourse

S

SBC	Swindon Borough Council
SHLAA	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment
SLCC	Society of Local Council Clerks
SWLEP	Swindon & Wiltshire Local Enterprise Partnership

T

TPO Tree Preservation Order

U

Ultra Vires Any activities which are beyond the powers of the local council, and therefore outside of the law

W

WALC Wiltshire Association of Local Councils

Wayleave A type of easement or right of way granted by a landowner, often in exchange for payment and typically for purposes such as the erection of telegraph wires or laying of pipes.

WC Wiltshire Council

White Paper Follows a green paper consultation, sets out the Government's plans for changes to the law on certain issues. Open to discussion but not a consultation document.