

APPENDIX 9.1 – WATER ENVIRONMENT GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
AW	Anglian Water
CDC	Cherwell District Council
CRT	Canal and River Trust
Culvert	A structure that channels water past an obstacle such as underneath a road or embankment.
Cumec (m ³ /s)	Measure of flow rate. One cumec is shorthand for cubic metre per second.
Defra	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges.
EA	Environment Agency
Fluvial Flooding	Flooding resulting from water levels exceeding the bank level of a watercourse
Fluvial Geomorphology	The processes of water and sediment movement in river catchments and channels and their floodplains, together with the forms produced by those processes.
Hydraulic Model	A collection of mathematical equations that give a simple representation of reality. They can be used to estimate: flow, water level and velocity in river channels; pipe networks; tidal systems and/or floodplains.
Flood Risk Assessment (FRA)	A site-specific assessment of all forms of flood risk to the site and the impact of development on of the site to flood risk in the area
Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR)	A remote sensing method that uses light in the form of a pulsed laser to measure ranges (variable distances) to the Earth.
LLFA	Lead Local Flood Authority – local authority responsible for taking the lead on local flood risk management

Term	Definition
Main River	A watercourse shown as such on the Government's Main River Map, and for which the Environment Agency has responsibility and powers
OCC	Oxfordshire County Council
Ordinary Watercourse	All watercourses that are not designated Main River. Local Authorities have similar permissive powers as the Environment Agency in relation to flood defence work. However, the riparian owner has the responsibility of maintenance.
Return Period	An estimate of the interval of time between events of a certain intensity or size, in this instance it refers to flood events. It is a statistical measurement denoting the average recurrence interval over an extended period of time.
Sewer Flooding	Flooding caused by a blockage or overflowing in a sewer or urban drainage system
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest.
Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)	Management practices and control structures designed to drain surface water in a sustainable manner
TW	Thames Water