

Abbreviations & Acronyms which may be used in ‘housing’ related reports/discussions

Version 4		Revised Feb 2016
Acronym	Meaning	Explanation
ASC (was ACS)	Adult Social Care – used to be Adult Care Services	Herts CC Dept dealing with adults with care needs/disabilities
AOT	Assertive Outreach Team	Part of Community Mental Health Service
ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour	
BME	Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic/Black & Minority Ethnic	
BRMA	Broad Rental Market Area	Division of areas for Local Housing Allowance purposes - EH has 3
CAB	Citizens Advice Bureau	
CBL	Choice-Based Lettings	System of allowing Housing Register applicants to choose where to live
CB	Child Benefit	
CD	Community Development	
CLG (DCLG)	Department for Communities & Local Government	
CMHT	Community Mental Health Team	Primary Care Trust team for people with mental health issues
CTC	Child Tax Credits	
CS (was CSF)	Children’s Services – was Children, Schools & Families	Herts CC Dept dealing with the needs of children & families
DLA	Disability Living Allowance – now replaced by Personal Independence Payments (PIP) for adults over 16 years	
DV	Domestic Violence	
EHCAS	East Herts Citizens Advice Service	Local CAB service
EHRC	Equalities and Human Rights Commission	
ESA	Employment Support Allowance	Replaced Incapacity Benefit
HA	Housing Application	Application to join the council’s Housing Register
HB	Housing Benefit	
HCA	Homes & Communities Agency	The government’s housing, land and regeneration agency,

**Community Scrutiny work programme
Essential Reference Paper C**

		and the regulator of social housing providers in England.
HHSRS	Housing, Health & Safety Rating System	System that Environmental Health use to assess safety in the home
HMO	House in Multiple Occupation	Shared accommodation - rooms let individually in one property
HPU	Homeless Persons Unit	Not used in East Herts, but some LAs still refer to temporary accommodation as such.
HR	Housing Register	List of applicants asking for social housing, usually prioritised by housing need.
HSSA	Housing Statistical Appendix	Local Authority annual return on housing stock/numbers
HV	Home Visit	Carried out by Housing Options to verify applicant's details
IS	Income Support	
ISS	Independence Support Service	Herts CC Dept dealing with care leavers
JSA	Job Seeker's Allowance	Replaced Unemployment Benefit
LCHO	Low Cost Home Ownership	Shared equity, shared ownership, fixed equity and other low cost home ownership options
LDF	Local Development Framework	Portfolio of local development documents for planning strategy for EH
LDT	Learning Disabilities Team	Primary Care Trust team for people with learning disabilities
LHA	Local Housing Allowance (Housing Benefit)	Set levels of HB payable for different sizes of properties with BRMAs
(was LSP) EHSP	East Herts Strategic Partnership (was Local Strategic Partnership)	The EHSP brings together a number of different agencies working in partnership to formulate a District-wide community strategy
MAPPA	Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangement	Panel convened to deal with high risk members of the community, often ex-prisoners
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference	Panel convened to deal with domestic violence
NTA	Notice of Transfer Application	Housing Options send NTA to housing associations whose tenants have requested a transfer

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Essential Reference Paper C**

NTQ	Notice to Quit	Issued by a private landlord when the landlord requires the property back from the tenants. Gives two months' notice.
NOSP	Notice of Seeking Possession	Issued by a housing association/local authority when the landlord requires the property (primarily due to breaches of tenancy conditions)
PIP	Personal Independence Payments	Replaces DLA for adults over 16 years
PPO	Persistent & Prolific Offender	
RDS	Rent Deposit Scheme	'Housing Options' fund for helping homeless clients into private rented properties generally in the form of a loan.
RP(s)	Registered Provider(s)	Replaces RSL (below)
RSL(s)	Registered Social Landlord(s) (no longer used)	Housing Association
SCS	Sustainable Community Strategy	Prepared on behalf of LSP to set out vision & priorities for the area and mechanisms for delivery
SHLAA	Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment	Identification of deliverable sites available, suitable and achievable for housing
SHMA	Strategic Housing Market Assessment	Technical study that assesses future housing demand across all tenures.
SP	Supporting People	Funding for providing support by housing providers for elderly and vulnerable tenants
TA	Temporary Accommodation	Generally provided by local authorities for households that are homeless.
WA	Women's Aid	Organisation providing advice and refuges for women escaping domestic violence.
WTC	Working Tax Credit	In work benefit for those on a low income.