### Acronyms

API

: [Application Programming Interface](#Term_ApplicationProgrammingInterface).

DMZ

: acronym for “de-militarised zone”, the vernacular name for a public facing network, used to host Interface tiers accessible from service clients.

ETL

: acronym for Extract, Transform, Load – an integration approach that can involve [API](#Acronym_API)s but often involves some form of direct privileged access to a system’s operational datastores.

GUI

: [Graphical User Interface](#Term_ApplicationProgrammingInterface). A form of [UI](#Acronym_UI).

ICT

: acronym for Information & Communication Technology, the domain of defining Information elements and using technology to automate their communication between entities. [IT](#Acronym_IT) is a subset of ICT.

LRMI

: learning resource metadata initiative. See Dublin Core.

PI

: Personal Information.

PII

: Personal Identifying Information. A subset of [PI](#Acronym_PI).

REST

: acronym for Resource Stateless Transactions, a design approach for [API](#Acronym_API)s (contrast with [RPC](#Acronym_RPC)).

RPC

: acronym for Remote Process Call. See [REST](#Acronym_REST).

IT

: acronym for Information, using Technology to automate and facilitate its management.

UI

: User Interface. Contrast with [API](#Acronym_API).

### Terms

Refer to the project’s Glossary.

Application Programming Interface

: an Interface provided for either other tiers or systems to invoke (as opposed to [User Interface](#Term_UserInterface)s used by end users). APIs are developed either for user interfaces to consume, or for other services to consume. They are developed following either a Resource based approach (see [REST](#Acronym_REST)) or Process based design (see [RPC](#Acronym_RPC)).

Data Hub

: a centre of data exchange between systems. The data may be persistent. The data may be longitudinal, supporting. The data is expected to be provided and accessed via authorised authenticated access over [API](#Acronym_API)s.

Deletion

: deletion of records and resources can be either physical or logical, noting that [longitudinal](#_Longitudinal) data hubs require that deletion be solved using logical state flags (Draft, Released, Merged, Removed, etc.) avoiding physical deletion.

Dublin Core

: a widely used standard schema for resource metadata. See [LRMI](#Acronym_LRMI).

Entity

: is a term with different meanings depending on context. At a high level, an entity, in information technology, is a thing with distinct properties and independent existence. A [person](#Entity_Person) is an entity. An invoice is an entity. Entities can link to or be linked to by other independent [entities](#Term_Entity). A Group is an example of such.   
In contrast, limbs are not discussed in isolation to the [body](#Entity_Body) they belong to, nor is a line item a thing that can live independently to a parent invoice. These sub-parts of a parent entity which cannot be addressed in isolation are referred to information theory as [value-objects](#Term_ValueObject).   
When the term is used in a business or social domain, it often is taken to refer to an business or government sector organisation.

When the term is used in a system information context the term is generally referring to a model of a single record within a system database table.

Layer

: a logical layer of a component. Most often one of “Client”, “Interfaces”, “App” or “Logic” and “Infrastructure” and “Storage”.

##### Longitudinal

: Longitudinal data tracks the same sample at different points in time. An example data sample can consist of individuals and/or their profiles, relationships, etc, over long durations (e.g.: multi-decade).

Normalised

: data within a database which has been structured to reduce data redundancy, supporting an improvement of its integrity.

Service Client

: a service used to connect to the presentation layer of a service and consume its interfaces.

Tier

: a *physical* system [layer](#Term_Layer), often within a Subnet of a network.

User

: a human user of a system via its [UI](#Acronym_UI)s.

User Interface

: a system interface intended for use by system users. Most computer system UIs are Graphics User Interfaces ([GUI](#Acronym_GUI)) or Text/Console User Interfaces (TUI).

Value Objects

: see [entity](#Term_Entity) above.