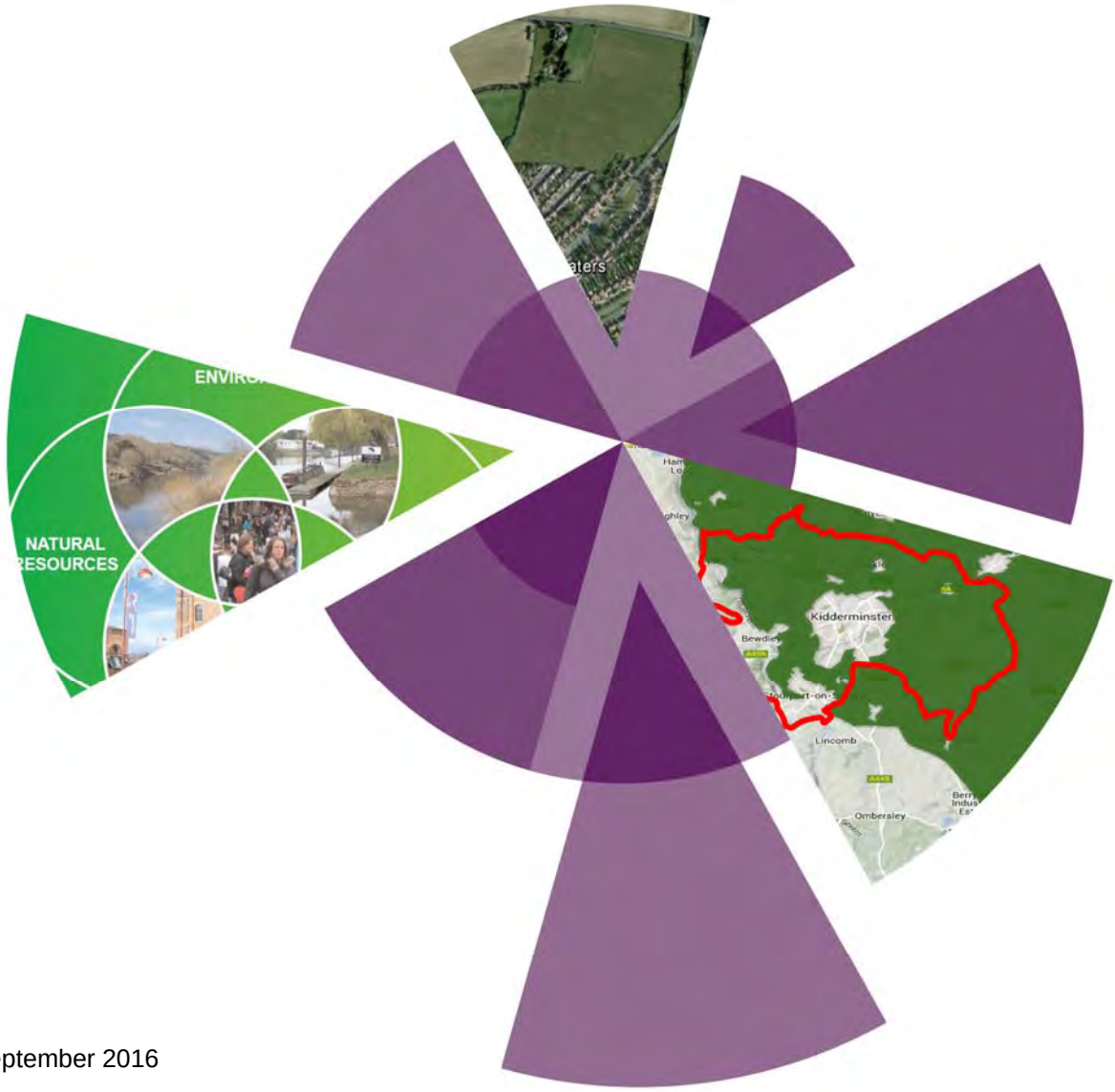
Wyre Forest District Council

# Green Belt Review

## Strategic Analysis

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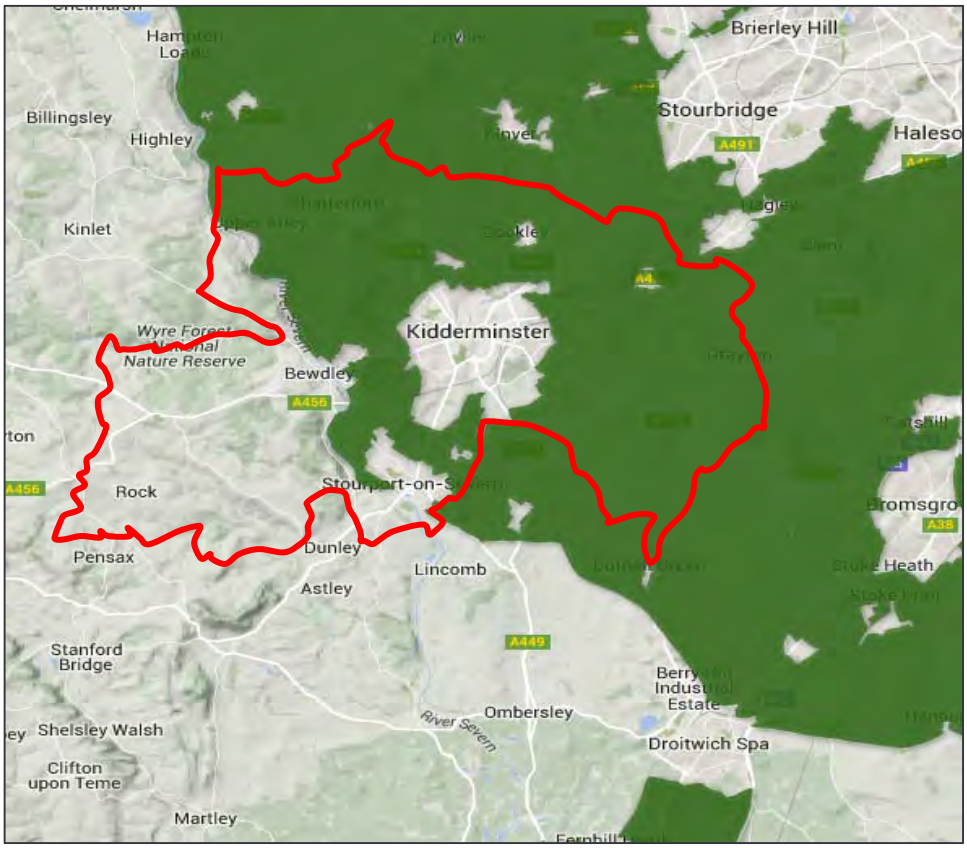
# Executive summary

## Purpose of this report

This report has been produced for the purpose of setting out the results of a review of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest District. The objective is to test the Green Belt against the five purposes set for it in national policy to determine the extent to which it is contributing to those purposes. **The report does not identify land for release or development.** Along with other studies, the report will be used as part of the evidence base in the production of the Council's new Local Plan.

## The study area

Figure 1 The Green Belt in Wyre Forest and its sub-regional context




## Approach and outline methodology

The Green Belt Review is principally a strategic review of Green Belt purposes, complemented by an exploration of the character and role of villages within the Green Belt, drawing conclusions on the suitability for the continued and potential in-setting of villages within the Green Belt, as required by paragraph 86 of the NPPF. A second stage report will be a more refined consideration of the contribution to Green Belt purposes of more specific parcels of land which sit within the strategic parcels.

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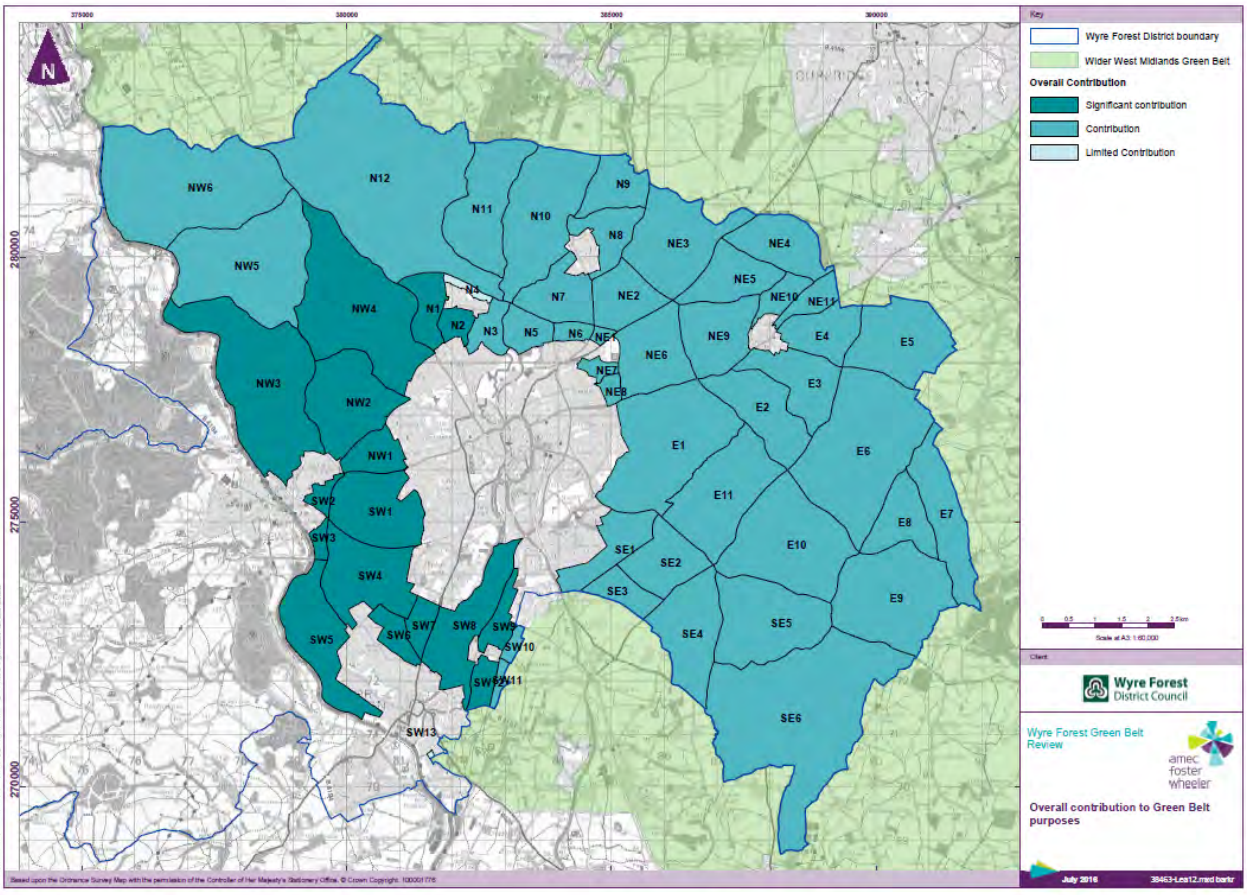
## Strategic Review of the Green Belt

The results of the Strategic Review of Green Belt purposes is illustrated in Figure 2. This is a map of the overall contribution to Green Belt purposes which is a composite judgement derived from the detailed analysis of the contribution to the five Green Belt purposes which is set out in **Appendix B**.

None of the judgements on the relative contribution of the villages to Green Belt purposes are scored or weighted and the overall assessment reflects professional judgement on the contribution of the parcel to Green Belt purposes as a whole. Thus a Significant Contribution in respect of separation for example, and a Limited Contribution in all other respects, can lead to an overall Significant Contribution reflecting the parcel's prime purpose. Equally, contributions across a number of purposes may still only lead to a judgement of a Contribution overall.

The results of the Strategic Review of Green Belt purposes demonstrate that the Green Belt is overall and within specific parcels making a Contribution or Significant Contribution to Green Belt purposes as set out in the NPPF. Whilst there is inevitable variability amongst the degree of contributions to specific purposes, no land was identified as making such a Limited Contribution to Green Belt purposes as to warrant removal from the Green Belt, although two parcels (N4 at Fairfield and SW13 at Lower Heath, Stourport) were identified as making an overall limited contribution, reflecting their particular geographies.

Figure 2 Overall Contribution to Green Belt Purposes




## Analysis of Wyre Forest's Green Belt Villages

The rural hinterland of the Wyre Forest contains a mix of settlement types, from small clusters of dwellings to substantial villages. The Council's Core Strategy (2010) Key Diagram outlines the classification of settlements. The larger four villages have an inset boundary (i.e. excluded) from the Green Belt and two which remain 'washed over', as follows:

- Cookley (inset)

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- Fairfield (inset)
- Blakedown (inset)
- Wilden (inset)
- Chaddesley Corbett (washed over)
- Wolverley (washed over)
- Upper Arley (washed over)

An analysis of Green Belt Villages is required by the NPPF to determine whether there remains a case for keeping villages washed over by the Green Belt, by virtue of their contribution to Green Belt purposes in respect of helping to maintain openness. It is also important to undertake this exercise as part of the broader review of Green Belt purposes, where the settlements can be put into their wider context.

## Study Conclusions

**1.** Across the District, the Green Belt fulfils its intended strategic purpose as part of the West Midlands Green Belt, with many instances of more than one purpose being fulfilled.

The assessment of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest has identified that the vast majority of it fulfills its intended purposes, as specified in the NPPF, that is largely maintaining a sense of openness through permanence and consistency of development restraint. The Green Belt clearly functions as part of the wider West Midlands Green Belt, contributing to the prevention of the sprawl of the Birmingham conurbation into the surrounding countryside, whilst also fulfilling local roles. The Green Belt has changed in character since its designation, reflecting increases in accessibility, land use change and incremental development of various kinds, but its essential character of openness remains. Many parcels meet multiple purposes and in only two instances does land make a consistently limited contribution, both reflecting their particular geographies. There are a large number of parcels which for different reasons overall make a significant contribution to Green Belt purposes, reflecting roles of maintaining separation between towns, protecting the setting of towns and preventing sprawl and/or encroachment into open countryside. This creates a complex picture which demands that any proposals for the removal of Green Belt designation though the Local Plan process, justified by Exceptional Circumstances or development in the Green Belt justified through Very Special Circumstances, would need to take account of this strategic review.

**2.** The current approach to insetting and washed-over status of Green Belt villages is reasonable, although there may be a case for a re-examination of the village envelopes to allow for development to meet local needs.

The villages within the Green Belt are of a diverse character, with those have been inset into the Green Belt meriting this approach by virtue of their size and density. Modest changes to the settlement envelope could occur to allow for further growth if required. Those villages that are washed over should remain so because of their open character and strong relationship with the landscape in which they are located, although again modest development through infill would not necessarily damage their relationship with the Green Belt.

**3.** Opportunities for Positive Land Management

In some locations in proximity to the built-up area, the Green Belt could benefit from positive land management (in light of para 81 of the NPPF). This could help address some of the typical negative characteristics associated with the so-called ‘urban fringe’. On a larger scale, the role of community forestry in particular and its natural fit with Green Belt is acknowledged in the NPPF (para 92). Where development takes place this can offer the opportunity for positive land management both as part of the development footprint and in the immediate environs.

**4.** Meeting Development Needs

Notwithstanding the conclusions reached on the overall integrity of the Green Belt across Wyre Forest District and the principles of permanence set out in the NPPF, there is pressure for development to meet housing and employment needs. As part of the plan preparation process, the

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conclusions reached in respect of the strategic role of the Green Belt will need to be balanced against other factors which together could constitute arguments of 'Exceptional Circumstances' meriting the removal of the Green Belt designation from areas of land (which could comprise whole parcels or parts thereof) to allow for development.

In light of the above, a further study of areas which could merit release in light of development needs would need to be undertaken. Identification of an area as holding potential for release from the Green Belt does not imply that all the identified area should or could be developed. For example, Green Infrastructure could form significant parts of some areas, complementing and enhancing existing landscape and environmental features. In addition, as with any other potential development site, detailed work on site capacity, character and viability would be required.

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# 1. Study Remit and Policy Context

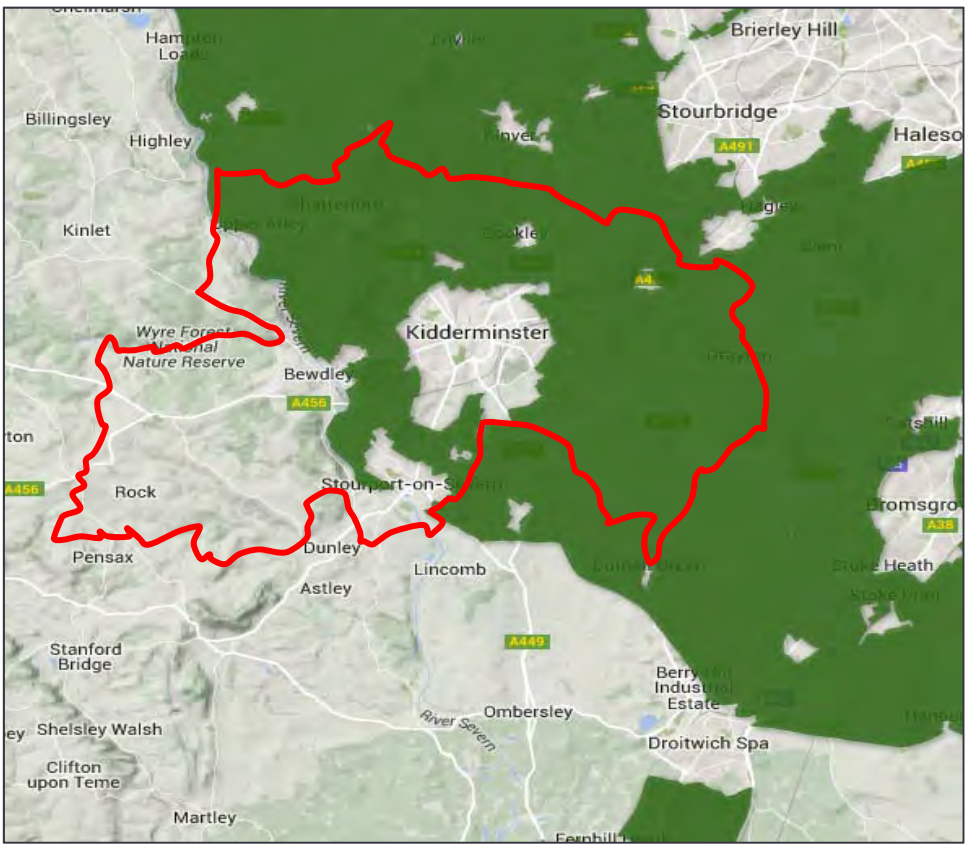
## 1.1 Study Remit

1. This report has been produced for the purpose of setting out the results of a review of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest District. This is the first comprehensive review of the Green Belt undertaken for the Council and the Review will form part of the evidence base for the emerging Local Plan in the determination of appropriate policies and proposals for development. The overall objective is to test the Green Belt against the five purposes set for it in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (para 80) and to determine the extent to which it is contributing to those purposes which are:
   - To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas.
   - To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another.
   - To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
   - To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns.
   - To assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land
2. **The report does not identify land for release or development.** Along with other studies, the report will be used as part of the evidence base in the production of the Local Plan. This Report considers the strategic role of the Green Belt within Wyre Forest District.

## 1.2 Study Area and Relationship with the West Midlands Green Belt

3. The study area for this review is the entire extent of the Green Belt within Wyre Forest District.
4. Figure 1.1 illustrates the Green Belt within Wyre Forest District and its relationship with the south west extent of the West Midlands Green Belt.

Figure 1.1 The Green Belt in Wyre Forest and its relationship with the wider West Midlands Green Belt



## 1.3 Designation of the West Midlands Green Belt

5. The West Midlands Green Belt was created following the introduction of the Town and Country Planning Act of 1947 which allowed local authorities to include Green Belt proposals in their development plans. As in other parts of the country, the designation of Green Belt was a reaction to the urban sprawl along railway corridors and latterly growing car ownership.

6. Land had already been bought by local authorities on the edge of the major urban areas to prevent further outward sprawl, when, in the early 1960s there were proposals for a Green Belt around the Birmingham conurbation. Green Belt proposals were put forward as amendments to development plans but remained formally unapproved until 1975, when the Secretary of State approved the West Midlands Green Belt, although a quarter remained 'interim' and was only introduced in later reviews of structure and local plans.

7. The West Midlands Green Belt covers approximately 900 square miles and extends between 6 and 15 miles from the built edge of the conurbation, surrounding towns like Kidderminster, Bromsgrove, Redditch, Cannock and reaches out to Rugby, Lichfield, Tamworth, Stratford, Warwick and Bridgnorth, Worcester and Telford. While some of these towns are excluded from the Green Belt, villages are often 'washed over' by it.

## 1.4 General Extent of the Green Belt within the Wyre Forest[1]

8. Within Wyre Forest District, the extent of the Green Belt includes all the land as far west as the River Severn, but excludes the towns of Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley and the smaller settlements of Blakedown, Cookley and Fairfield. The precise boundaries of the Green Belt around Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn and Bewdley were determined in detail in 1989, upon the adoption of the Wyre Forest Urban Areas Local Plan.

9. In determining the Green Belt boundaries within the Wyre Forest Urban Areas Local Plan (1989), due regard was had to the longer term requirements of development. Land at Hurcott, Wilden and Worcester Road, Stourport-on-Severn was taken out of the Green Belt accordingly.

10. The previous Wyre Forest District Local Plan was adopted in May 1996. This made no changes to the established Green Belt boundary within the District, except in the rural areas where Green Belt boundaries were defined for the first time around the larger settlements of Blakedown, Cookley and Fairfield. These settlements are now excluded from the Green Belt.

11. The current Local Plan was adopted in 2004. This did not advocate any review of the Green Belt boundaries within the District as part of its review. Based on the availability of sites for housing and employment purposes it was not necessary to develop the Areas of Development Restraint or identify new Greenfield sites.

## 1.5 Previously Developed Sites in the Green Belt

12. The 2004 Adopted Local Plan identified two major developed sites (consistent at the time with guidance contained in Annex C, PPG 2), within the Green Belt under Saved Policy GB.4. These are the Rushock Trading Estate and the Lea Castle Hospital Site. In addition, the West Midlands Safari and Leisure Park is a major site within the Green Belt. All three sites are briefly considered below.

13. Rushock Trading Estate – has an approximate area of 14.5 hectares and is a former military site within the Green Belt. The estate is a thriving business area and is owned by Hovi Developments who acquired the site and spent money refurbishing and upgrading the facilities within the estate boundaries. It is considered that by specifically identifying this site as a Previously Developed Site in the Green Belt the estate will benefit from the flexibility that the Planning Policy Framework provides

[1] Wyre Forest District Council (October 2012) **Wyre Forest District Local Development Framework – Site Allocations & Policies Technical Paper – Green Belt**

and this will enable the re-use and redevelopment of sites within the curtilage to continue, subject to proposals being appropriate in terms of impact on the Green Belt.

14. Lea Castle Hospital Site – has an approximate area of 105 hectares and lies to the north east of Kidderminster. It contains a variety of buildings set out in an attractive landscape, well screened from the surrounding agricultural land by extensive tree belts. The developed element of the site is relatively small with the majority of land comprising significant areas of farmland. The site was developed from the 1950s onwards and was used for a number of years by a variety of National Health Service uses. When the Local Plan was adopted in 2004, only a small section of the site had become obsolete due to a consolidation of activities and was therefore identified as being suitable for redevelopment for a High Technology Business Park. However, this has failed to stimulate any interest and with the changes in the levels of ownership and occupation it is now considered that the whole of the site should be reviewed.

15. In early 2008 the Primary Care Trust (PCT) consulted on a number of options regarding the future use of the site. They later concluded that their preferred option was to relocate existing residents and close down operations. Therefore the large majority of the site is now currently vacant and subject to dereliction and vandalism. The Council is actively working with the site owners to consider its future redevelopment. The site has multiple ownerships but it is predominantly owned by the Homes and Communities Agency (89%), the remainder of the site is owned by the Primary Care Trust (8%) and the Department of Health (3%) with a small element being leased to Worcestershire County Council.

16. Consultation with regard to the future development of the site indicated a general level of support for a mixed use development, with suggestions such as a hospice, educational facility, leisure and residential uses being forwarded to the Council. This site is an attractive semi-rural location; however there are concerns about the viability of continuing the existing allocation of the site. As a consequence it is proposed that other options need to be explored through the Site Allocations process.

17. West Midlands Safari and Leisure Park – is one of the largest tourist attractions within the District. The Park is located entirely within the West Midlands Green Belt and is situated in a strategic gap between the two towns of Kidderminster and Bewdley. It is not only important locally but has regional and national attraction and provides a destination for visitors to the area. Due to the size and scale of the Park and its importance to the local economy it is felt important to specifically identify the site.

18. The predominant land use is open grassland, which despite the fences and ancillary animal houses maintains an openness of the Green Belt. However, there is a large part of the site that is considered to be Previously Developed and this is contained primarily around the rides and leisure element of the park as well as the associated car parking.

## 1.6 Green Belt Reviews conducted by neighbouring authorities

19. Wyre Forest District shares a Green Belt boundary with South Staffordshire, Bromsgrove, Dudley and Wychavon. Dudley MBC and Bromsgrove District have yet to undertake reviews. A partial Green Belt review has been conducted in South Staffordshire[2] which did not review the Green Belt adjacent to Wyre Forest (concentrating on the Green Belt in the immediate vicinity of the District's villages) and in Wychavon (as part of the South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy evidence base[3]), which concluded that Green Belt to the east of Stourport and south of Kidderminster fulfilled its purposes. The review concluded (para 6.27) that:

> *"It is considered that the Green Belt continues to meet a number of the purposes of PPG2, specifically;*

[2] South Staffordshire Partial Green Belt Review, January 2014
[3] South Worcestershire JCS Green Belt Review, July 2010

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- *It prevents the unrestricted sprawl of Stourport-on-Severn at its eastern edge.*
- *It assists, as part of the wider Green Belt, in preventing Stourport merging with neighbouring towns, specifically Droitwich Spa and Bromsgrove.*
- *It assists in safeguarding the countryside, to the east of Stourport-on-Severn from encroachment of unacceptable uses.*
- *It preserves in part the historic setting of the settlement of Stourport-on-Severn."*

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# 2. Approach and Methodology

## 2.1 Approach to the Review

1. This report is a strategic review of the extent to which the Green Belt within Wyre Forest meets the purposes set by the NPPF, complemented by an exploration of the character and role of villages within the Green Belt, drawing conclusions on the suitability for the continued and potential in-setting of villages within the Green Belt, as required by paragraph 86 of the NPPF.
2. The Review is an objective study which considers the extent to which the land meets Green Belt purposes. As such the results provide a reference point for planning decisions relating to land allocations, and is one aspect of the evidence base used to make such decisions. The Review does not take account of any development proposals (strategic or otherwise) or sites being promoted through the plan-making process, although the results of the Review can be used as part of the evidence to appraise such sites, providing the context for specific site configurations which cannot be anticipated by this Review.
3. The NPPF places emphasis on the importance of the permanence of the Green Belt and its defining boundaries. The evaluation of land against Green Belt purposes need to be related to clear and permanent features on the ground that enclose specific tracts of land. Thus for this Review parcels have been defined at a strategic scale to give an overview of the contribution of the land to Green Belt purposes in the context of its role as part of the West Midlands Green Belt. Further subdivision of these parcels can be undertaken to explore locally specific issues.
4. The assessment criteria are used to help guide the narrative which accompanies the judgement on the degree to which the parcels of land fulfil Green Belt purposes. They are not a metric by which the relative contribution of a parcel might be 'scored' and thus produce a ranking of relative contribution, but are used together to help guide professional judgement.

## 2.2 Review Methodology

### Identification of Parcels for the Strategic Review

5. The Green Belt within Wyre Forest has been divided into 59 parcels for survey. There is a need to define parcels at an appropriate scale so as not to produce potentially ambiguous or contradictory results, in so doing striking a balance between the number of parcels surveyed and the utility of the survey outputs; a small number of large parcels is as unhelpful as a large number of small parcels. In addition, conclusions drawn as part of the evaluation of the strategic contribution of the Green Belt will to some extent inevitably be different to conclusions reached on their localised purposes (for example in relation to specific settlements. Where necessary as part of more refined work, sub-parcels (for example down to the field scale) can be identified in order to help explore locally-specific issues and/or impacts.
6. Ordnance Survey maps and aerial photos were in the first instance to identify strategic parcels for assessment, using well-defined physical features including:
   - Roads and rights of way of various scales, from rough tracks through to motorways;
   - A building line that provides a straight logical line and clearly represents the edge of the urban area;
   - A river, stream, ridge, car park, playground or other physical feature (such as a woodland edge);
   - An ownership boundary marked by physical features such as a hedgerow or a fence line; and
   - In the absence of any physical features to follow on the ground to provide a straight line between two permanent physical features.

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7. Figure 2.1 illustrates the 59 parcels used to guide the survey. To aid navigation, the 59 parcels are grouped geographically, typically using major roads to determine the subdivision, resulting in the following six groups:
    - North West (parcels NW1-6)
    - North (parcels N1-12)
    - North East (NE1-11)
    - East (E1-11)
    - South East (SE1-6)
    - South West (SW1-13)
8. Broadly, the parcels are of a finer grain towards the urban edges of Kidderminster, Bewdley and Stourport, reflecting the geographies of these areas, having more and stronger boundaries in the vicinity of the towns. However, this is by no means always the case, where strong boundaries in the form of roads in particular do not exist, leading to some instances of relatively large parcels. A refined assessment where more detail exploration of purposes is required could entail subdivision using field boundaries and other weaker features.

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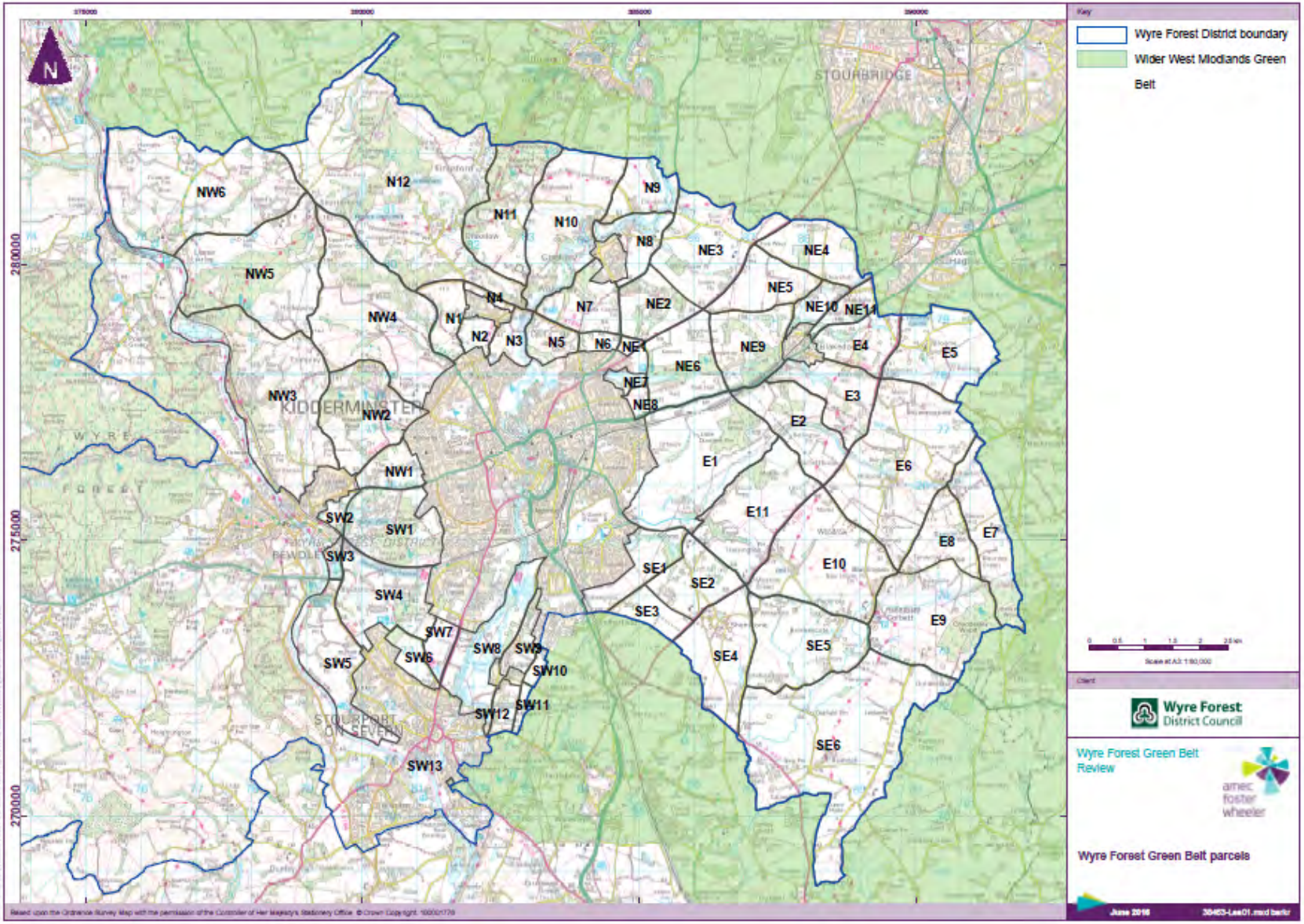
Figure 2.1 Green Belt Parcels for the Strategic Review



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## Assessment of parcels against Green Belt purposes

9. Each parcel was assessed for its contribution against the five Green Belt purposes as set out in national policy (NPPF para 80). The definitions set out in Table 2.1 guided the assessment, along with a detailed Assessment proforma set out in Section 2.4 below.

Table 2.1 Definition of Terms to be Applied in the Review

| Green Belt Purpose | Definition of Terms to be applied in Review |
|---|---|
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas | **Sprawl** – spread out over a large area in an untidy or irregular way (Oxford Dictionary online).<br>**Large built-up areas** – in the context of this study this is Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging | **Neighbouring towns** – Kidderminster, Stourport, Bewdley, Stourbridge and to a lesser extent Bromsgrove.<br>**Merging –** this can be by way of general sprawl (above) or;<br>**Ribbon development** – the building of houses along a main road, especially one leading out of a town or village (Oxford Dictionary Online). This includes historical patterns of, or current pressures for, the spread of all forms of development along movement corridors, particularly major roads. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | **Encroachment**– a gradual advance beyond usual or acceptable limits (Oxford Dictionary online).<br>**The countryside** – open land with an absence of built development and urbanising influences, and characterised by rural land uses including agriculture and forestry.<br>**Openness** – absence of built development or other urbanising elements (i.e. not openness in a landscape character sense which concerns topography and woodland / hedgerow cover). |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | **Historic town** – settlement or place with historic features identified in local policy or through conservation area or other historic designation(s. In the context of this study these are Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land. | Where development in open countryside is likely to render previously developed land in particular vicinity unattractive to develop. |

10. As part of the review of each identified parcel against the five purposes of including land in the Green Belt, the assessment considers the following:
    - Existing land use;
    - Proximity and relationship to the built-up area;
    - Degree of enclosure/openness;
    - Distance and visual connection to historic urban centres/key urban areas; and
    - Relationship to the countryside.
11. A straightforward colouring system (see Table 2.2) and accompanying commentary is used to set out the conclusions for each parcel and to produce maps which summarise the extent to which each parcel fulfils each Green Belt purpose and an overall assessment (a summary matrix and five accompanying maps). This provides a simple tabular and graphical presentation of the contribution to the purposes of the Green Belt. None of the judgements on the relative contribution of the parcel to Green Belt purposes are scored or weighted and the overall assessment reflects professional judgement on the contribution of the parcel to Green Belt purposes as a whole. Thus a Significant Contribution in respect of separation for example,

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and a Limited Contribution in all other respects, can lead to an overall Significant Contribution reflecting the parcel's prime purpose. Equally, contributions across a number of purposes may still only lead to a judgement of a Contribution overall.

Table 2.2 The Colouring Assessment for Individual Green Belt Purposes

| | |
|---|---|
| The parcel makes a **Significant Contribution** to (a) Green Belt purpose(s) and release (either in whole or part) is only likely to be considered where particular material planning considerations exist to justify this. | SC |
| The parcel makes a **Contribution** to (a) Green Belt purpose(s) and release (either in whole or part) would need to be balanced against various material planning considerations. | C |
| The parcel makes a **Limited Contribution** to (a) Green Belt purpose(s) indicating that release (either in whole or part) could be considered in the context of other material planning considerations. | LC |

## 2.3 Survey Proforma

12. Table 2.3 sets out the assessment criteria which were used to assess the contribution of the parcels to Green Belt purposes. The assessment criteria act as guide questions to help develop judgements on the relative contribution of the land to Green Belt purposes and are not necessarily answered individually or are applicable to all parcel assessments, given the variety of their character and location.

13. To set the context, the analysis for each parcel is prefaced by a snapshot of the Ordnance Survey map of the parcel, an aerial photograph, and a pen picture of the character of the parcel drawing on the following factors:

    - Topography
    - Field Pattern
    - Vegetation/Tree Cover
    - Land Use
    - Condition
    - Viewpoints

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Table 2.3 Parcel survey criteria

| Topic | Criteria |
|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection), and would development have an impact on the setting of the town/settlement in question? |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? |

## 2.4 Village definition within the Green Belt

14. The Green Belt within Wyre Forest contains four settlements which have been inset (i.e. excluded) from the Green Belt and three which remain 'washed over', as follows:
    - Cookley (inset)
    - Fairfield (inset)
    - Blakedown (inset)
    - Wilden (inset)
    - Chaddesley Corbett (washed over)
    - Wolverley (washed over)
    - Upper Arley (washed over)

15. The NPPF at paragraph 86 requires that the status of villages currently washed over by Green Belt should be reviewed to determine whether this is still appropriate: *"If it is necessary to prevent development in a village primarily because of the important contribution which the open character of the village makes to the openness of the Green Belt, the village should be included in the Green Belt. If, however, the character of the village needs to be protected for other reasons, other means should be used, such as conservation area or normal development management policies, and the village should be excluded from the Green Belt."* Equally, the boundary of those villages which are currently inset into the Green Belt warrants review. This requirement does not apply to the many hamlets and isolated groups of houses which characterise the Green Belt across Wyre Forest District.

16. It is appropriate to undertake this exercise as part of the broader review of Green Belt purposes, where the settlement can be put into its wider context. Each village currently has an 'envelope' which is the principal extent of development in the village. Policy in the NPPF does not preclude the definition of a village envelope, even if a village remains washed over by the Green Belt, which would allow for limited infilling at the discretion of the Council, thereby complying with para 89(5) which allows for *"limited infilling in villages, and limited affordable housing for local community needs under policies set out in the Local Plan."* In practice this helps to ensure that the villages continue to be able to develop in a sensitive way. This will promote sustainable development that will help meet the needs of local communities though appropriate infill and/or meeting local needs, for example.
    - **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s).
    - **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within the existing village boundary.
    - **Presence and character of open space** – location and relationship with settlement.
    - **Interface with the surrounding landscape** – settlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context.

## 2.5 Consultation and the Duty to Co-operate Statement

17. In order to help promote good planning and fulfil the obligations of the Duty to Co-operate, interested parties were consulted on the study methodology prior to its commencement. Table 2.4 details the organisations consulted who were written to between 27th and 31st May 2016.

Table 2.4 Organisations Consulted on the Green Belt Review Methodology

| Parish and Town Councils within the Green Belt | Adjoining Authorities/Parishes and other interested parties |
|---|---|
| Bewdley Town Council | Rock Parish Council |
| Broome Parish Council | Hagley Parish Council |
| Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council | South Staffordshire District Council |
| Churchill and Blakedown Parish Council | Wychavon District Council |
| Kidderminster Foreign Parish Council | Shropshire County Council |
| Rushock Parish Council | Staffordshire County Council |
| Stone Parish Council | Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council |
| Stourport on Severn Town Council | Bromsgrove District Council |
| Upper Arley Parish Council | Natural England |
| Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council | Environment Agency |
| Bewdley Town Council | Historic England |
| Stourport-on-Severn Town Council | |
| Kidderminster Town Council | |

18. Reponses to the consultation and how these observations have been taken into account are set out in Table 2.5.

Table 2.5 Responses to the Consultation on the Green Belt Review Methodology

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| **Kidderminster Foreign Parish Council** | My members have resolved to comment that they would like no change to dedicated Green Belt within the parish of Kidderminster Foreign.<br><br>However, under the section headed "Reporting" the following statement was made:- "Publication of the Report is anticipated in September 2016. The importance of engaging Councillors (and officers) as part of the development of this important aspect of the evidence base is recognized and a presentation covering the following will be given :"<br><br>1) Could we please be advised when this presentation will be given (I appreciate it says September for the Publication, but do you have an exact date?)<br>2) Could Councillors from this parish please be in attendance? | Noted |
| **South Staffordshire District Council** | We have reviewed the Green Belt review methodology paper produced by Amec Foster Wheeler for Wyre Forest DC and are supportive of the parcel identification and the methodology proposed. Judgements on whether there has limited or no encroachment of the parcel needs to be considered very carefully to ensure a consistent approach has been taken. | Noted |
| **Chaddesley Corbett Parish Council** | Thank you for your email and correspondence regarding the above, and we thank you for giving us an opportunity to comment prior to the conduct of the review.<br>The proposed methodology for the review appears to have been well prepared. There is a mention of site visits, and we would hope that those visits will include discussions with relevant local councils. In addition, Chaddesley Corbett Parish has an adopted Neighbourhood Plan, which is available on our website at www.chaddesleyplan.org.uk. and we would hope that its content and policies will be taken into account.<br><br>Ten of the parcels of green belt land identified for the review fall (wholly or in part) within our parish and all play a valuable | Noted. Site visits are an integral part of the Review process to help inform judgements made. Direct discussions with individual Parish Councils is a matter for Wyre Forest District Council. |

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| | role in fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt set out in the NPPF.<br><br>The Parish Council is of the opinion that no change should be made to the Green Belt status of any of the parcels covered by our Parish, and we would welcome an opportunity to discuss this with the consultants carrying out the review. | |
| CPRE | I have seen your consultation document as a member of Hagley Parish Council and think that it may be useful if I respond on behalf of CPRE.<br><br>I must start by saying that CPRE deplores any loss of Green Belt land, but in this branch, we have had to take a pragmatic approach in the case of Bromsgrove and Redditch, whose housing targets could only be met at the expense of the Green Belt. That is how I approach the issue in the case of Wyre Forest District.<br><br>NPPF makes clear that the variation of the Green Belt boundary should be “exceptional”. However the Minister has made it clear that a Green Belt Review (as part of a Local Plan Review) is the one legitimate route by which Green Belt land can be made available for development, save in certain limited cases or “very special circumstances”. It follows that the preferred option should always be to intensify development within urban areas, rather than to take land out of the Green Belt for development. It also requires the extension of Green Belt to be exceptional. In principle, CPRE would welcome additions to the Green Belt, but do not really expect any.<br><br>Calculations that I undertook at the time of the development of the present Core Strategy indicated that the three towns of the District had sufficient urban capacity to meet its development needs without needing to resort to some of the smaller sites suggested; or certain sites whose current use (as open space, allotments, or such like) made their use undesirable, due to their present role. This includes private gardens, which used to be classified as ‘previously developed land’ (brownfield), but had that designation removed nationally about five years ago. The Core Strategy discouraged their use, but they could provide a significant contribution to housing supply. The use of such land is sequentially preferable to the release of land from the Green Belt.<br><br>This leads me to a further question; one to which I do not know the answer. What is the housing land supply situation? Do the three towns have sufficient urban capacity to meet the District’s needs or not?<br><br>This ought not to be an idle or premature question: if the answer is that non-urban land has to be released for development, it is likely to affect the way in which the parcels map for the Green Belt Review is laid out, because it will at some stage be necessary to select certain of these for release. On the other hand, if the answer is that little or no Green Belt release is likely to be necessary, it probably matters little how the parcels map is drawn up, because none of it is likely to be released.<br><br>If the District does have a potential housing land deficit, it will be necessary to draw the parcels map so that some near-urban parcels will be suitable to be considered for release, though (of course) no selection is being made at this stage. This probably applies not only to the three towns, but also to the larger villages of the district, such as Blakedown, Cookley, and Fairfield at Wolverley. These had ADRs, but these have now been used, so that there is now no more land available for their expansion. Such expansion may be required to meet local needs: it will be better for that need to be met through a planned release (perhaps to Safeguarded Land status) than through the “rural exception housing” route. | Thank you for your response to the WFDC Green Belt Study Technical Consultation which you forwarded on behalf of CPRE.<br>The Technical Consultation was instigated under our Duty to Cooperate responsibilities with neighbouring authorities (including Parish Councils) in order to ensure that those neighbouring authorities were content that the methodological approach to be adopted by WFDC is consistent with the approach agreed by the West Midlands authorities. As such, at this stage, we were not seeking to extend the consultation to other parties.<br><br>The new OAHN report was published by WFDC on its website a while ago; this will form the basis/starting point for our determination of the housing requirement figure. The current plan (which was based on the RSS data) required 200 dw/annum; the new OAHN implies a "policy off" figure of 254 dw/annum. Examination of successive annual reports demonstrate that the District has generated a large amount of its development on pdl in recent years.<br><br>The Preferred Option preparation is currently in train and will depend on a range of new evidence including (on top of the OAHN) Employment Land, Retail/Leisure, SFRA/WCS, Green Belt Study, Viability, Transport/IDP, Open Space, etc. It is anticipated that this will be consulted on in very early 2017. This will include a view as to whether there is any need for the Green Belt boundaries to be reviewed via the plan. This is particularly important in respect of the age of the evidence base upon which the current Green Belt is founded which makes it potentially vulnerable to speculative interests.<br><br>Please note that Wyre Forest DC does not have responsibility for either Hagley or Kinver but there is a proximity issue with the areas of Green Belt within the aegis of Wyre Forest DC. |

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| | A similar issue may arise in relation to parcels adjoining Wribbenhall (in Bewdley) and Lickhill (in Stourport). By identifying very large parcels in this area, the GBR process is prejudging its own outcome, unless there is to be a second stage review to look at further potential sites for release.<br><br>Similarly, in long-listing potential Green Belt release sites, other constraints will need to be taken account of, such as:<br><br>The Rifle Range Nature Reserve being an important environmental site, whose development would not be acceptable for other reasons. Similarly Hartlebury Common (though largely beyond the district boundary). The floodplain of the rivers Stour and Severn and various brooks is unsuitable, due to flood inevitability.<br><br>A further issue arises as to how to deal with the outer boundary of the Green Belt or rather with the status of land beyond it. The boundary is of course the river Severn, which is an appropriate landscape barrier of the most robust kind. The part of the district beyond the Severn is designated as a Landscape Protection Area, which I take to be a local and lesser designation on the way towards AONB. However the question also needs to be asked as to what its boundaries should be. Are Ribbesford and Rock more beautiful than Upper Arley and Trimpley, which lack the LPA designation but are within the Green Belt? Perhaps Upper Arley and Trimpley should be awarded the LPA designation. I do not suggest taking this further downstream on the Severn, because the ground is more level, so that the landscape impact of development would be less.<br><br>East-west transport links through the district remain poor; I particularly mean Birmingham to mid-Wales. The provision of Bewdley bypass has alleviated the problems of Bewdley, but long-distance traffic still has to go through Kidderminster or through Wolverley and Franche to reach the bypass. The Hoobrook Link Road and Stourport inner relief road (when completed) will similarly improve things. Nevertheless, there is a policy issue to be decided as to whether it is better for development to leapfrog the Green Belt with development being permitted on the west sides of Stourport and Bewdley, beyond the Green Belt.<br><br>Table 1 column 1 of the consultation document accurately reflects the longstanding statement of the purposes of Green Belt. However, I would take issue with the limited number of “towns” listed. While the risk of coalescence is not great, both Kinver and Hagley should be regarded for these purposes as lesser towns.<br><br>Kinver is a historic market town, possibly laid out as early as 1221. It grew as the iron industry provided employment until the 1880s, but recoved as a dormitory for Kidderminster and Stourbridge in the 20th century.<br>Hagley, like many villages in the region, provided some industrial employment in metal manufactures in the early modern period, but expanded greatly after the arrival of the railway in the late 19th century, housing commuters travelling to Stourbridge, Birmingham and other towns for work. Its population in 2011 was about 6250. With over 250 houses built or planned on former ADRs, population is likely to rise by at least a further 1000. This makes Hagley considerably bigger than some places that are clearly market towns such as Tenbury Wells.<br><br>I would also suggest that the Green Belt plays a role, not only in separating towns, but also in keeping villages apart. This particularly concerns Cookley and Wolverley and their separation from Kidderminster. This is clearly a less significant role than that of keeping towns apart. At present, | |

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| | Lea Castle Hospital is classified as a major developed site in the Green Belt, but is almost an excrescence of Cookley. While the former hospital is well- screened by belts of trees, it is an intrusion into the Green Belt, one that was probably allowed under the 'very special circumstances' exception. Nevertheless, this serves to break up the undeveloped countryside. | |
| **Environment Agency** | In consideration of the matters within our remit, we have no comments to make in respect of the Green Belt Review. | Noted |
| **Hagley Parish Council** | We have seen the response of CPRE in draft and generally support it.<br><br>Though we frequently suggest that Hagley is a village, for the purposes of the Review we would suggest that Hagley constitutes a town, as it meets some (though not all) of the criteria set out for identifying market towns in the former WMRSS.<br><br>We would be particularly concerned if the outcome of your review were to encourage development either in Churchill or Broome, as it might end off in these villages coalescing with Hagley. We appreciate that this is improbable, since both are 'washed over' by Green Belt.<br><br>We additionally consider that your council should be considering role of the Green Belt for the natural environment, as well as the five purposes of the Green Belt in undertaking your work. | Noted.<br><br>The positive use of Green Belts is considered in this report. |
| **Bewdley Town Council** | The Council is satisfied that a review should be undertaken as part of the Local Plan Review process.<br><br>The Review will also be used in the formation of the Bewdley Neighbourhood Plan which is currently in the evidence gathering stage.<br>The Council is satisfied with the proposed methodology and is pleased to have been approached for its views at this stage.<br>In more detail, comments in relation to individual land parcels are as follows:<br>NW1 – See HELAA site reference WA/BE/5. Possible Green Belt boundary amendment to release this developable plot.<br>There is some debate that taking a slice of this greenbelt zone, which has road boundaries and is one large parcel between Bewdley's built up area and the development at the top of Bewdley Hill on the Kidderminster boundary, is unnecessary.<br>The area is designated using physical road boundaries and starting to erode this area may jeopardise the future of the remaining greenbelt wedge on the Habberley side of Bewdley.<br>SW2 – See HELAA site reference WA/BE/3. Possible release of this developable plot from Green Belt.<br>Developing up to the A456/B4190 traffic island on the Bewdley side would require significant highway works to make this viable, but could attract some significant local investment. This land was part of the Springrove Estate originally and may have a significant impact on the further urbanisation of Wribbenhall if developed. Historically the creation of the Safari Park was supposed to provide a viable way of protecting the original greenbelt between Kidderminster and Bewdley. Some might say that the current planning consents and further commercialisation of the Safari Park have gone beyond this already.<br>SW3 – See HELAA site reference WA/BE/1. Possible release of this developable plot from Green Belt.<br>Releasing this plot form the Green Belt could bring forward an accessible development site and bring some significant local investment.<br>Parcels labelled NW1, NW2, SW1, SW4 are clearly performing important Green Belt functions as follows:<br>Preventing the merging of Bewdley with Kidderminster | Comments on specific parcels are noted and will be taken into account by Wyre Forest District Council in parallel with the findings of this report. |

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| | Preserving the setting and special character of Bewdley as an historic town<br>Parcels labelled SW4 and SW5 are clearly performing important Green Belt functions as follows:<br>Preventing the merging of Bewdley with Stourport<br>Preserving the setting and special character of Bewdley as an historic town. These areas of Green Belt should be retained for these reasons.<br>To the West of the town there is currently no designated Green Belt. However, we feel that this could be reviewed with particular focus on the area between the traffic island on the junction of the A456/B4190 and Highclere (to make a "triangle" parcel of land) taking in HELAA site references BR/BE7, BR/BE6 and BR/BE8. This would be to "assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment". There is a desire not to allow development up to the edge of the A456 and to protect valuable open space.<br>These sites and the whole length of the A456 bypass road were intended to remain as a green corridor when the bypass was built. Whether we now need to formally protect them should be subject to review. We feel that the whole issue of greenbelt designation to the west of the river Severn needs to be clarified.<br>In summary, the results of public consultation as part of the emerging Bewdley Neighbourhood Plan seem to favour development on smaller sites and windfall sites. Some of the Green Belt sites identified in the HELAA are extensive and larger developments may be difficult to resist if we take them out of the Green Belt. However, the obvious benefits of local investment should also be considered in the round. | |
| **Historic England** | Historic England is pleased to note the focus on the historic environment that runs through the methodology statement. Our only specific comment on the content of the statement relates to Purpose 4 in Table 2. Here, it would be helpful to further strengthen the text to make clear that impacts on the setting of the relevant historic settlement will be a factor in arriving at the score to be awarded. This could be done by adding the words '… and would development have an impact on the setting of the town/settlement in question?' to the first question under criteria.<br>In conducting the green belt review and applying the results as part of preparations for the District Council's new Local Plan, it will also be helpful to cross-reference them with an up to evidence base relating to the historic environment, as required by the NPPF. | Agreed regarding use of additional clause in the survey proforma regarding setting of historic towns.<br><br>Wyre Forest District Council will draw together the evidence base as a whole in decision making. This report refers to the need to consider the findings alongside other aspects of the evidence which by implication concerns historic environment evidence. Conservation Areas are considered as part of the village analysis. |
| **Rushock Parish Council** | Rushock village is entirely within the Green Belt and has not significantly changed since the last review. It remains an area devoid of any urbanising features, which survives as a historic landscape, reflecting late enclosure and containing mature hedgerows and many ancient trees. It represents an area of genuinely mixed farming contained within an open landscape, the like of which has already disappeared in many areas of Britain.<br>In addition to this it provides a green lung for those living in the conurbations close by such as Droitwich, Kidderminster, Bromsgrove and The Black Country and is used as a multi recreational area for walking, cycling and horse riding.<br><br>There are no areas that are suitable for in-fill development in the parish. It is also considered important that the existing Trading Estates stay within their current boundaries. | Noted |
| **Shropshire Council** | We appreciate the opportunity to informally comment on the overview of the proposed methodology for the Green belt review which will provide part of the evidence base for your Local Plan preparation. Many of the points raised below are requests for clarifications on points of detail which will also help us move forward with our own review. | The methodology is based on that developed by LUC and which has been informally agreed by various West Midlands authorities. The method now deliberately does not use scoring or the summation of scores to arrive at judgements as this creates |

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| | As you are no doubt aware, although the Shropshire SAMDev Plan was only adopted at the end of last year, we committed during the examination process to an early review of the Local Plan, including undertaking a Green Belt review. As an adjoining Authority we therefore welcome this early consultation on your proposed review methodology and the opportunities for future involvement in the process, particularly in relation to those parts of the Green Belt with the closest relationships to Shropshire.<br><br>Whilst not specific to your consultation, we are interested in how the methodology being used for your study aligns with that used by the other Worcestershire districts and other Authorities and whether any joint working is taking place? As part of the Shropshire approach to Green Belt review, we will be considering assessments which have been undertaken by other local authorities, particularly those covering adjoining parts of the West Midlands Green Belt. Consistency across the West Midlands Green Belt would seem to be a relevant consideration and we are therefore interested in how this is being addressed in your case? In addition to yourselves we are aware, for example, that South Staffordshire have used LUC to carry out their review and we will also be looking at their approach and methodology.<br><br>It is noted that the methodology statement indicates that 'some of the land parcels to be assessed could include areas of land outside the Green Belt for possible future inclusion in the Green Belt.' It is however not evident from the parcel map which, if any, areas will be looked at outside the existing Green Belt and what the implications may be for Shropshire. The NPPF is very specific in stating that new Green Belt should only be established in exceptional circumstances, therefore we feel that the methodology statement could be more explicit in explaining the rationale for considering new Green Belt and identifying 'exceptional' circumstances. We are aware that other authorities, including our neighbours Cheshire East, have encountered significant difficulties and had an uncomfortable experience at examination with potential designation of new areas of Green Belt.<br><br>It is difficult to determine from the information provided the reasons for selected parcel size and land grouping and it may be the case that these are initial parcels which will be further refined by on the ground survey. It is however evident that a number are very large, including E1 on the urban edge and others such as N12, SE6, and thus potentially incorporate a number of different of different land uses and characteristics. Whilst parcels may logically become larger further from the urban edge, reflecting generally more open rural areas further from settlements , if overly large there may be some difficulties in reconciling different characteristics across the parcel to achieve consistent scoring and overall categorisation relative to the Green Belt purposes. It may then be difficult to form an opinion about the parcel that can be justified in a way that is accepted by respondents and the Inspector. Additionally the need to assess land parcels in relation to other historic settlements in adjoining local authority areas also requires parcels of an appropriate scale.<br><br>In considering 'parcels' and Green Belt boundaries which are overlapping or in the vicinity of Shropshire, we would be obliged, that where there are issues of weak or inappropriate boundaries or other inconsistencies, if you could bring these to our attention for consideration. This, it is hoped, will help prevent inconsistency of approach and ensure that these issues are identified as part of our review.<br><br>In general terms the methodology, which is broadly outlined, seems largely appropriate and we would agree with the acknowledged difficulty in attributing any specific parcel's contribution to urban regeneration. However, although it is | problems of consistency. A common survey proforma is used however which gives consistency in terms of the criteria on which judgements are made.<br><br>The matter of potential extensions to the Green Belt was considered as part of the consideration of the general extent of the Green Belt and is dealt with in the overview (section 3.3).<br><br>The issue concerning parcel size is noted, but for this strategic review, consistency of definition and the identification of an appropriate number of parcels is important. Thus roads, railways and rivers are used as permanent boundaries defining the parcels. This can create apparent anomalies as identified, but the key point is that that these then serve as a basis for more detailed scrutiny, on a field-by-field basis if necessary, in specific areas. Field-scale or distance-based definition of parcels throws up even more anomalies and would create too many parcels for review at this stage.<br><br>The shared boundary with Shropshire to the north west of the District is not based on a firm feature. However, this is relatively remote rural land and common agreement on Green Belt purposes should not be difficult.<br><br>• *does the methodology indicate that the identified green belt boundary and parcel boundary features (set out in Land Parcel definition and Preliminary Analysis) vary in their degree of potential permanence/durability and desirability of use for parcel definition?*<br>Strong boundaries of roads, railways and rivers are used at this strategic stage.<br><br>• *what weight is given to other factors such as landscape features, topography & afforestation in the consideration of 'openness' and separation of settlements, as opposed to simple linear measurements of gaps between settlements?*<br>These factors are taken into consideration of fulfilment of Green Belt purposes and are not weighted.<br><br>• *what categorisation and value is assigned to recreational space (e.g. playing fields, golf courses) in the consideration and definition of encroachment/ urbanisation;*<br>These land uses are taken into account as part of the consideration of fulfilment of Green Belt purposes and as acceptable developments in the |

| Consultee | Comment | Response and how addressed in the Report |
|---|---|---|
| | acknowledged that all the Green Belt purposes carry the same weight, the methodology advocates that Purposes 1 and 3 each have two identified issues with separate assessment criteria. As a result of this, the two criteria in each of Purposes 1 and 3 are only given half the score of the overall purpose (i.e. scored from 0-2 ,rather than 0-4). This perhaps limits the subtlety of parcel assessment, in that the scores available for use in respect of these characteristics are more limited in range. It might also be argued the scoring system weights some of the objectives in its own methodology.<br><br>Other queries we would have over specific criteria may also be addressed in the more detailed methodology. These would include the following:<br>• does the methodology indicate that the identified green belt boundary and parcel boundary features (set out in Land Parcel definition and Preliminary Analysis) vary in their degree of potential permanence/durability and desirability of use for parcel definition?<br>• what weight is given to other factors such as landscape features, topography & afforestation in the consideration of 'openness' and separation of settlements, as opposed to simple linear measurements of gaps between settlements?;<br>• what categorisation and value is assigned to recreational space ( e.g. playing fields, golf courses) in the consideration and definition of encroachment/ urbanisation;<br>• what is the underlying rationale for selection of the towns identified as historic towns and their fit with Green Belt objective of 'preserve the setting and special character of historic towns'? | Green Belt do not influence judgements on urbanisation.<br><br>• *what is the underlying rationale for selection of the towns identified as historic towns and their fit with Green Belt objective of 'preserve the setting and special character of historic towns'?*<br>The rationale is based on the existence of significant recognised assets (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) within towns. |
| **Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council** | Wolverley and Cookley Parish Council fully understands the need for the Green Belt review, however the Council would not wish to see the erosion of the Green Belt land around the villages of Wolverley and Cookley.<br>The Council especially value the separation in N2 and N3 separating Kidderminster from Wolverley on Highlow Bank and likewise the separation of Wolverley from Eastern Kidderminster at Broadwaters at N6 and N1. The Parish Council support development in NE2 (Lea Castle) and are supportive of both residential and mixed use | Noted. Comments on specific parcels are noted and will be taken into account by Wyre Forest District Council in parallel with the findings of this report |

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# 3. Strategic Review of the Green Belt

## 3.1 The character of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest

1. The character of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest comprises largely open countryside (that is free of substantial built development) although it is generally highly accessible, being in the immediate vicinity of the West Midlands conurbation.

2. Land use is diverse, comprising combinations of extensive farmland to the east, woodland combined with arable and pasture to the north and west, typical urban fringe uses in the vicinity of Stourport and Kidderminster (horsiculture, golf courses and other sports-related uses), and adjacent to the River Severn sometimes extensive and semi-permanent mobile home developments. There are some extensive tracts of areas important for biodiversity and recreational use, notably at Arley, Kingsford, Habberley, Hurcott, Chaddesley, Wilden and Birchen Coppice (see para 7.35 of the Adopted Core Strategy for a full list). For the purposes of this Review, the environmental character in terms of constraints, assets and landscape types of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest is illustrated in **Appendix A**.

3. The District is relatively well wooded (being variously copses, larger dense woodland and wood-pasture), particularly so to the north and west which helps to visually absorb development by breaking long-distance views, containing built form and thereby helps to retain a strongly rural character and sense of openness. However, when viewed on plan (through an aerial photograph or map) in some localities there is clear incremental development which cumulatively influences the character of the Green Belt towards fragmented residential development. The condition of the landscape appears generally good, with a strong character, reflecting the general health of agricultural practices, although in the immediate urban fringe there is some evidence of the abandonment (or near-abandonment) of farming.

4. The general sense of openness reflects the application of Green Belt policy which has prevented the occurrence of uncontained development, particularly in the vicinity of main roads. Nevertheless, incremental change has occurred, often associated with isolated dwellings (reflecting the nature of housing demands in some areas), but also where Green Belt designation has been removed. Such localised change reflects broader trends associated with land use change such as the creation of larger fields in arable areas which influences matters such as intervisibility between areas and hence the perception of openness.

## 3.2 Review of Green Belt purposes

5. The results of Strategic Review of Green Belt purposes is illustrated in Figure 3.1 and set out in Table 3.1. They demonstrate that the Green Belt is overall and within specific parcels making a Contribution or Significant Contribution to Green Belt purposes as set out in the NPPF. Whilst there is inevitable variability amongst the degree of contributions to specific purposes, no land was identified as making such a Limited Contribution to Green Belt purposes as to warrant removal from the Green Belt, although two parcels (N4 at Fairfield and SW13 at Lower Heath, Stourport) were identified as making an overall limited contribution, reflecting their particular geographies.

6. **Appendix B (B1 – B6)** sets out the detailed evaluation of each strategic parcel, along with maps illustrating the relative contribution of each parcel to the five Green Belt purposes as defined in the NPPF.

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Figure 3.1 Overall Contribution to Green Belt Purposes

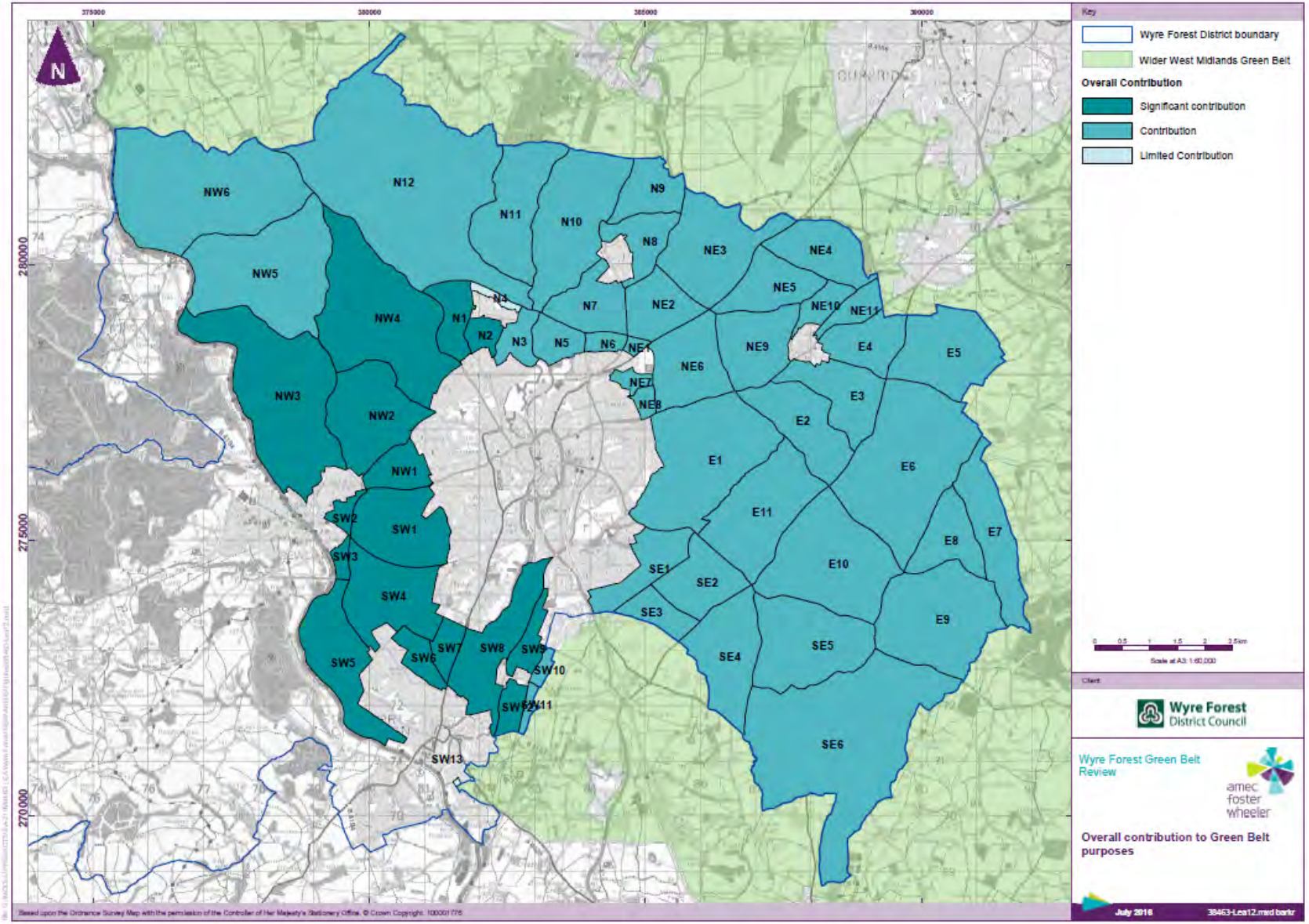

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Table 3.1 Strategic Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes (see **Appendix B** for detailed assessment by individual purpose)

| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NW1 | | SC | SC | SC | C | LC | SC | The parcel performs multiple roles, helping to maintain the separate identities of Kidderminster and Bewdley, preventing the further sprawl of Kidderminster to the west and protecting the open countryside in this and adjacent land to the north from encroachment by sporadic development. |
| NW2 | | SC | C | SC | C | LC | SC | The parcel forms an important part of the northern context of both Bewdley and Kidderminster, in combination with adjoining parcels, whilst in its own right containing the outward pressures for growth from both towns in this direction. |
| NW3 | | SC | LC | SC | SC | LC | SC | This parcel contributes significantly to the containment of Bewdley to the south and retention of a sense of openness on land which constitutes the eastern backdrop to Bewdley. |
| NW4 | | SC | LC | SC | LC | LC | SC | The parcel makes a significant combination to containing the northwestern edge of Kidderminster and preventing broader encroachment into visually sensitive countryside. |
| NW5 | | LC | LC | C | C | LC | C | Despite being relatively remote, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and therefore vulnerable to change which would compromise its largely open character. |
| NW6 | | LC | LC | C | C | LC | C | Despite being relatively remote, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and therefore vulnerable to change which would compromise its largely open character. |
| N1 | | SC | LC | SC | LC | LC | SC | The parcel overall makes a significant contribution through its role in containing the northerly spread of Kidderminster where there has been development up to the break of slope to the valley of Honey Brook. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N2 | | C | LC | SC | LC | LC | SC | The parcel overall makes a significant contribution through its role in containing the northerly spread of Kidderminster where there has been development up to the break of slope to the valley of Honey Brook. |
| N3 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel is largely kept open by virtue of the present of flood risk, there is nevertheless a contribution to preventing development at its fringes, particularly to the north. |
| N4 | | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | Limited contribution in this location given the strong containment of the parcel by the built edge of Fairfield and the B4189. |
| N5 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel maintains a sense of openness in this location, notwithstanding the presence of some substantial built development, creating a transition to the wider open countryside to the north. |
| N6 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through preventing the encroachment of the urban edge of Kidderminster into open countryside, bounded by roads but is visually sensitive land which rises to the B4189. |
| N7 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Contributes to preventing the incremental encroachment of development into open countryside, and sprawl of Kidderminster along the A449. |
| N8 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Contributes to maintaining the openness of land in a visually sensitive and accessible location adjacent to the A449. |
| N9 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is accessible and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| N10 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is accessible and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N11 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is relatively accessible, particularly in its southern reaches, and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| N12 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is relatively accessible, particularly in its southern and western reaches, and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| NE1 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through preventing the encroachment of the urban edge of Kidderminster into open countryside and hence visual intrusion, despite being of a relatively small scale and bounded by roads. |
| NE2 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Notwithstanding carefully located and well screened existing development occupying approximately half the area, the parcel contributes to preventing the incremental encroachment of development into open countryside, and sprawl of Kidderminster along the A449 and A451, on its visually sensitive eastern, western and northern flanks. |
| NE3 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this accessible locality which is between two of the main routes between Kidderminster and the Birmingham conurbation (the A451 and the A449). |
| NE4 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this accessible locality which is between two of the main routes between Kidderminster and the Birmingham conurbation (the A451 and the A456). |
| NE5 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NE6 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through the maintenance of open countryside in this locality and containing potential pressures for sprawl along two of the main roads into Kidderminster (the A451 and A456). |
| NE7 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Part of the arc of Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster which together help to contain the urban edge of the town, and act together to protect the open countryside in this location from incremental change. |
| NE8 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Part of the arc of Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster which together help to contain the urban edge of the town, and act together to protect the open countryside in this location from incremental change. |
| NE9 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| NE10 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | he parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| NE11 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | he parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| E1 | | SC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | This parcel forms a substantial part of the Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster, containing the urban edge and preventing sprawl into open countryside. The absence of significant internal boundaries, comprising field boundaries and hedgerows of varying strength, means that the parcel is potentially vulnerable to the containment of development pressures. |
| E2 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation. |
| E3 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly to the north where it contains Blakedown. |
| E4 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly to the south and west where it contains Blakedown. |
| E5 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly associated with the hamlet of Broome. |
| E6 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation. |
| E7 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change. |
| E8 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in its southern reaches in the vicinity of Bluntington and Drayton. |
| E9 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the westerly fringes where it forms the context for Chaddesley Corbett. |
| E10 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the southeasterly fringes where it forms |

| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | the context for Chaddesley Corbett and the western fringes where it forms the easterly context for Harvington and Mustow Green. |
| E11 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the southeasterly fringes where it forms the context for Harvington and Mustow Green. |
| SE1 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel forms part of an easterly arc of open countryside containing the urban edge of Kidderminster, and as such makes a contribution to retaining its openness, it is well-bounded by Stanklyn Lane to the south east preventing further encroachment into the wider open countryside. |
| SE2 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is related to the easterly arc of open countryside containing the urban edge of Kidderminster and has been subject to scattered built development of various forms. Although this is not intrusive there is the potential for further incremental change. |
| SE3 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is part of wider land outside Wyre Forest which runs to the junction of the A450 and the A442 which as a whole has been subject to incremental development particularly along the southern edge of Stanklyn Lane. The parcel contributes to maintaining the openness of this large-scale arable landscape which is part if the transition to wider open countryside to the south east of Kidderminster. |
| SE4 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst the current footprint is modest, being largely centred on Shenstone, the openness, topography and extensive vistas make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| SE5 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst current development is modest, the openness, topography and extensive vistas (particularly eastwards from Curslow Lane) make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| SE6 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst current development is modest, the openness, topography and extensive vistas (particularly to the west from Rushock) make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| SW1 | | C | SC | C | C | LC | SC | A combination of roles makes the overall contribution of this parcel to Green Belt purposes significant, reflecting its role in separating Kidderminster and Bewdley and providing part of the eastern context for Bewdley. |
| SW2 | | C | SC | C | SC | LC | SC | The overall role of the parcel is to maintain a degree of openness to the east of Bewdley, contributing to the character of the town as well as helping to maintain its separation from Kidderminster. |
| SW3 | | C | C | LC | SC | LC | SC | The parcel is part of the southern gateway to Bewdley and such provides an important part of the setting of the towns from both the A456 Stourport Road and the River Severn., as well containing pressures for southerly expansion of the town and being part of a group of parcels separating Bewdley from Kidderminster and from Stourport. |
| SW4 | | SC | SC | SC | SC | LC | SC | The parcel makes a significant contribution to four of the five purposes of Green Belt, being extensive, strategically located land between Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourport and forming a significant proportion of the open land in this locality. |
| SW5 | | SC | SC | SC | SC | LC | SC | The parcel makes a significant contribution to four of the five purposes of Green Belt, being extensive, strategically located land between Bewdley and |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | Stourport and forming a significant proportion of the open land in this locality. |
| SW6 | | LC | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| SW7 | | C | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| SW8 | | SC | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster as well as specifically preventing sprawl along the A451. |
| SW9 | | C | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| SW10 | | C | C | C | LC | C | C | The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and protecting the wider countryside from encroachment. |
| SW11 | | C | C | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and protecting the wider countryside from encroachment. |
| SW12 | | C | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and potentially contributing to urban regeneration in this locality. |
| SW13 | | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in itself but it is part of the wider Green Belt to the south east. |

## 3.3 Overview

7. The Green Belt in Wyre Forest District fulfils its role as part of the outer extent of the West Midlands Green Belt and performs a number of specific roles: protecting the countryside from urban encroachment across its extent, maintaining the setting of the settlements in the District east of the River Severn, and the historic core of Bewdley immediately to the west of River Severn. Only two instances have been identified where the overall role of the parcel is limited in its contribution to Green Belt purposes as defined in the NPPF.

8. In common with other areas of the West Midlands Green Belt (and indeed country-wide), the accessibility of rural and semi-rural areas through high levels of car ownership creates development pressure which is likely to be increasing. Many such areas within ready commuting distance of service and employment centres and Wyre Forest east of the River Severn lies within the ambit of Stourbridge, Bromsgrove, Redditch and Worcester, as well as being a commuter line into central Birmingham. The Green Belt is considered to be fulfilling its overall function and in many cases parcels fulfill multiple Green Belt purposes.

9. The Green Belt within Wyre Forest District is considered to be robust in its extent, with clear demarcation of its extent either through boundaries with adjoining Districts or the River Severn to the west. For example, extension of the Green Belt westwards across the River Severn would not serve any purpose given the relatively limited extent of built development and the difficulty of finding appropriate boundaries in what is a remote rural area, outside the immediate built areas of Bewdley and Stourport.

10. Overall, whilst the Green Belt is on the periphery of the West Midlands Green Belt, it is no less important in meeting certain strategic purposes, although these are sometimes more generalised. The nature of the Green Belt in parts of the District, notably in the relatively remote northwest and east, means that protection against encroachment is its prime function.

11. It is important to note that decisions on land for release can only be made once development requirements are known and once the rest of evidence base is complete which together help to inform strategy and policy. In this regard, a 'limited contribution' does not mean that land should be released from Green Belt or is suitable for development, or conversely that in the case of a 'significant contribution' that land should not be released from the Green Belt or is not suitable for development, either in whole or in part.

### Land Making a Significant Contribution to Green Belt Purposes

12. These parcels are principally located in the vicinity of three of the Borough's main settlements and reflect their role in limiting the outward spread of these areas, particularly (although by no means exclusively) along road corridors, and in so doing protecting the setting of Bewdley in particular. Of particular note is the significant contribution made of parcel E1 to the east of Kidderminster which reflects the combination of containment of the eastern edge of the town through encroachment and potential sprawl along key transport corridors. The principal characteristic of the parcel is the absence (aside from intermittent hedgerows and some woodland edges) of strong internal boundaries which could be used to contain development. Strong boundaries are important in containing sprawl *("to spread out over a large area in an untidy or irregular way"*) and prevent encroachment (*"a gradual advance beyond usual or acceptable limits"*) and thereby maintain openness (i.e. an absence of built development or other urbanising elements).

13. The overall importance of these parcels to the role of the Green Belt in the District means that the adjustment of boundaries within these parcels is unlikely to be warranted, although there could be adjustments to boundaries (or indeed the creation of new boundaries) to create a new or more logical settlement envelope for example.

### Land Making a Contribution to Green Belt Purposes

14. These parcels comprise the largest proportion of the Green Belt, being situated in a broad swathe across the north and east of the District. Their principal role is in protecting the countryside from encroachment through urbanisation which could not be achieved to the same degree or consistency through policies relating to development in the open countryside alone.

15. The judgement on their contribution to Green Belt purposes reflects their broad role in preventing encroachment of development into the open countryside through piecemeal land release which collectively

and progressively can create an urbanised feel, particularly in the vicinity of main roads and settlements. Whilst the key purpose of the West Midlands Green Belt is to contain the sprawl of the Birmingham conurbation, prevention of encroachment is a particularly important role within Wyre Forest (albeit related to sprawl).

16. Many of these parcels are relatively remote open countryside which are unlikely to be suitable for significant development. Detailed assessment of inner boundaries relating to villages which are inset or washed over by the Green Belt is nevertheless justified where encroachment is unlikely to occur to an extent that would damage the overall function of the Green Belt, or where there may be potential for infill development without compromising Green Belt purposes.

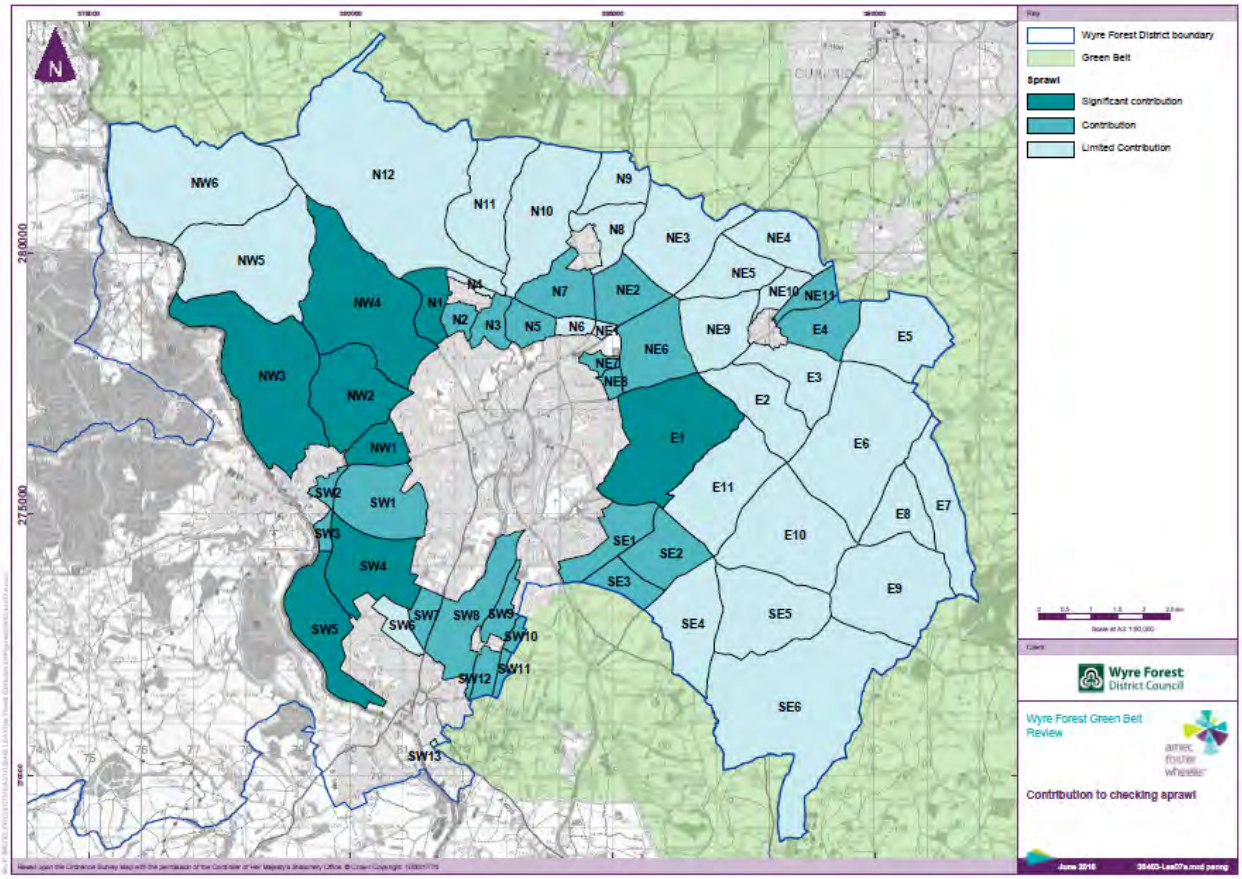
### Land Making a Limited Contribution to Green Belt Purposes

17. The contribution of these two parcels (SW13 and N4) is considered to be relatively limited by virtue of their size and location which is strongly bounded. However, release from the Green Belt is not necessarily justified, for example SW13 has a wider function, being part of the Hartlebury Common SSSI.

## 3.4 Analysis by Green Belt Purpose

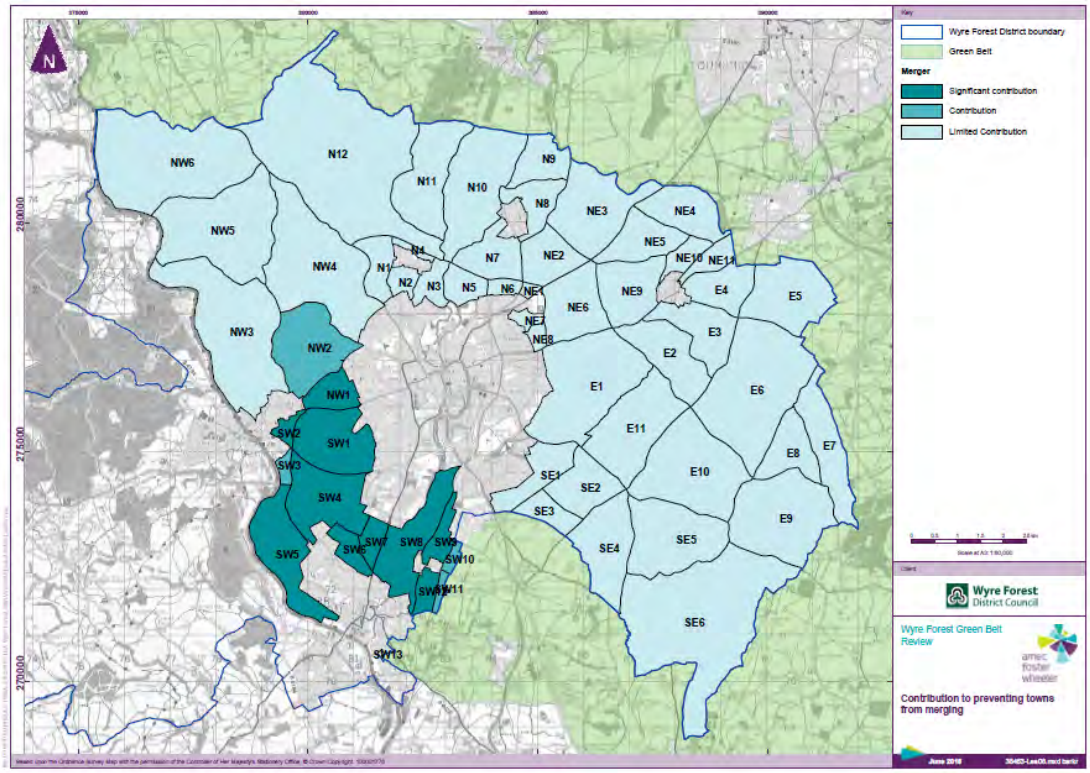
### Checking the sprawl of large built-up areas

18. The Green Belt makes at least a contribution, and in some cases a significant contribution, to containing development within its current boundaries, particularly along the major road corridors into Kidderminster. This is pertinent both to the towns within Wyre Forest, but also to the containment of the Birmingham conurbation, where the Green Belt within Wyre Forest in general supports the containment of Stourbridge by Green Belt within Dudley Borough, South Staffordshire and Bromsgrove Districts. However, aside from the A456 corridor between Hagley and Blakedown, this function is relatively limited in the northeast of the District because of the existing buffer around the urban edge.



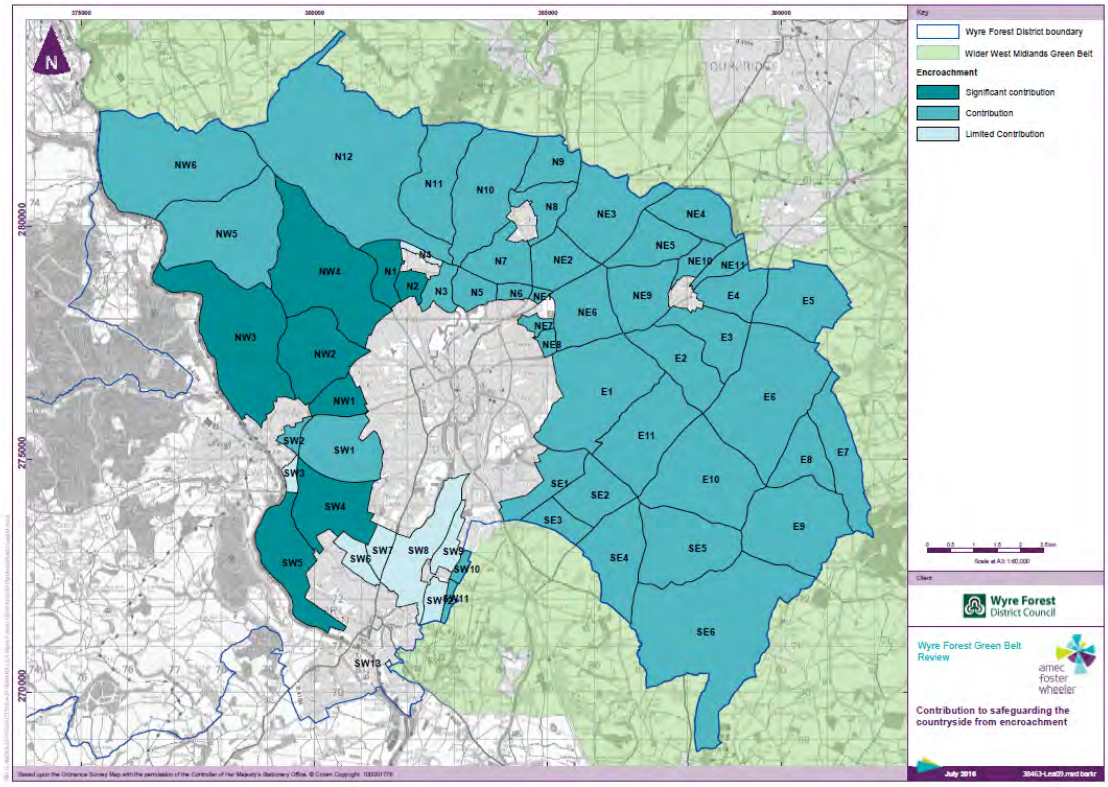
## Preventing neighbouring towns from merging

19. The Green Belt makes a significant contribution to the separation of Kidderminster and Bewdley, Bewdley and Stourport and Kidderminster and Stourport, helping to maintain their physical identities. Parcels which adjoin the major road corridors connecting the towns are particularly important, although the parcel size is often far greater than the immediate zone of influence of the road corridor.



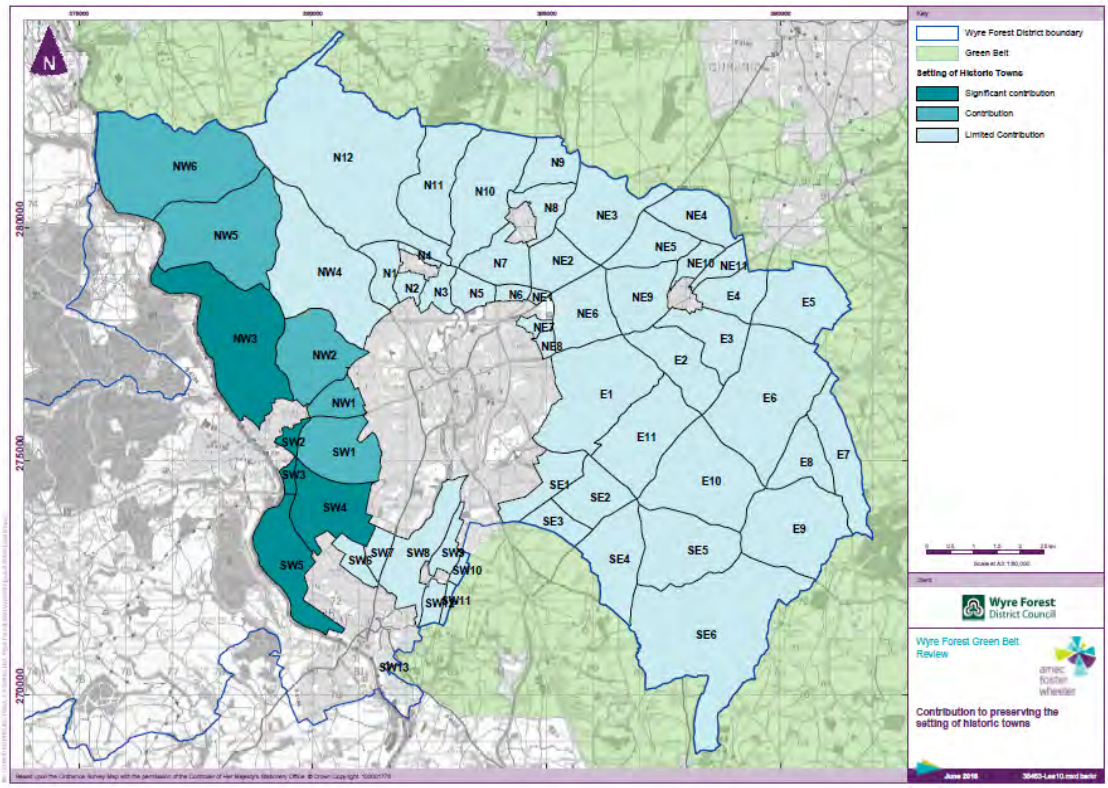

## Safeguarding the countryside from encroachment

20. The Green Belt makes at least a contribution, and in some cases a significant contribution, to limiting development in the countryside, maintaining its openness. This widely applicable role reflects pressures for change associated with accessibility to nearby towns.



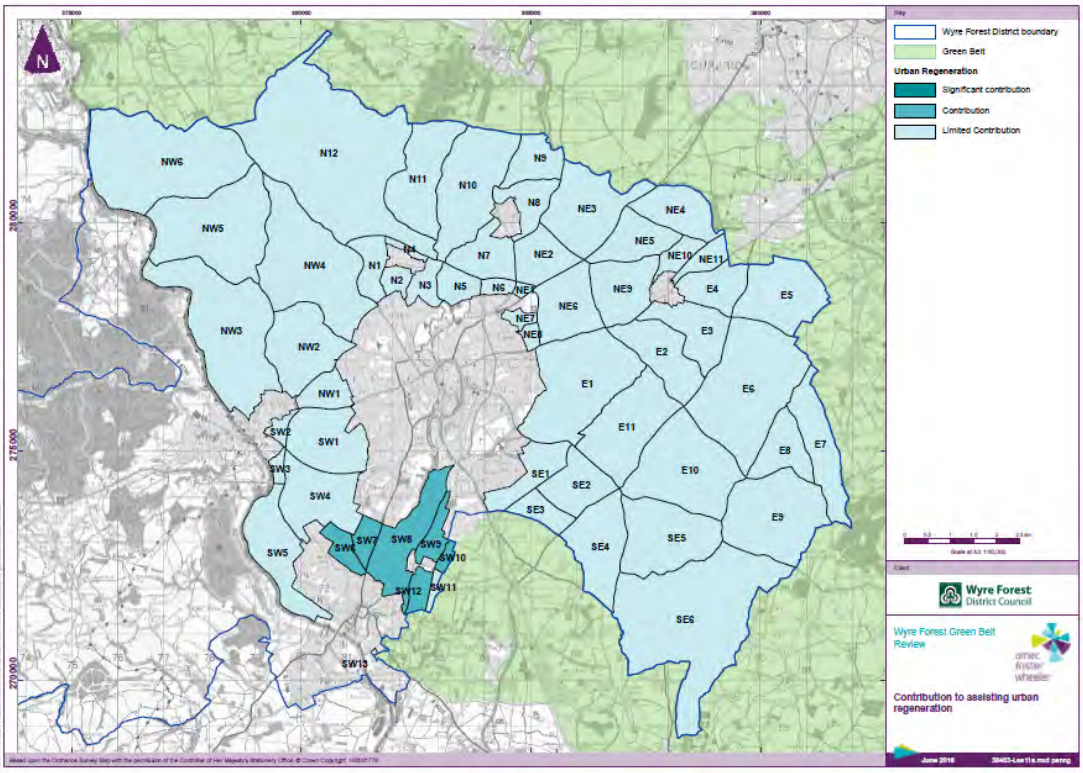
## Preserving the setting and character of historic towns

21. The Green Belt makes a significant contribution to the setting of Bewdley and to a much lesser extent Kidderminster and Stourport which have significant amounts of new development on their outskirts which largely conceals the clusters of Listed Buildings in centres, the connection between town centre and surrounding countryside being lost.




## Assisting in urban regeneration

22. The Green Belt makes a limited contribution to urban regeneration generally, but a potential contribution between Kidderminster and Stourport where there are some tracts of previously developed land.



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## 3.5 Positive Use of the Green Belt

23. Green Belts are not simply a restrictive policy tool, but hold the potential to enhance environmental quality. In this regards, the NPPF (para 81) identifies that:

    *"Once Green Belts have been defined, local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land."*

24. As part of the Green Belt Review no parcels were identified as being so degraded as requiring specific intervention although there is evidence of some of the typical negative characteristics associated with the so-called 'urban fringe' which include:

    - erosion of landscape structure through the removal and decay of field boundaries;
    - unmanaged hedgerows leading to 'gappy' boundaries;
    - unmanaged woodland resulting in poor structure and reduced opportunities for healthy succession;
    - fragmentation of land holdings associated with sale and lease for horsiculture;
    - changes in land management associated with land help for 'hope value' leading to scrub encroachment; and
    - unsympathetic, hard urban edges associated with estate development which abuts open farmland.

25. By no means can all of the urban fringe thus be characterised, but combinations of these factors operate to lesser or greater degrees. These issues have long been nationally recognised and they are the subject of various interventions countrywide through initiatives such as community forestry. These can demonstrate that relatively modest interventions such as tree planting and access improvements can potentially make a significant difference to the quality of the landscape in these areas. On a larger scale, the role of community forestry in particular and its natural fit with Green Belt is acknowledged in the NPPF (para 92).

26. Direct intervention to strengthen the landscape character is typically reliant upon new development prompting opportunities to improve recreational opportunities, for example. The progressive erosion of landscape structure and wider changes in land use (for example to horsiculture) can greatly affect both the appearance of the Green Belt and the sense of openness that should characterise it. Whilst landscape quality is not a Green Belt criterion, as noted in the NPPF, identifying opportunities for enhancing landscape character of the Green Belt is important. Where development takes place consideration should be given to positive land management and/or enhancement of landscape structure, ranging from the provision of recreational and nature conservation opportunities as more comprehensive approaches through to PRoW enhancement and tree planting as part of selected intervention.

27. Where development takes place this can offer the opportunity for positive land management both as part of the development footprint and in the immediate environs. Thus it is reasonable to expect that any development on Green Belt land pays heed to its context and contributes to the character and quality of its setting. Particular attention needs to be paid to:

    - Development densities, building heights and designs appropriate to the receiving environment;
    - Sensitive edge treatment, avoiding visually harsh transitions between built development and the wider countryside; and
    - Connecting to and enhancing existing Green Infrastructure and access opportunities.

28. Policy within the current Core Strategy takes a positive approach to the provision of Green infrastructure as set out in Policy SAL.UP3 as follows:

***Policy SAL.UP3[4]***

***Providing a Green Infrastructure Network***

*The existing green infrastructure network, as set out within the Green Infrastructure Strategy, and the open spaces identified within the Wyre Forest District Open Space, Sport and Recreation Assessment, will be safeguarded from development. Proposals should create new, or enhance and retain existing, open space or green/blue infrastructure. New development should incorporate open space in accordance with the quantity, quality and accessibility standards set out within the most up-to-date open space, sport and recreation assessment.*

***1. Green Infrastructure Corridors***

*The Green Infrastructure Strategy identifies the following key green infrastructure corridors which new development will be required to contribute towards the delivery and enhancement of:*

*i.* ***River Severn and River Stour Corridors*** *- development along these corridors will be required to improve the attractiveness of the riverside environment, remove culverts where appropriate, enhance the biodiversity value and water quality of the river corridor, and ensure that the functional floodplain is maintained and restored. Development should recognise and enhance the multi-functional nature of these corridors and seize opportunities to link them with the wider green infrastructure network.*

*ii.* ***Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal*** *- development along the canal corridor must not have a detrimental impact on the existing sustainable transport route or the character of the Conservation Area. Development should seek to enhance the biodiversity and water quality of the canal corridor whilst recognising the multi-functional nature of the corridor.*

*iii. Public Rights of Way Network - where appropriate.*

*To the north of Kidderminster Town Centre, the Council will safeguard the areas shown on the Policies Map in the Stour Valley for future development as a Country Park. Proposals for development which would prejudice the provision of a Country Park in these areas will not be permitted.*

***2. Public Rights of Way***

*Developments which affect Public Rights of Way will be required to make adequate provision for the continuation or diversion of the route. New developments will be required to link into Public Rights of Way where appropriate. New Rights of Way will be established where possible.*

29. Policy SALUP3 is based on the Green Infrastructure Strategy[5] developed for the District, and identifies specific opportunities for strengthening the environmental and landscape character of the District, many of these areas being designated as Green Belt and some with nationally significant biodiversity designations, and environmental constraints such as flood risk. Specific green infrastructure enhancement opportunities which are covered by Green Belt designation are:

- The River Stour and River Severn corridors
- Hurcott Pools and Wood
- The A451 Corridor
- South Kidderminster Enterprise Park (Wilden Marsh)

[4] Wyre Forest District Site Allocations and Policies Local Plan - Adopted July 2013

[5] Wyre Forest District Green Infrastructure Strategy – October 2012

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# 4. Consideration of villages within the Green Belt

## 4.1 Introduction and methodology

1. This part of the Review considers the case for in-setting various settlements within Wyre Forest District. This exercise is required by the NPPF to determine whether there remains a case for keeping villages washed over by the Green Belt, by virtue of their contribution to Green Belt purposes in respect of helping to maintain openness.

2. The NPPF at paragraph 86 requires that the status of villages currently washed over by Green Belt should be reviewed to determine whether this is still appropriate: *"If it is necessary to prevent development in a village primarily because of the important contribution which the open character of the village makes to the openness of the Green Belt, the village should be included in the Green Belt. If, however, the character of the village needs to be protected for other reasons, other means should be used, such as conservation area or normal development management policies, and the village should be excluded from the Green Belt."*

3. The result of this policy direction is the potential creation of three types of settlement within the Green Belt:

   - **Inset Settlement** where the settlement is excluded from the Green Belt and Green Belt policies do not apply to development within the settlement.
   - **Washed-over Settlement** where Green Belt policies apply within them in order to protect the openness of the Green Belt. Similar exceptions to constraints on development apply as within the Green Belt as a whole, although limited infilling may be permitted within the built-up area, as long as it preserves the openness of the Green Belt and does not conflict with the purposes of including the settlement in Green Belt in the first place.
   - **Washed-over Settlement with an Infill Boundary** where settlements have an infill boundary drawn around their main built-up area where allowing limited development which would still be expected to preserve the openness of the Green Belt and not conflict with the purposes of including the village in Green Belt in the first place.

4. The rural hinterland of Wyre Forest contains a mix of settlement types, from small clusters of dwellings to substantial villages, the larger four of which have an inset boundary. Across the rural area, development has typically been piecemeal and incremental, and the essential character of small, nucleated settlements has largely been maintained. Green Belt designation effectively preserves this pattern of built form, and could constrain the ability to allow for development to support diverse and resilient communities in these areas. This reflects currently policy guidance in the NPPF which states that:

   *84. 'When drawing up or reviewing Green Belt boundaries, Local Authorities should take account of the need to promote sustainable patterns of development' as well as 'the consequences for sustainable development of channelling development towards urban areas inside the Green Belt boundary, towards towns and villages inset within the Green Belt or towards locations beyond the outer Green Belt Boundary'.*

5. The current settlement hierarchy (Core Strategy p.20) within Wyre Forest is as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Villages | Fairfield<br>Cookley<br>Blakedown<br>Wilden | • Housing to meet local needs.<br>• Local services.<br>• Small scale rural employment |
| Rural Settlements | Chaddesley Corbett<br>Wolverley<br>Clows Top<br>Rock<br>Bliss Gate<br>Far Forest<br>Callow Hill<br>Upper Arley | • Housing to meet local need identified through rural exceptions sites in appropriate circumstances.<br>• Small scale rural employment. |

6. The following villages are considered as part of this review:
   - Chaddesley Corbett (washed over)
   - Wolverley (washed over)
   - Upper Arley (washed over)
   - Cookley (inset)
   - Fairfield (inset)
   - Blakedown (inset)
   - Wilden (Inset)
7. It is appropriate to undertake this exercise as part of the broader review of Green Belt purposes, where the settlement can be put into its wider context. Each village currently has an 'envelope' which is the principal extent of development in the village. Policy in the NPPF does not preclude the definition of a village envelope, even if a village remains washed over by the Green Belt, which would allow for limited infilling at the discretion of the Council, thereby complying with para 89(5) which allows for *"limited infilling in villages, and limited affordable housing for local community needs under policies set out in the Local Plan."* In practice this helps to ensure that the villages continue to be able to develop in a sensitive way. This will promote sustainable development that will help meet the needs of local communities though appropriate infill and/or meeting local needs, for example.
8. The villages have been reviewed against Green Belt purposes. **Appendix C** sets out the results of the survey, considering:
   - **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s).
   - **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within the existing village boundary.
   - **Presence and character of open space** – location and relationship with settlement.
   - **Interface with the surrounding landscape** – settlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context.

## 4.2 Village-by-village analysis

Table 4.1 sets out the results of the survey of each village, an analysis and recommendation as to whether in-setting is appropriate.

Table 4.1 Wyre Forest District's Green Belt Villages: character and analysis

| Settlement | Character and Relationship with the Green Belt | Analysis and Recommendation |
|---|---|---|
| **Chaddesley Corbett (washed over)** | A small street village with buildings of widely varying eras, sizes and character, but typically one deep with gardens bordering onto open countryside. The village has a strong visual and physical connection with the surrounding countryside. The majority of the village is covered by a Conservation Area. | The village has a strong connection with the surrounding open countryside and is part of the cultural landscape of this area. In this location, Green Belt designation contributes to preventing encroachment into open countryside. In-setting through the establishment of a village boundary and therefore potential further development, would impinge upon this.<br>**DO NOT INSET** |
| **Wolverley (washed over)** | A street village of attractive nineteenth century buildings, set within an enclosed valley. Properties are typically one deep, of varying character and whilst there is limited visual connection with the wider countryside, the settlement is clearly part of | Whilst the village has a contiguous character, arranged along Blakeshall Lane, it nevertheless retains a strong relationship with the countryside by virtue of the depth and character of the properties, some of which are set in extensive grounds. In this location, Green Belt designation |

| Settlement | Character and Relationship with the Green Belt | Analysis and Recommendation |
|---|---|---|
| | the character of the countryside. The village is covered by a Conservation Area. Strong unity of character and high sensitivity to change. | contributes to preventing encroachment into open countryside. In-setting through the establishment of a village boundary and therefore potential further development, would impinge upon this.<br>**DO NOT INSET** |
| **Upper Arley (washed over)** | A cluster of houses set alongside the River Severn, largely of a uniform nineteenth century character. A large Conservation Area covers the village and environs, which together have a close relationship with the wider countryside and are an integral part of the cultural landscape of the area. | The size and open character of the village means that there is a close relationship with the wider countryside which would be compromised through further development.<br>**DO NOT INSET** |
| **Cookley (inset)** | Characterised by extensive development of immediate post-war to contemporary housing extending off the main through road off Castle Road. However, development has evolved into a generally nucleated character, and by virtue of topography and location, a modest visual relationship with the wider countryside is retained. | The size and character of this much expanded street village means that its insetting into the Green Belt is appropriate and there could be opportunities for modest extension of the village envelope.<br>**RETAIN INSET – POTENTIAL FOR MODEST EXTENSION?** |
| **Fairfield (inset)** | A predominantly post-war development of a variety of styles and sizes and generally high density. There is very limited connection with the surrounding countryside beyond some glimpsed views from its elevated, southward orientation. | The size and density of the development makes insetting appropriate, with the potential for modest extension of the current development envelope.<br>**RETAIN INSET – POTENTIAL FOR MODEST EXTENSION?** |
| **Blakedown (inset)** | An expanded street village which has grown through significant post-ward additions to the west of the station but also more generally through infill. Nevertheless, a well-treed, relatively low density character has been retained which helps to create a degree of continuity with the surrounding countryside. | The size of the settlement means that insetting into the Green Belt is appropriate. However, the development envelope could be revised in light of the fragmented character of development to the east and south of the village where there is evidence local sprawl along the Belbroughton Road, for example.<br>**RETAIN INSET – POTENTIAL FOR MODEST EXTENSION?** |
| **Wilden (Inset)** | A relatively modest cluster of houses with no clear centre to the village, which has been expanded with a clustered extension of relatively recent construction. The development as whole has no significant relationship with the surrounding countryside within which it is set. | The scale and density of development and the absence of a relationship with the surrounding countryside merits insetting of the village, although further expansion would be detrimental to the Green Belt in this location because of its contribution to the separation of Kidderminster and Stourport.<br>**RETAIN INSET** |

## 4.3 Conclusion

The survey of the character of the seven Green Belt villages confirms that the current approach is reasonable, that is the insetting into the Green Belt of Cookley, Fairfield, Blakedown and Wilden, and the washed over status of Chaddesley Corbett, Wolverley and Upper Arley. In respect of the latter three villages, they have a close connection with the Green Belt by virtue of their largely open character in doing so make a positive contribution to the wider Green Belt. This reflects their typically linear, low density built form, with frequent glimpsed views to the wider countryside which typically adjoins back gardens. There is no clear case for in-setting of the villages and thereby creating a new development boundary within which in-fill development could occur. This accords with policy in the NPPF does not preclude the definition of a village envelope, even if a village remains washed over by the Green Belt, which would allow for limited infilling, thereby complying with para 89(5) which allows for *"limited infilling in villages, and limited affordable housing for local community needs under policies set out in the Local Plan."* The four villages which are already inset into the Green Belt merit such status, reflecting the scale

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and density of development, although in three cases (Cookley, Fairfield and Blakedown), the line of the village envelope and hence insetting boundary could be examined.

# 5. Study Conclusions

## 5.1 Conclusions and Justification

**5.** Across the District, the Green Belt fulfils its intended strategic purpose as part of the West Midlands Green Belt, with many instances of more than one purpose being fulfilled.

The assessment of the Green Belt in Wyre Forest has identified that the vast majority of it fulfills its intended purposes, as specified in the NPPF, that is largely maintaining a sense of openness through permanence and consistency of development restraint. The Green Belt clearly functions as part of the wider West Midlands Green Belt, contributing to the prevention of the sprawl of the Birmingham conurbation into the surrounding countryside, whilst also fulfilling local roles. The Green Belt has changed in character since its designation, reflecting increases in accessibility, land use change and incremental development of various kinds, but its essential character of openness remains. Many parcels meet multiple purposes and in only two instances does land make a consistently limited contribution, both reflecting their particular geographies. There are a large number of parcels which for different reasons overall make a significant contribution to Green Belt purposes, reflecting roles of maintaining separation between towns, protecting the setting of towns and preventing sprawl and/or encroachment into open countryside. This creates a complex picture which demands that any proposals for the removal of Green Belt designation though the Local Plan process, justified by Exceptional Circumstances or development in the Green Belt justified through Very Special Circumstances, would need to take account of this strategic review.

**6.** The current approach to insetting and washed-over status of Green Belt villages is reasonable, although there may be a case for a re-examination of the village envelopes to allow for development to meet local needs.

The villages within the Green Belt are of a diverse character, with those have been inset into the Green Belt meriting this approach by virtue of their size and density. Modest changes to the settlement envelope could occur to allow for further growth if required. Those villages that are washed over should remain so because of their open character and strong relationship with the landscape in which they are located, although again modest development through infill would not necessarily damage their relationship with the Green Belt.

**7.** Opportunities for Positive Land Management

In some locations in proximity to the built-up area, the Green Belt could benefit from positive land management (in light of para 81 of the NPPF). This could help address some of the typical negative characteristics associated with the so-called ‘urban fringe’ which include:

- erosion of landscape structure through the removal and decay of field boundaries;
- unmanaged hedgerows leading to ‘gappy’ boundaries;
- unmanaged woodland resulting in poor structure and reduced opportunities for healthy succession;
- fragmentation of land holdings associated with sale and lease for horsiculture;
- changes in land management associated with land help for ‘hope value’ leading to scrub encroachment;
- unsympathetic, hard urban edges associated with estate development which abuts open farmland.

By no means can all of the urban fringe thus be characterised, but combinations of these factors operate to lesser or greater degrees. These issues have long been nationally recognised and they

are the subject of various interventions countrywide through initiatives such as community forestry. These can demonstrate that relatively modest interventions such as tree planting and access improvements can potentially make a significant difference to the quality of the landscape in these areas. On a larger scale, the role of community forestry in particular and its natural fit with Green Belt is acknowledged in the NPPF (para 92). Where development takes place this can offer the opportunity for positive land management both as part of the development footprint and in the immediate environs. Particular attention needs to be paid to:

- Development densities, building heights and designs appropriate to the receiving environment;
- Sensitive edge treatment, avoiding visually harsh transitions between built development and the wider countryside; and
- Connecting to and enhancing existing Green Infrastructure and access opportunities.

## 8. Meeting Development Needs

Notwithstanding the conclusions reached on the overall integrity of the Green Belt across Wyre Forest and the principles of permanence set out in the NPPF, there is pressure for development to meet housing and employment needs. As part of the plan preparation process, the conclusions reached in respect of the strategic role of the Green Belt will need to be balanced against other factors which together could constitute arguments of 'Exceptional Circumstances' meriting the removal of the Green Belt designation from areas of land (which could comprise whole parcels or parts thereof) to allow for development. These arguments typically comprise:

- Housing need for the plan period and beyond;
- The identification of sites submitted through the SHLAA process;
- Sustainability Appraisal findings;
- Environmental and landscape constraints; and
- The wider development strategy of the District in respect of an appropriate distribution of growth.

In light of the above, a further study of areas which could merit release in light of development needs would need to be undertaken. As part of this identification of an area as holding potential for release from the Green Belt does not imply that all the identified area should or could be developed. For example, Green Infrastructure could form significant parts of some areas, complementing and enhancing existing landscape and environmental features. In addition, as with any other potential development site, detailed work on site capacity, character and viability would be required.

6. Consultation on the methodology for the Green Belt Review was undertaken to ensure that key interested parties (adjoining local authorities and Parish Councils) were given an early opportunity to comment on the approach being adopted.

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# Appendix A
# Environmental Assets & Constraints and Landscape Character Types

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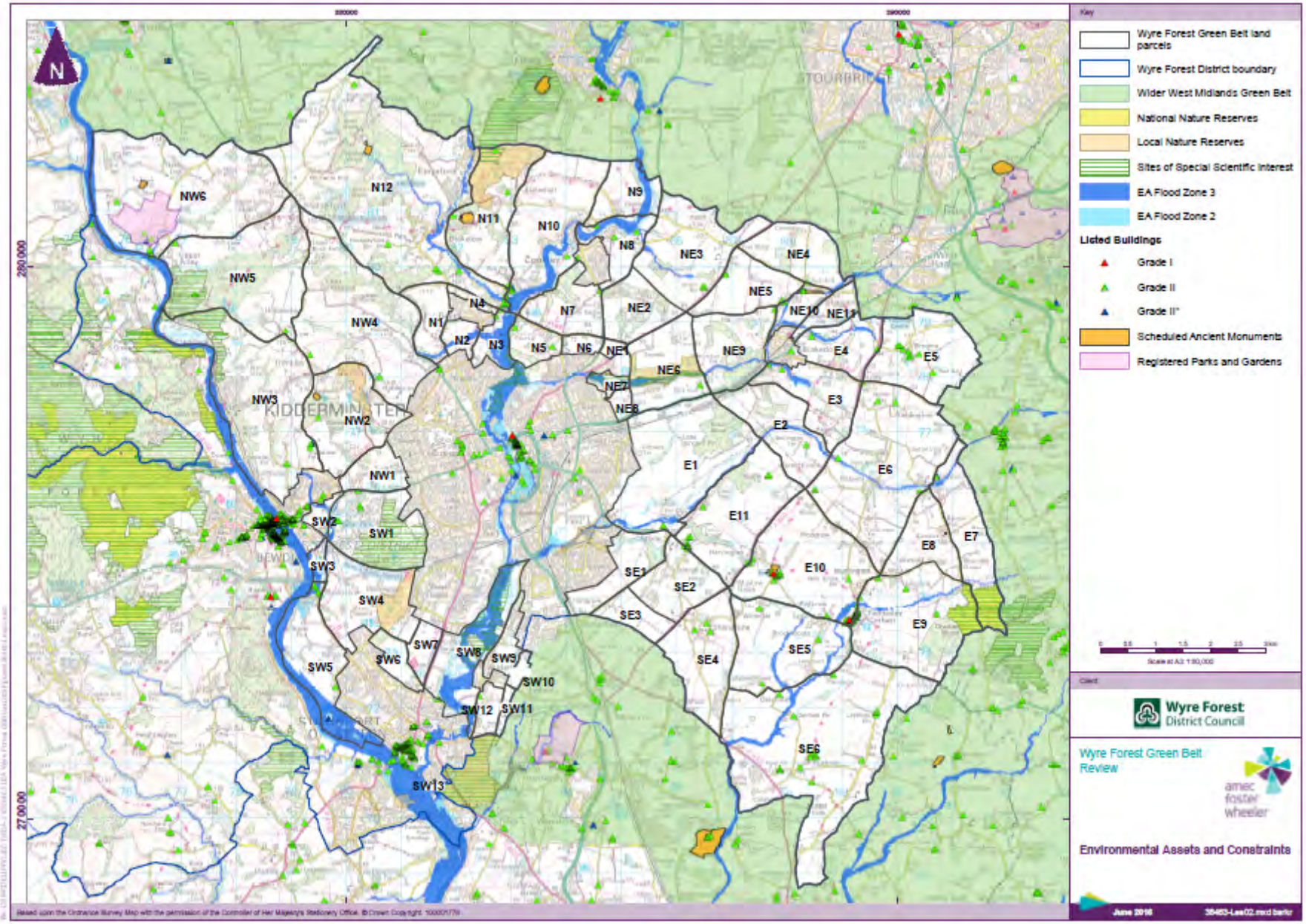

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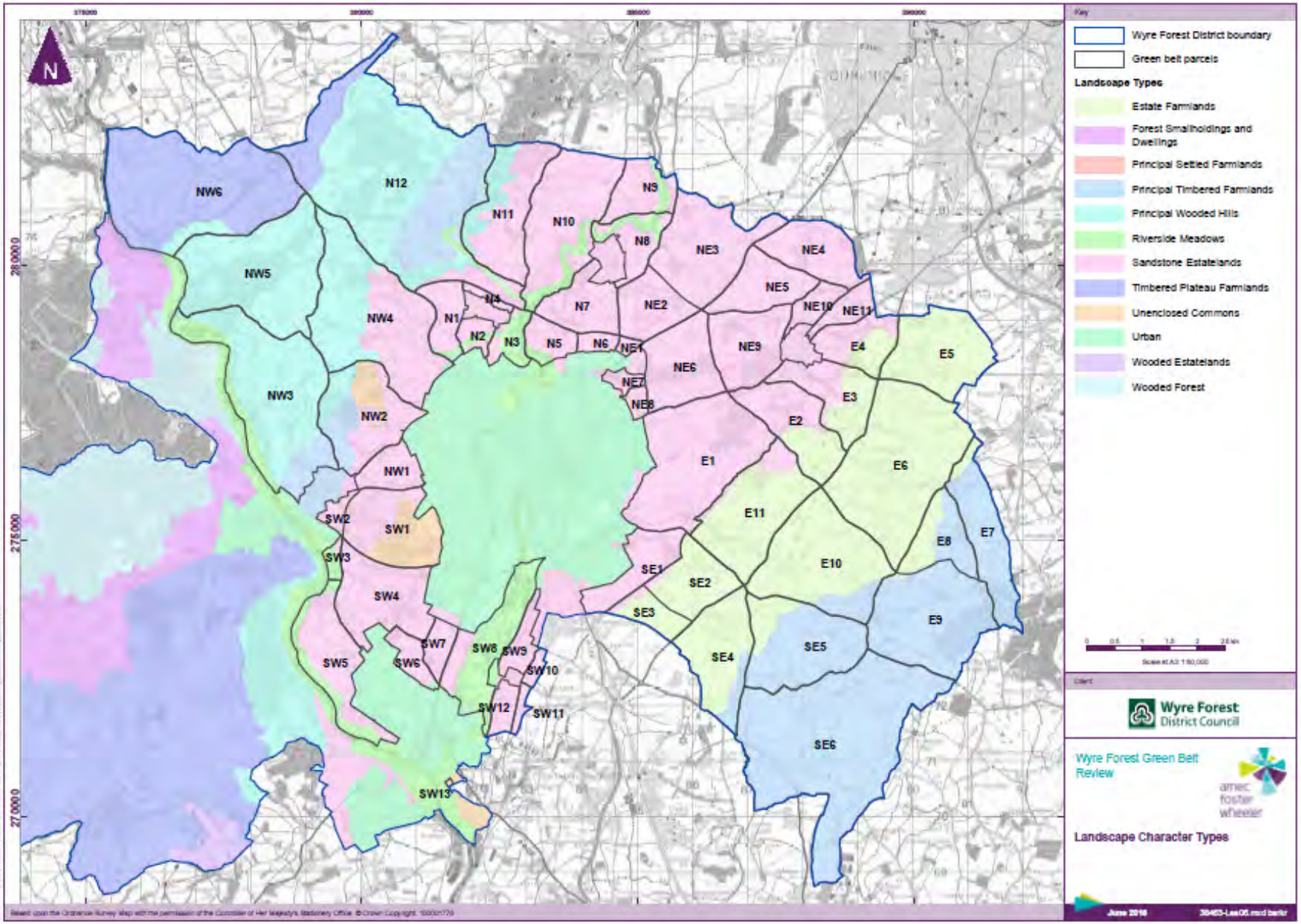

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# Appendix B
# Parcel Analysis

**Introduction**

This appendix sets out the analysis by parcel of their contribution to Green Belt purposes. To aid navigation, the 59 parcels are grouped geographically, typically using major roads to determine the subdivision, resulting in the following six groups:

North West (NW1-6) – see Appendix B1

North (N1-12) – see Appendix B2

North East (NE1-11) – see Appendix B3

East (E1-11) – see Appendix B4

South East (SE1-6) – see Appendix B5

South West (SW1-13) – see Appendix B6

The analysis uses the template set out in the methodology to this study, scrutinising the contribution to each of fiver purposes of Green Belt as set out in the NPPF, along with an assessment of the overall contribution of the parcel based on the previous judgements. The individual and overall judgements are drawn together and set out in the summary tabulation and mapping presented below.

To set the context, the analysis for each parcel is prefaced by a snapshot of the Ordnance Survey map of the parcel, an aerial photograph, and a pen picture of the character of the parcel drawing on the following factors:

- Topography
- Field Pattern
- Vegetation/Tree Cover
- Land Use
- Condition
- Sensitivity
- Viewpoints

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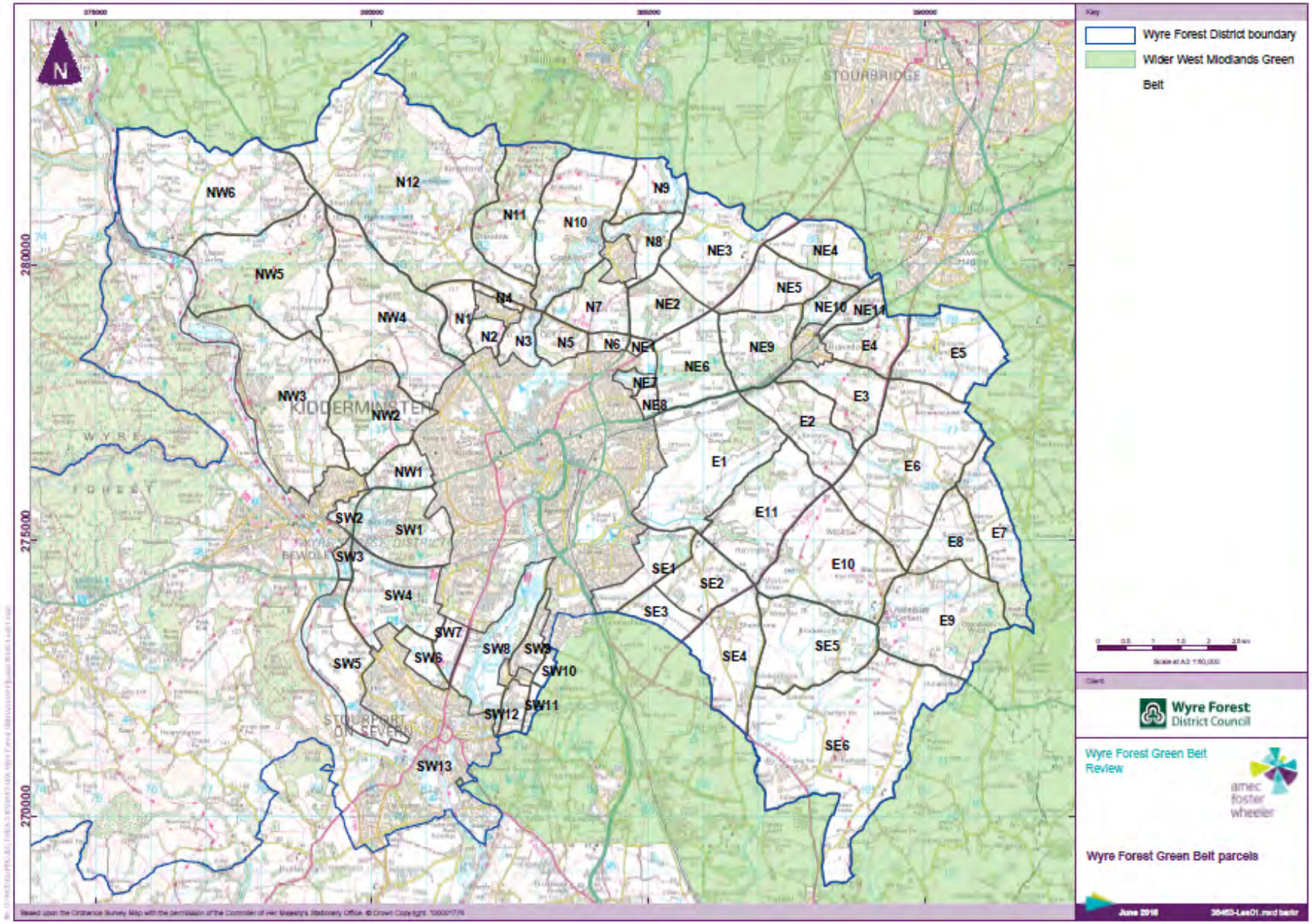
## Map B1: Parcels for Survey



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## Summary Analysis

| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NW1 | | SC | SC | SC | C | LC | SC | The parcel performs multiple roles, helping to maintain the separate identities of Kidderminster and Bewdley, preventing the further sprawl of Kidderminster to the west and protecting the open countryside in this and adjacent land to the north from encroachment by sporadic development. |
| NW2 | | SC | C | SC | C | LC | SC | The parcel forms an important part of the northern context of both Bewdley and Kidderminster, in combination with adjoining parcels, whilst in its own right containing the outward pressures for growth from both towns in this direction. |
| NW3 | | SC | LC | SC | SC | LC | SC | This parcel contributes significantly to the containment of Bewdley to the south and retention of a sense of openness on land which constitutes the eastern backdrop to Bewdley. |
| NW4 | | SC | LC | SC | LC | LC | SC | The parcel makes a significant combination to containing the northwestern edge of Kidderminster and preventing broader encroachment into visually sensitive countryside. |
| NW5 | | LC | LC | C | C | LC | C | Despite being relatively remote, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and therefore vulnerable to change which would compromise its largely open character. |
| NW6 | | LC | LC | C | C | LC | C | Despite being relatively remote, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and therefore vulnerable to change which would compromise its largely open character. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N1 | | SC | LC | SC | LC | LC | SC | The parcel overall makes a significant contribution through its role in containing the northerly spread of Kidderminster where there has been development up to the break of slope to the valley of Honey Brook. |
| N2 | | C | LC | SC | LC | LC | SC | The parcel overall makes a significant contribution through its role in containing the northerly spread of Kidderminster where there has been development up to the break of slope to the valley of Honey Brook. |
| N3 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel is largely kept open by virtue of the present of flood risk, there is nevertheless a contribution to preventing development at its fringes, particularly to the north. |
| N4 | | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | Limited contribution in this location given the strong containment of the parcel by the built edge of Fairfield and the B4189. |
| N5 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel maintains a sense of openness in this location, notwithstanding the presence of some substantial built development, creating a transition to the wider open countryside to the north. |
| N6 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through preventing the encroachment of the urban edge of Kidderminster into open countryside, bounded by roads but is visually sensitive land which rises to the B4189. |
| N7 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Contributes to preventing the incremental encroachment of development into open countryside, and sprawl of Kidderminster along the A449. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| N8 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Contributes to maintaining the openness of land in a visually sensitive and accessible location adjacent to the A449. |
| N9 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is accessible and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| N10 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is accessible and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| N11 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is relatively accessible, particularly in its southern reaches, and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| N12 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is largely of open countryside but is relatively accessible, particularly in its southern and western reaches, and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| NE1 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through preventing the encroachment of the urban edge of Kidderminster into open countryside and hence visual intrusion, despite being of a relatively small scale and bounded by roads. |
| NE2 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Notwithstanding carefully located and well screened existing development occupying approximately half the area, the parcel contributes to preventing the incremental encroachment of development into open countryside, and sprawl of Kidderminster along the A449 and A451, on its visually sensitive eastern, western and northern flanks. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NE3 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this accessible locality which is between two of the main routes between Kidderminster and the Birmingham conurbation (the A451 and the A449). |
| NE4 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this accessible locality which is between two of the main routes between Kidderminster and the Birmingham conurbation (the A451 and the A456). . |
| NE5 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| NE6 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through the maintenance of open countryside in this locality and containing potential pressures for sprawl along two of the main roads into Kidderminster (the A451 and A456). |
| NE7 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Part of the arc of Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster which together help to contain the urban edge of the town, and act together to protect the open countryside in this location from incremental change. |
| NE8 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Part of the arc of Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster which together help to contain the urban edge of the town, and act together to protect the open countryside in this location from incremental change. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| NE9 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| NE10 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | he parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| NE11 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | he parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| E1 | | SC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | This parcel forms a substantial part of the Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster, containing the urban edge and preventing sprawl into open countryside. The absence of significant internal boundaries, comprising field boundaries and hedgerows of varying strength, means that the parcel is potentially vulnerable to the containment of development pressures. |
| E2 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation. |
| E3 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly to the north where it contains Blakedown. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| E4 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly to the south and west where it contains Blakedown. |
| E5 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly associated with the hamlet of Broome. |
| E6 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation. |
| E7 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change. |
| E8 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in its southern reaches in the vicinity of Bluntington and Drayton. |
| E9 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the westerly fringes where it forms the context for Chaddesley Corbett. |
| E10 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the southeasterly fringes where it forms the context for Chaddesley Corbett and the |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | western fringes where it forms the easterly context for Harvington and Mustow Green. |
| E11 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the southeasterly fringes where it forms the context for Harvington and Mustow Green. |
| SE1 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Whilst the parcel forms part of an easterly arc of open countryside containing the urban edge of Kidderminster, and as such makes a contribution to retaining its openness, it is well-bounded by Stanklyn Lane to the south east preventing further encroachment into the wider open countryside. |
| SE2 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is related to the easterly arc of open countryside containing the urban edge of Kidderminster and has been subject to scattered built development of various forms. Although this is not intrusive there is the potential for further incremental change. |
| SE3 | | C | LC | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is part of wider land outside Wyre Forest which runs to the junction of the A450 and the A442 which as a whole has been subject to incremental development particularly along the southern edge of Stanklyn Lane. The parcel contributes to maintaining the openness of this large-scale arable landscape which is part if the transition to wider open countryside to the south east of Kidderminster. |
| SE4 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | Whilst the current footprint is modest, being largely centred on Shenstone, the openness, topography and extensive vistas make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| SE5 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst current development is modest, the openness, topography and extensive vistas (particularly eastwards from Curslow Lane) make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| SE6 | | LC | LC | C | LC | LC | C | Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst current development is modest, the openness, topography and extensive vistas (particularly to the west from Rushock) make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| SW1 | | C | SC | C | C | LC | SC | A combination of roles makes the overall contribution of this parcel to Green Belt purposes significant, reflecting its role in separating Kidderminster and Bewdley and providing part of the eastern context for Bewdley. |
| SW2 | | C | SC | C | SC | LC | SC | The overall role of the parcel is to maintain a degree of openness to the east of Bewdley, contributing to the character of the town as well as helping to maintain its separation from Kidderminster. |
| SW3 | | C | C | LC | SC | LC | SC | The parcel is part of the southern gateway to Bewdley and such provides an important part of the setting of the towns from both the A456 |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | Stourport Road and the River Severn., as well containing pressures for southerly expansion of the town and being part of a group of parcels separating Bewdley from Kidderminster and from Stourport. |
| SW4 | | SC | SC | SC | SC | LC | SC | The parcel makes a significant contribution to four of the five purposes of Green Belt, being extensive, strategically located land between Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourport and forming a significant proportion of the open land in this locality. |
| SW5 | | SC | SC | SC | SC | LC | SC | The parcel makes a significant contribution to four of the five purposes of Green Belt, being extensive, strategically located land between Bewdley and Stourport and forming a significant proportion of the open land in this locality. |
| SW6 | | LC | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| SW7 | | C | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| SW8 | | SC | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster as well as specifically preventing sprawl along the A451. |
| SW9 | | C | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |

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| Parcel | | Sprawl | Merger | Encroachment | Setting | Regeneration | Overall | Commentary |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SW10 | | C | C | C | LC | C | C | The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and protecting the wider countryside from encroachment. |
| SW11 | | C | C | C | LC | LC | C | The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and protecting the wider countryside from encroachment. |
| SW12 | | C | SC | LC | LC | C | SC | The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and potentially contributing to urban regeneration in this locality. |
| SW13 | | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | LC | The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in itself but it is part of the wider Green Belt to the south east. |

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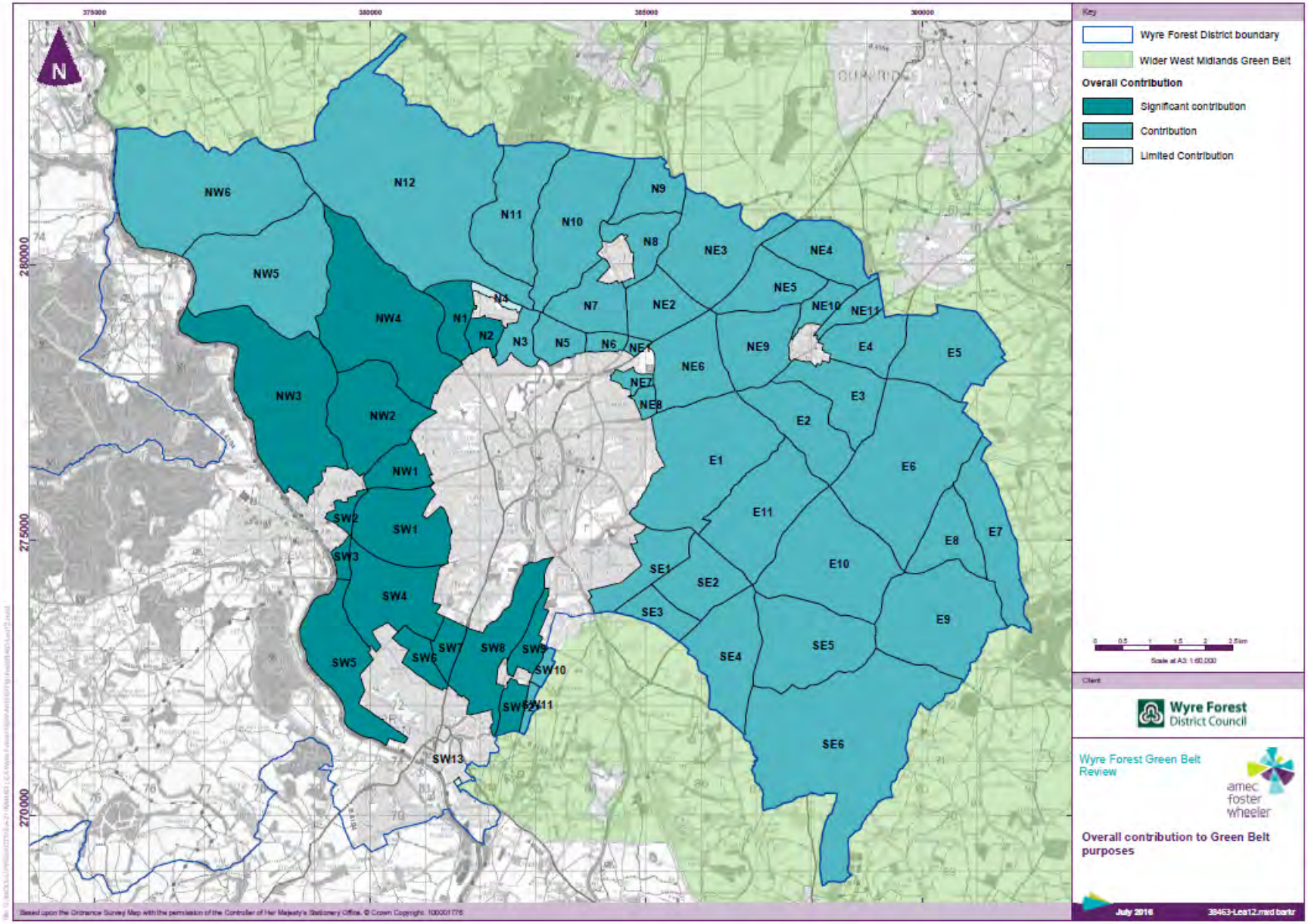
## Map B2: Overall Contribution to Green Belt Purposes



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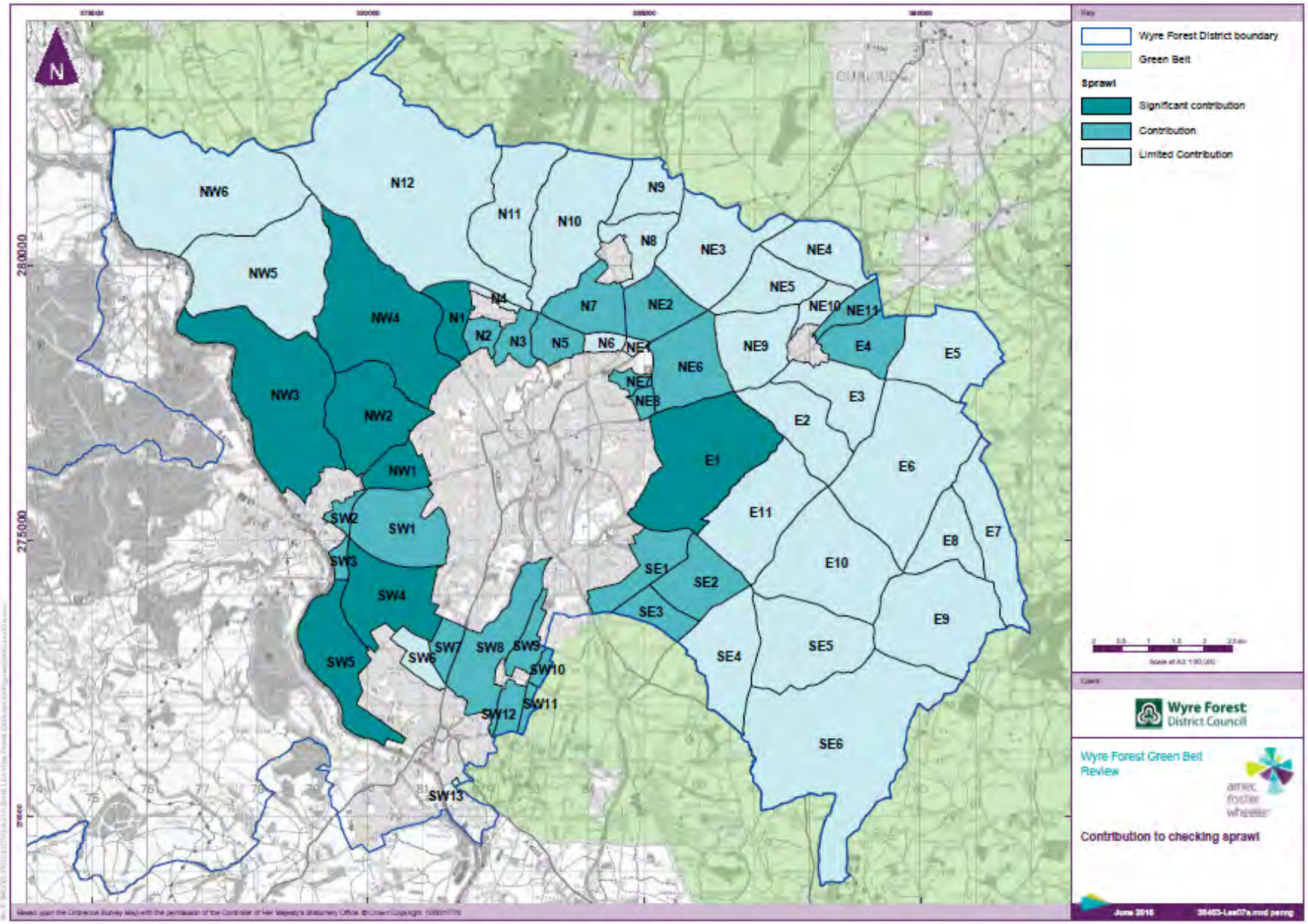
## Map B3: Contribution to Preventing the Sprawl of Large Built-up Areas



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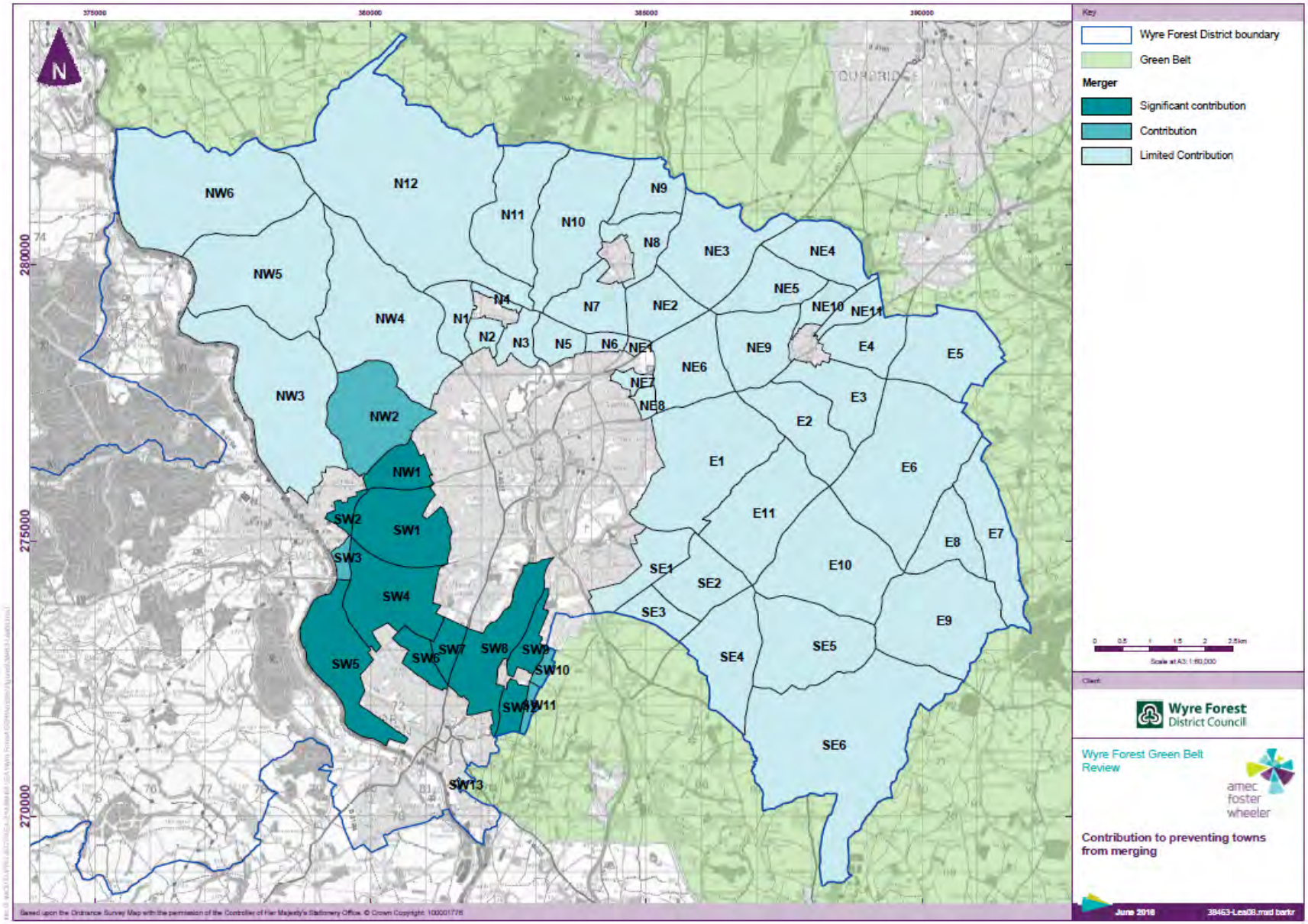
## Map B4: Contribution to Preventing the Merger of Towns



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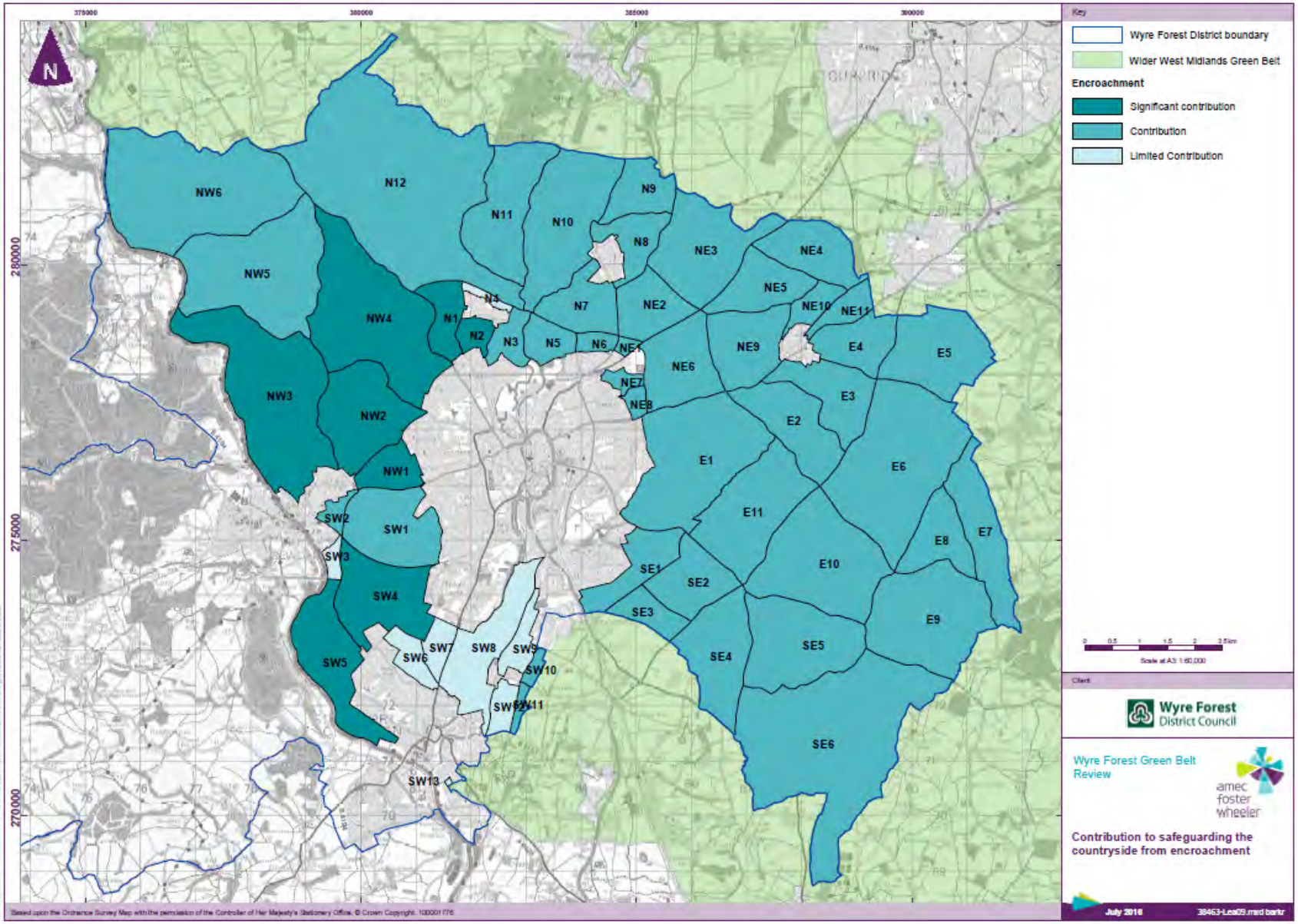
## Map B5: Contribution to Safeguarding the Countryside from Encroachment



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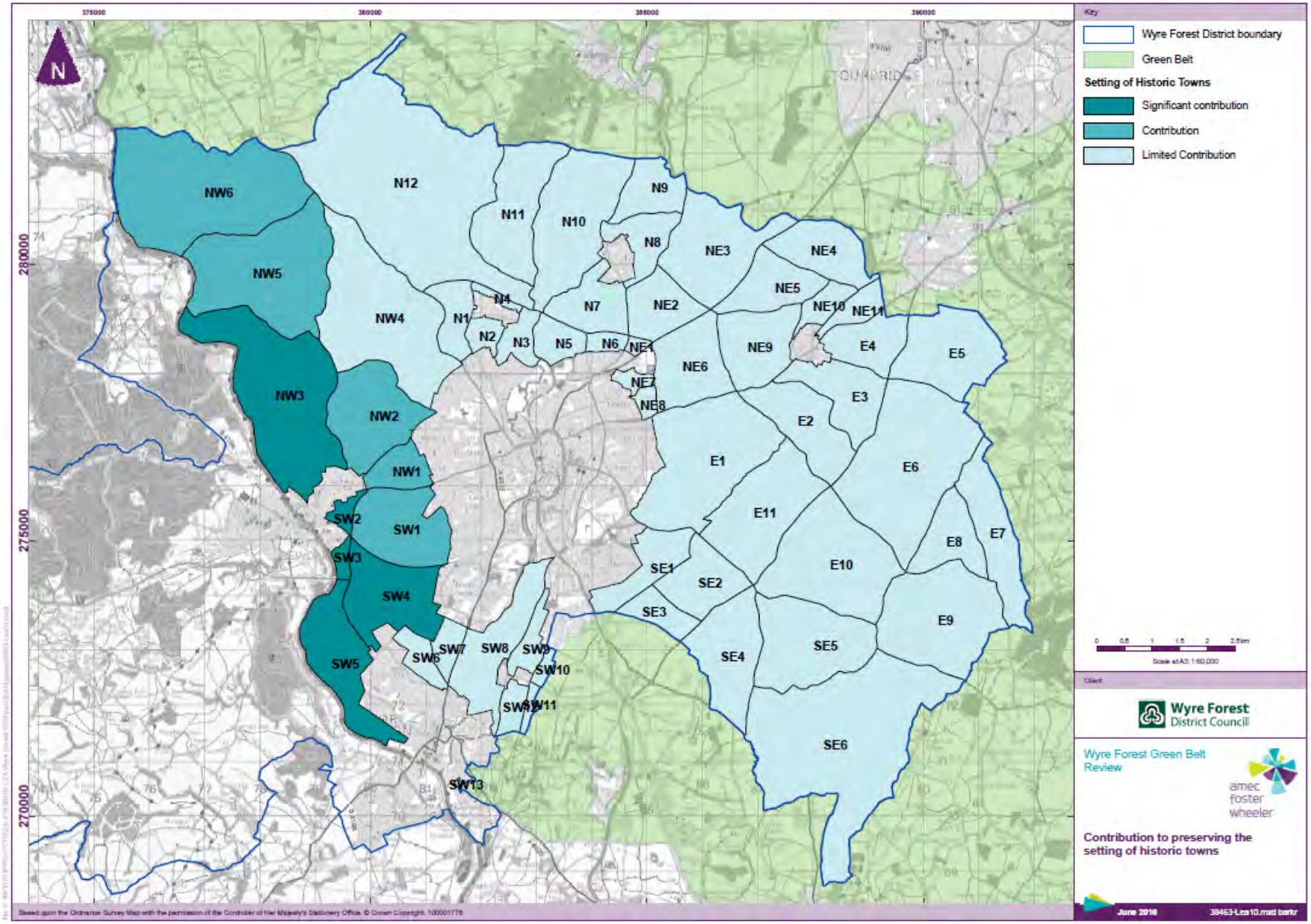
## Map B6: Contribution to Preserving the Setting and Character of Historic Towns



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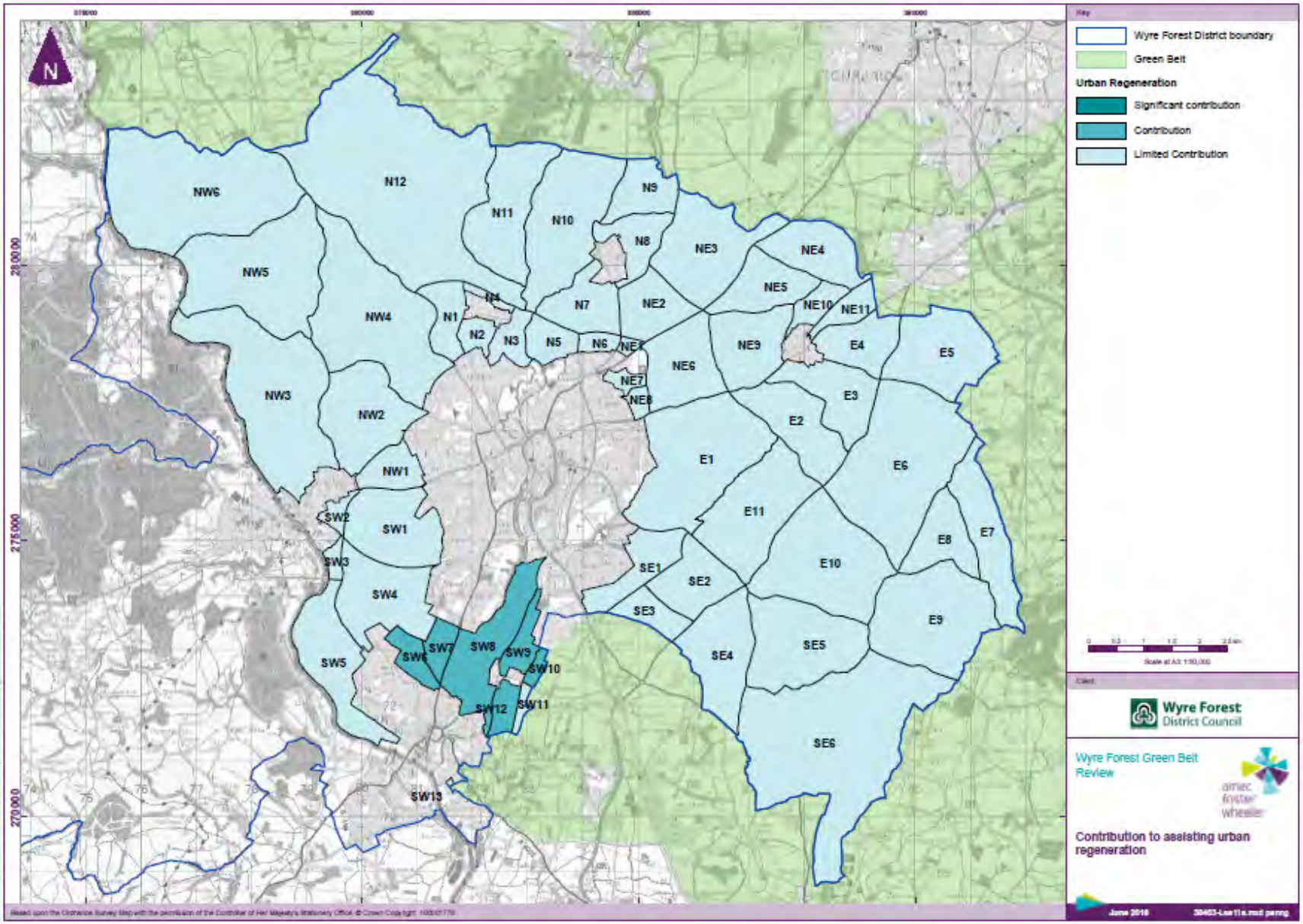
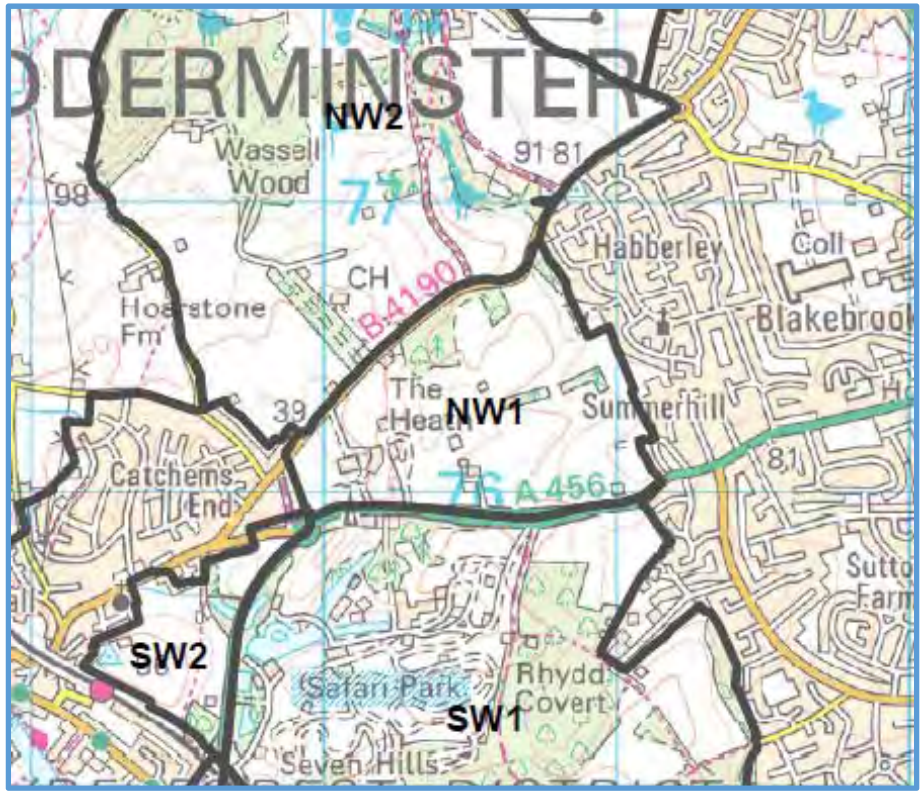
## Map B7: Contribution to Assisting Urban Regeneration



## PARCEL NW1 – land between Kidderminster and Bewdley, between the A456 Kidderminster Road and the B4190 Habberley Road

A well-managed pastoral landscape of irregular field size and shape, separated by intermittent hedgerows of varying strength, with isolated woodland blocks and belts. Generally elevated but of varying topography. Built development is limited to sporadic large dwellings in extensive grounds and a hotel/health club, all towards the south of the parcel. Contained by the A456 Kidderminster Road to the south, the B4190 Habberley Road to the north and the urban edge of Kidderminster to the east. Views into the parcel are generally limited by vegetation and topography, although an extensive vista is available from The Lea to the south east of the parcel.



## Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6

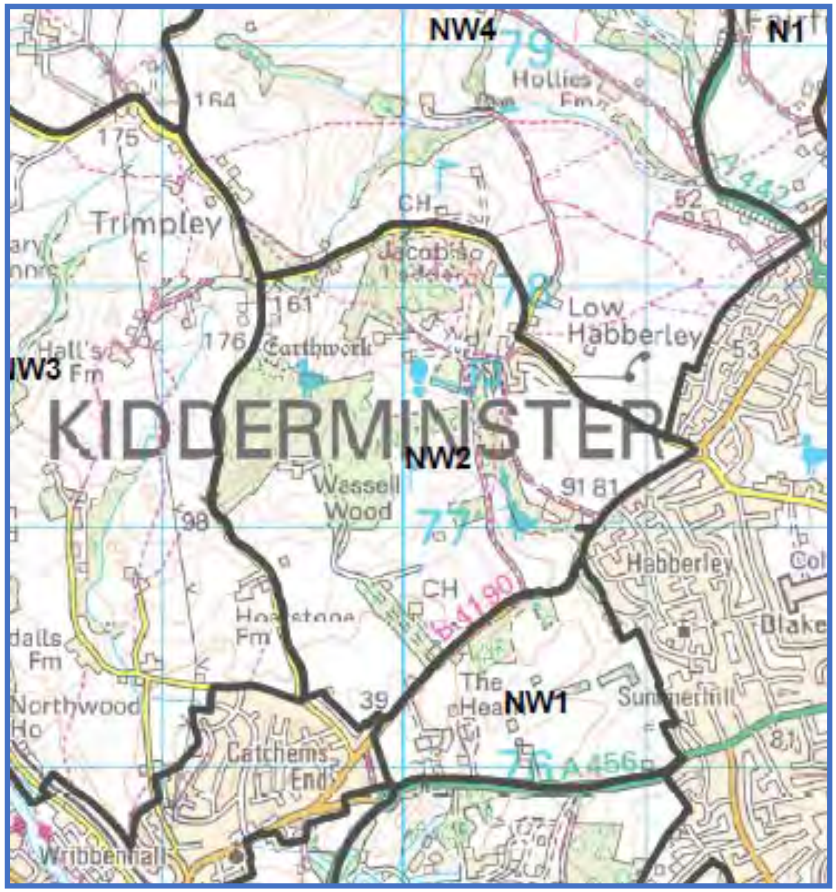
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Contains the spread of Kidderminster which has reached the western edge of the plateau before decent into the valley of the River Severn. The parcel has a strong sense of openness with only limited development. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is central to the separation of Kidderminster and Bewdley, forming the remaining gap between the two in this location of c.1km. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has not been encroached upon by urbanising development, but is vulnerable to such change given its location as the remaining undeveloped land between Kidderminster and Bewdley. There are no substantive internal boundaries to contain development. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the easterly entrance to Bewdley, the parcel contributes to maintaining the general easterly setting, although there is limited intervisibility with the centre of Bewdley. |

**Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel performs multiple roles, helping to maintain the separate identities of Kidderminster and Bewdley, preventing the further sprawl of Kidderminster to the west and protecting the open countryside in this and adjacent land to the north from encroachment by sporadic development. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | No role. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | No public access |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | Not part of a sensitive landscape. |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No designations present. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No derelict land. |

## PARCEL NW2 – land between the B4190 Habberley Road, Hoarstone Lane and Habberley Lane

A semi-rural landscape of varying land uses, dominated to the centre by the Bewdley Pines golf course, mixed farming with complex field patterns to the west and north and extensive woodland to the north west and north east. The latter is associated with the Habberley Valley, part of which is a Local Nature Reserve and informal recreation area. The broadly rising land from south to north offers both extensive and filtered views southward to Bewdley and Kidderminster from the containing roads of Low Habberley and Hoarstone Lane. Land management appears to be good, although evidence of neglect in the south west corner. Development is sporadic but generally clustered to the northwest as part of the scattered hamlet of Trimpley and south west as ribbon development along Trimpley Lane and Habberley Road.



## Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6

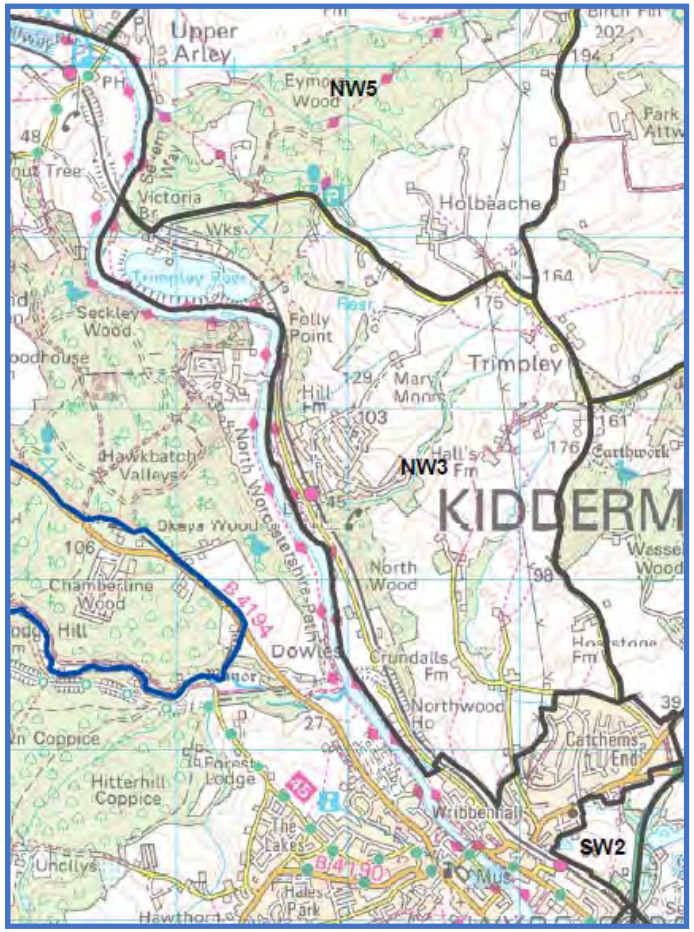
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICIANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has a strong sense of openness, with isolated, largely peripheral development. Whilst not being on a major transport corridor, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and potentially vulnerable to the spread of development. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel complements parcel NW1 immediately to the south in helping to retain the separation of Kidderminster and Bewdley. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>No evidence of encroachment, but nevertheless vulnerable to incremental change. The parcel also complements parcel NW3 to the west in preventing the extension of the northeastern edge of Bewdley into open countryside. No significant, contiguous internal boundaries. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>In combination with parcel NW3, part of the northwestern context of Bewdley, on rising ground towards Trimpley. Part of the easterly context for Bewdley as viewed from across the River Severn from the higher parts of the town. |

**Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms an important part of the northern context of both Bewdley and Kidderminster, in combination with adjoining parcels, whilst in its own right containing the outward pressures for growth from both towns in this direction. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Helps to form part of the context for the hamlet of Low Habberley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Extensive public access through the Habberley Valley, and private access to the Bewdley Pines golf course |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | Habberley Valley Local Nature Reserve. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NW3 – land between the River Severn and Trimpley Lane

A semi-remote rural landscape of diverse land uses, dominated by mixed arable/pastoral farming, but containing some significant semi-urban development off Northwood Lane and parts of the fragmented hamlet of Trimpley. There is extensive woodland in the vicinity of the River Severn which mirrors the Wyre Forest which extends westwards from the opposite bank. Land management appears to be good. The land rises up eastwards from the River Severn with extensive views westwards and southwards towards Bewdley from Hoarstone Lane in particular. The parcel forms part of the northerly context for Bewdley.



## Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6

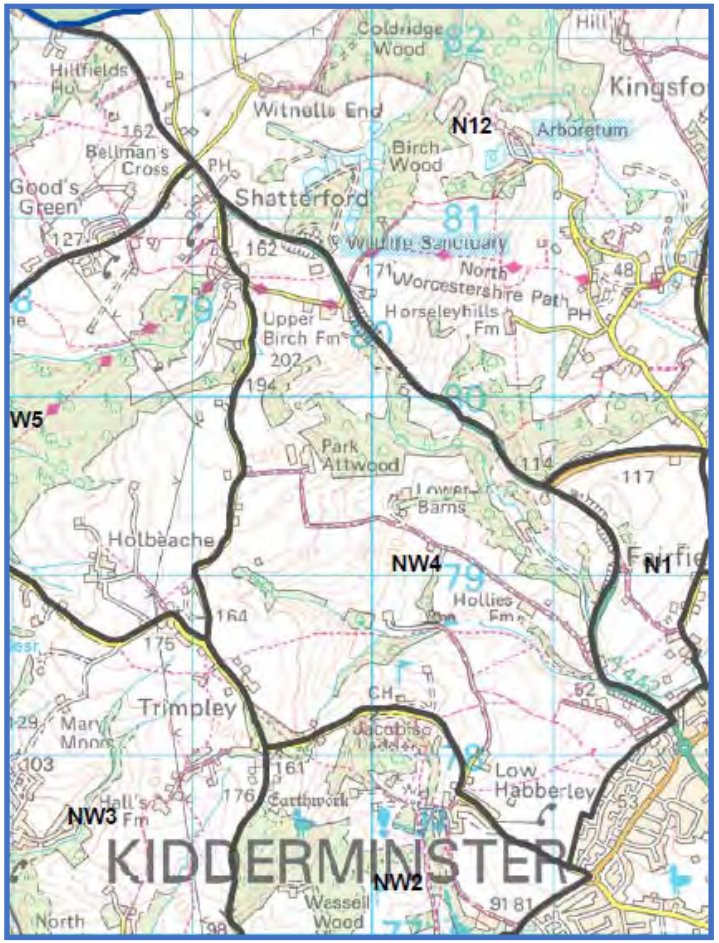
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contains the northern edge of the eastward extension of Bewdley, protecting sensitive countryside from further development. Notwithstanding some reasonably significant built development off Northwood lane, much of the parcel retains a dense of openness. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given location apart from settlements which could merge. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>This is relatively accessible countryside which has various signs of the encroachment of built development in the vicinity of the River Severn, most notably substantial semi-permanent structures at a 'mobile' home park. Whilst being reasonably well-screened, these development nevertheless have encroached into open countryside creating an urbanised character. Undeveloped land in the vicinity is potentially under similar development pressure. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **SIGNFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>This land forms a significant backdrop to Bewdley as viewed from the western banks of the River Severn. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION** |

**Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>This parcel contributes significantly to the containment of Bewdley to the south and retention of a sense of openness on land which constitutes the eastern backdrop to Bewdley. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms part of the context of the hamlet of Trimpley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | SSSI associated with western extent of Eymore Wood. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NW4 – land between the A442 Bridgnorth Road and Habberley Lane/Trimpley Lane

A largely remote rural landscape extending from the well-defined urban edge of Kidderminster northwards to the fragmented hamlet of Shatterford. Predominantly of mixed arable/pastoral land uses, but with extensive tracts of woodland to the north east and Habberley Golf Course to the south west; field patterns are accordingly complex with boundaries of varying type and condition. Development is generally limited to farmsteads but with a cluster at Low Habberley. The land broadly rises south to north, with extensive views into and out of the parcel, particularly from the containing roads of the A442 Bridgnorth Road and Trimpley Lane.



## Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6

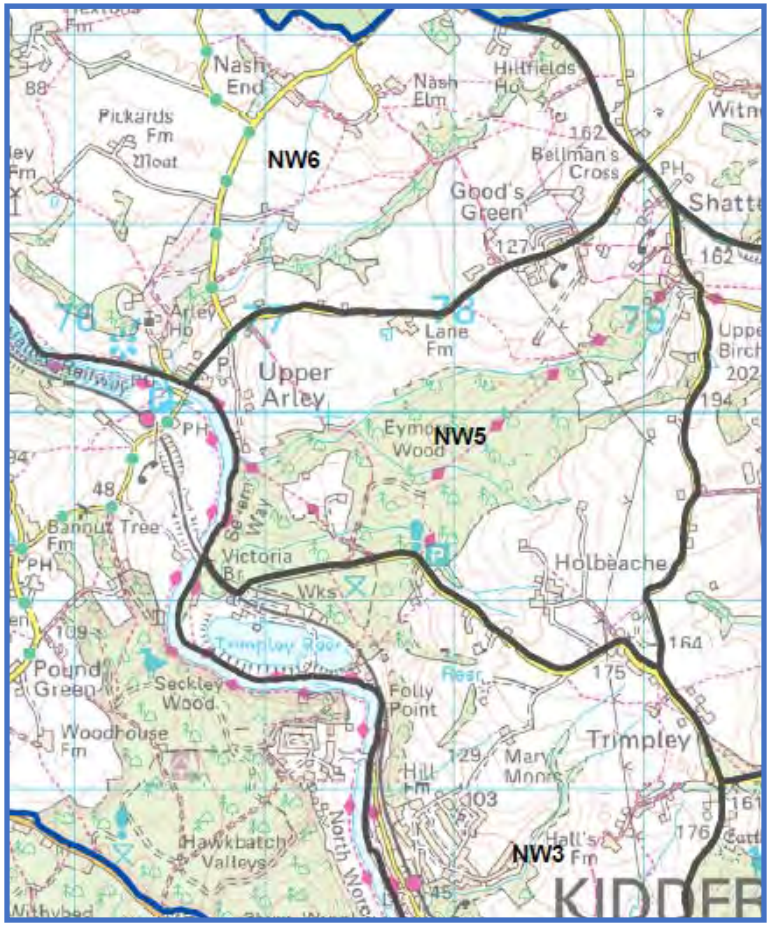
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Notwithstanding the relative remoteness of much of the parcel, it is nevertheless accessible through the A442 and towards its southern reaches it contains the northward extent of Kidderminster, retaining a strong sense of openness on rising land towards Shatterford. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given location apart from settlements which could merge. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The accessibility of the parcel makes it vulnerable to urbanisation and its generally rising aspect visually sensitive. There are no substantial internal boundaries, |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role in this location given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel makes a significant combination to containing the northwestern edge of Kidderminster and preventing broader encroachment into visually sensitive countryside. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains Low Habblerley to the south of the parcel. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NW5 – land between the River Severn, Arley Lane and Habberley Lane

Rising steeply from the River Severn to the east, this is a relatively remote rural landscape dominated by Eymore Wood and fringed by mixed arable/pastoral land to the north and south. There are some extensive views westwards across the Wyre Forest, notably from Arley Lane to the north, but generally views are restricted by the extensive woodland cover and substantial hedgerows. Built development is characterised by isolated dwellings and farmsteads.



## Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6

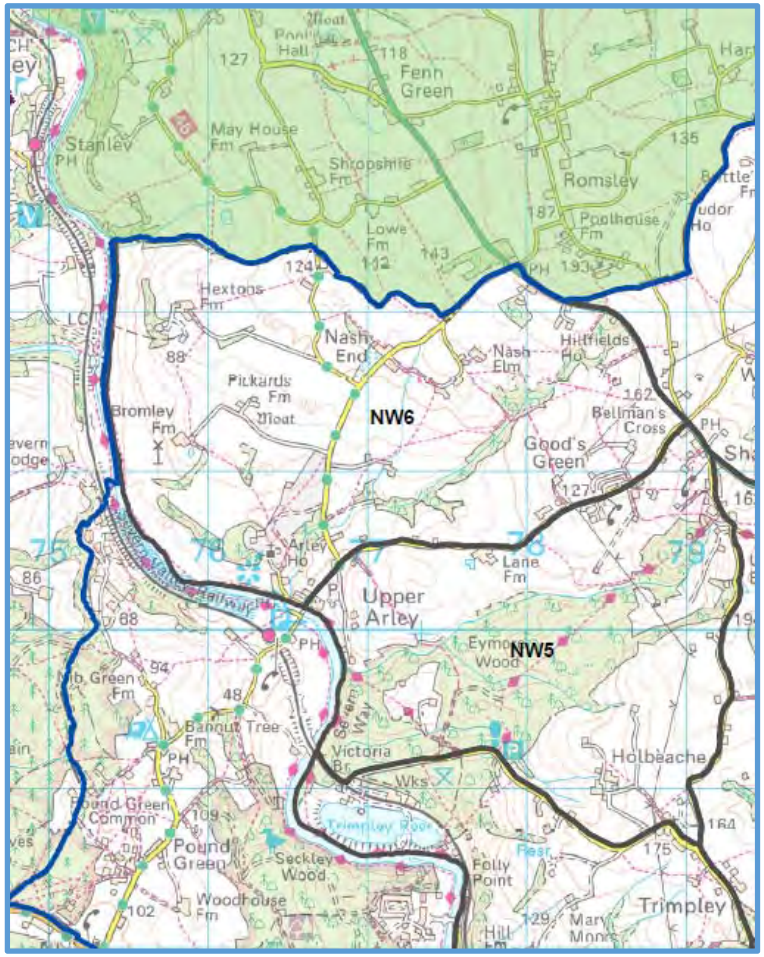
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location detached from built-up areas. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Assists in retaining the open countryside aspect to a reasonably accessible parcel, being situated off the A442 Bridgnorth Road. No substantial internal boundaries. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the broader eastern setting of Bewdley, approached from the north, particularly via the Severn Valley Railway, complementing parcels to the south and north. |

**Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Despite being relatively remote, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and therefore vulnerable to change which would compromise its largely open character. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains southern part of the village of Upper Arley, and the hamlet of Shatterford. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | SSSI associated with the north western part of Eymore Wood. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NW6 – land between the River Severn, Arley Lane and the District boundary

This remote rural land rises from the River Severn and largely characterised by arable/pastoral agriculture. Field sizes are diverse with well-maintained hedgerows of varying scale and isolated pockets of woodland. There are extensive views westwards across the Severn Valley throughout the parcel. Settlement is largely farmsteads, and Arley Old Hall (including the extensive Registered Garden) which dominates the south west of the parcel.



## Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location detached from built-up areas. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Assists in retaining the open countryside aspect to a reasonably accessible parcel, being situated off the A442 Bridgnorth Road. No substantial internal boundaries. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the broader eastern setting of Bewdley, approached from the north, particularly via the Severn Valley Railway, complementing parcels to the south. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION** |

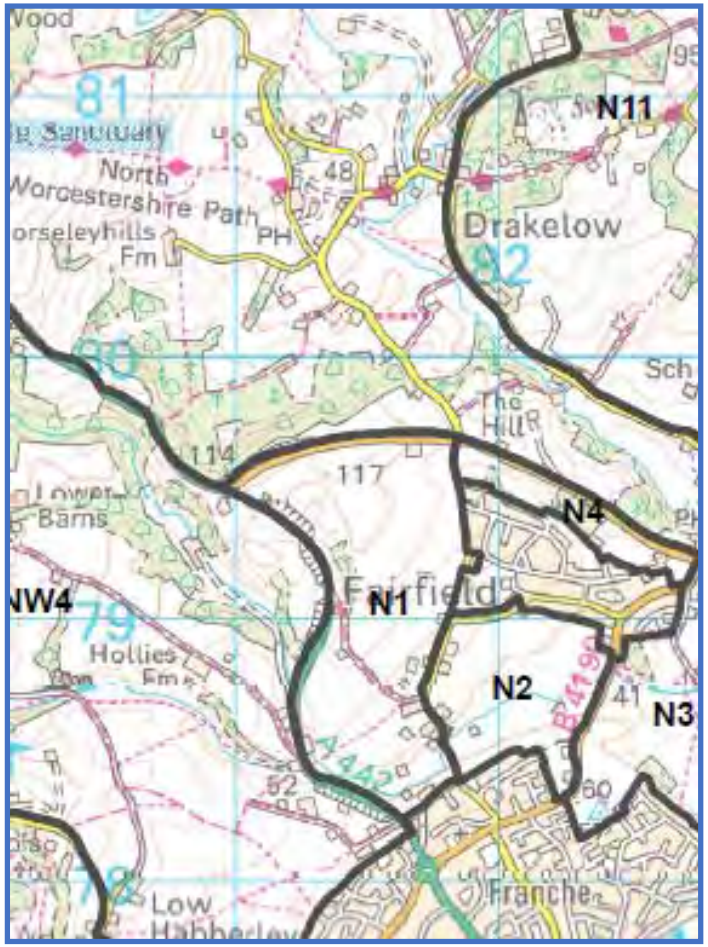
**Appendix B1 – Parcels NW1 – NW6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Despite being relatively remote, the parcel is nevertheless accessible and therefore vulnerable to change which would compromise its largely open character. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains northern part of the village of Upper Arley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | Registered Park and Garden at Arley House. SAM at Pickard's Farm. |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

## PARCEL N1 – land between the A442 Bridgnorth Road to the west, the B4189 to the north and Lowe Lane to the east

Pasture land with field size which varies considerably with gappy hedgerows of varying quality. This parcel rises south to north with extensive views southward and eastwards from its northern reaches. Built development is restricted to a few isolated dwellings.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of land which contains the northern edge of Kidderminster, preventing the development |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of land which contains the northern edge of Kidderminster, preventing development encroaching into open countryside from its current unbounded limit. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

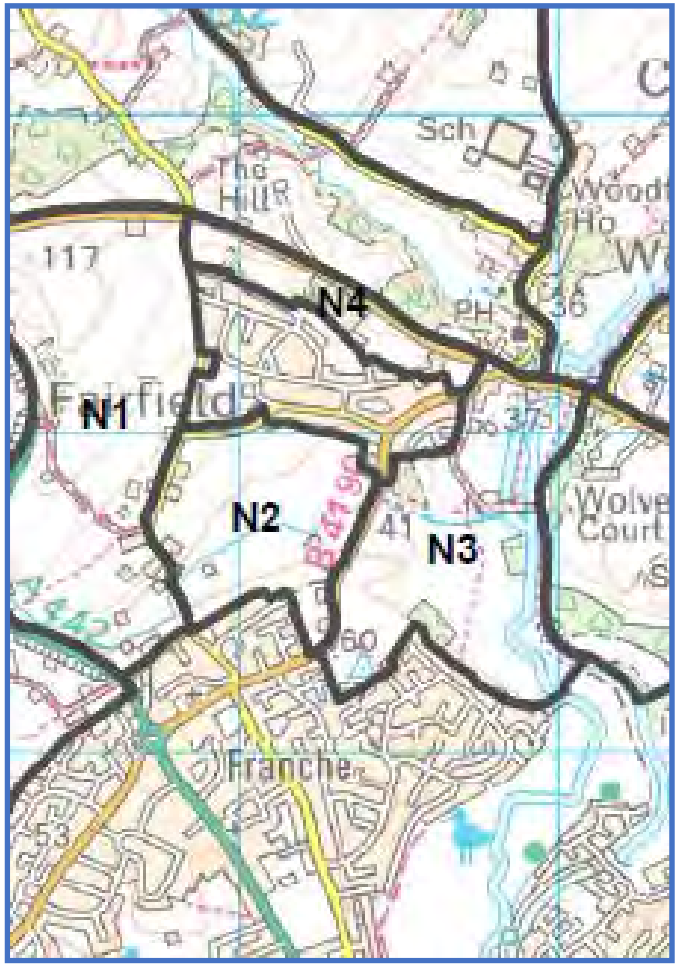
**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel overall makes a significant contribution through its role in containing the northerly spread of Kidderminster where there has been development up to the break of slope to the valley of Honey Brook. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains the westerly extent of Fairfield. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Two PRoW in the southern half of the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

## PARCEL N2 – land between the built edge of Kidderminster at Franche and the southern edge of Fairfield

Predominantly pasture land situated between the northern edge of Kidderminster and Fairfield, centred on Honey Brook, rising up to the built edge of Fairfield. There are filtered view across the parcel from Franche Road and Lowe Lane. Field size varies considerably, with hedgerows of variable size and condition. There are some large isolated dwellings on the fringes of the parcel.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

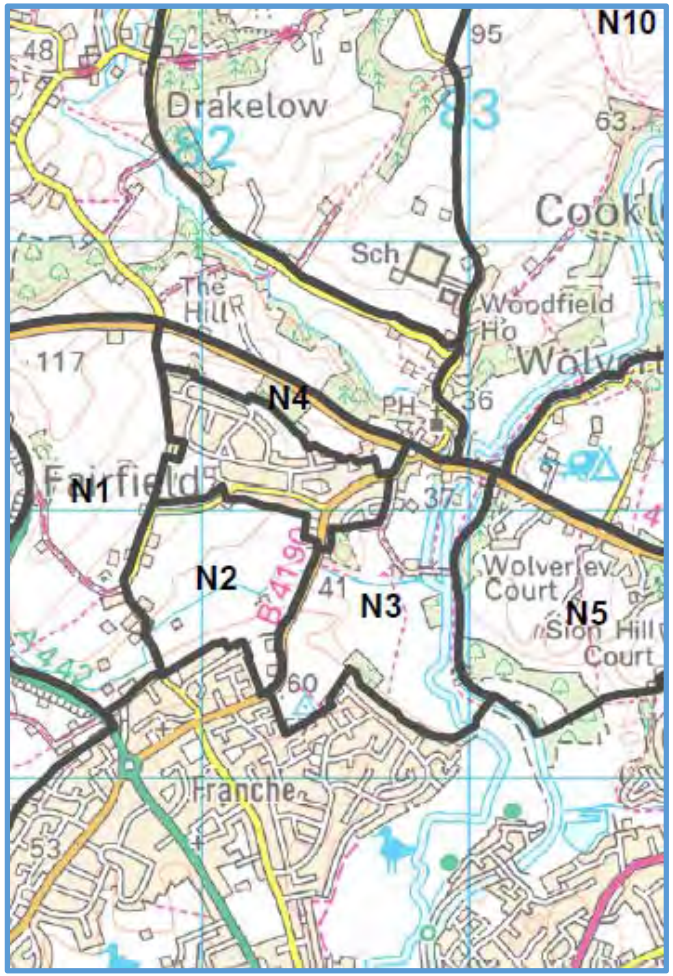
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Lying between the built edge of Kidderminster and the substantial development at Fairfield, the parcel contributes to preventing sprawl by merger. The parcel retain a strong sense of openness by virtue of the absence of built development, although this is compromised to some extent by the hard urban edge of Kidderminster at Franche Court Drive. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of land which contains the northern edge of Kidderminster, preventing development encroaching into open countryside from its current unbounded limit. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel overall makes a significant contribution through its role in containing the northerly spread of Kidderminster where there has been development up to the break of slope to the valley of Honey Brook. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains the southerly extent of Fairfield. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | No access. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N3 – land to the north of the built edge of Kidderminster at Franche and Fairfield, between Franche Road and the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal

Pasture, rough grazing and woodland west of the River Stour and Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal, being low lying ground which is part of the floodplain of the River Stour. Views are limited by the low lying character of the land and vegetation cover and built development is largely absent reflecting the flood risk which extends across a large part of the parcel.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Helps to contain the unbounded north edge of Kidderminster which is currently limited to the plateau to the south. The openness of the parcel is largely retained because of the presence of flood risk across a significant part of its extent. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The openness of the parcel is largely retained because of the presence of flood risk across a significant part of its extent. The parcel makes a contribution to preventing the (albeit modest) southward extension of Wolverley. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

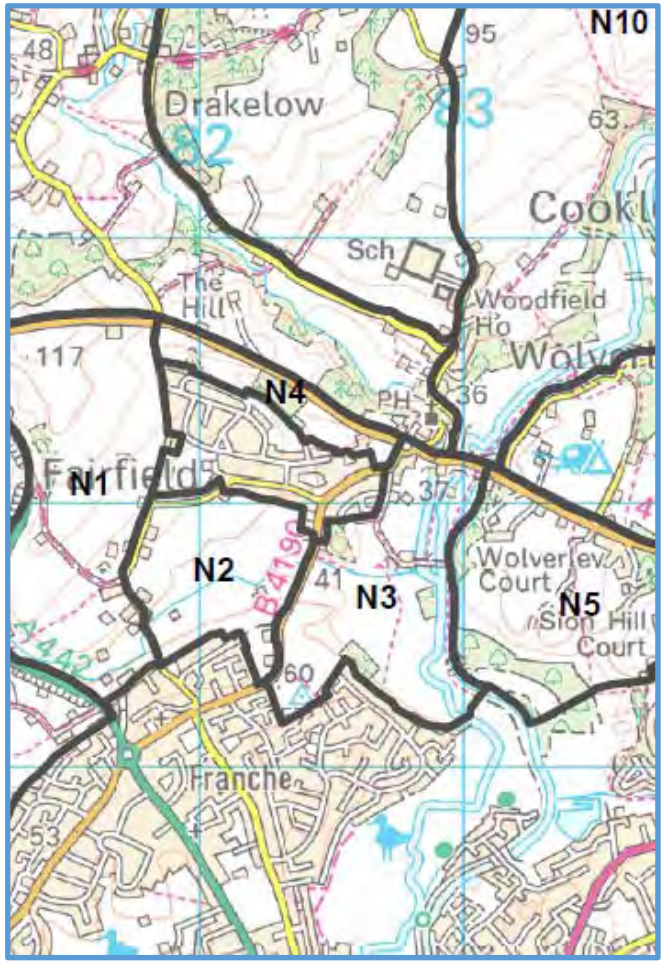
**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is largely kept open by virtue of the present of flood risk, there is nevertheless a contribution to preventing development at its fringes, particularly to the north. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Part of the southerly context of Wolverley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW and school playing fields. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

## PARCEL N4 – land to the north of Fairfield, south of the B4189 Wolverley Road,

A 'remnant' piece of land left as a buffer between the built edge of Fairfield and the B4189. This is steeply sloping land, comprising scrub to the north, dense woodland in the centre and improved grazing to the south, which visually contains the edge of Fairfield. There are extensive views across the parcel, southward towards Kidderminster from the B4189.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

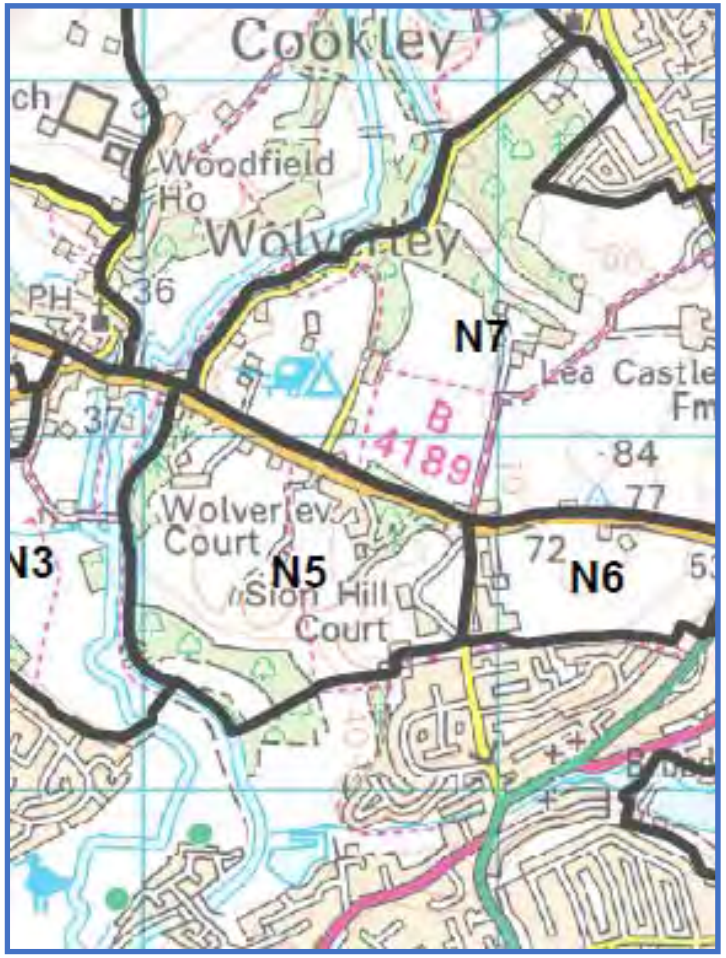
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location given the strong containment of the parcel by the built edge of Fairfield and the B4189. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location given the strong containment of the parcel by the built edge of Fairfield and the B4189. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Limited contribution in this location given the strong containment of the parcel by the built edge of Fairfield and the B4189. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | No relationship. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | No access. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N5 – land between the B4189 Wolverley Road, the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and Sion Hill

Dominated by Wolverley Court, Heathfield School and several large dwellings off Sion Hill, this parcel has a semi-rural character, with extensive woodland cover and land rough pasture. Views are limited by the dense vegetation.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Helps to contain the irregular urban edge which has evolved to the south of the parcel, preventing northward development to the B4189 Wolverley Road.<br>The parcel is variously occupied by development, although it retains a moderate sense of openness by virtue of topography and tree cover, |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Although contained by the B4189 to the north and containing a variety of built development, the parcel retains a sense of openness and transition to wider open countryside to the north. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

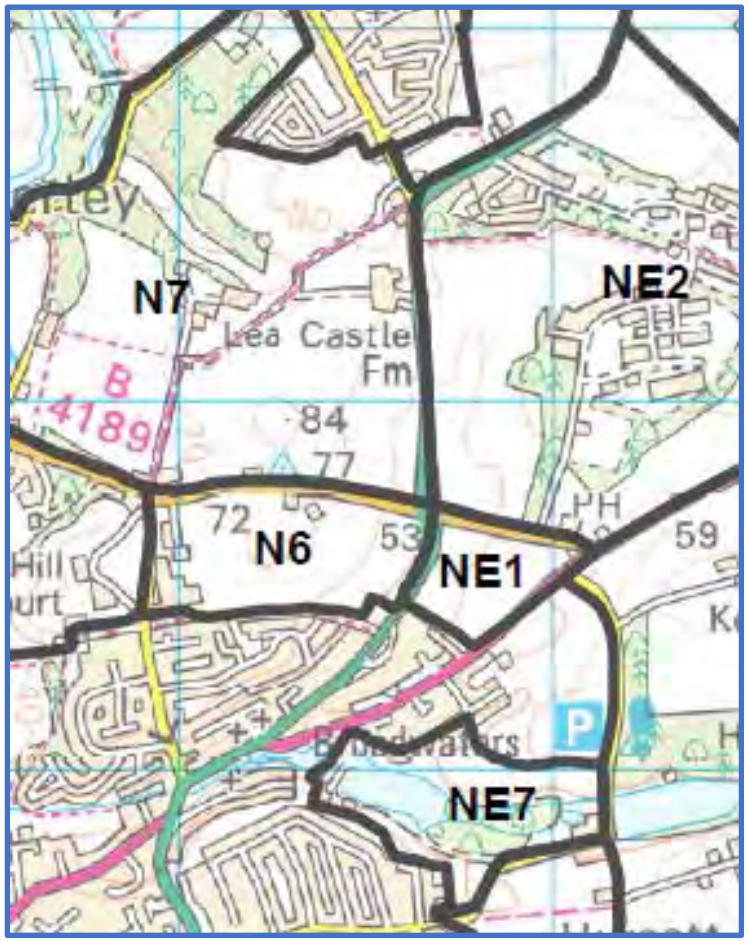
**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel maintains a sense of openness in this location, notwithstanding the presence of some substantial built development, creating a transition to the wider open countryside to the north. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW running north-south. Playing fields. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

## PARCEL N6 – land contained by the B4189 Wolverley Road, A449 Wolverhampton Road and Sion Hill

Comprising arable fields and large dwellings to the north and east and school playing fields to the south west, there are extensive views southwards from the B4180 Wolverley Road towards the edge of Kidderminster at Broadwaters across the plateau which falls away to the A449. On its eastern flanks, the parcel mirrors the character of that of parcel NE1 on the other side of the A449, forming one of the northerly entrances to Kidderminster. The eastern part of the parcel is visually prominent from the B4189 Park Gate Road and appears part of the wider countryside which opens out northwards from the parcel.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

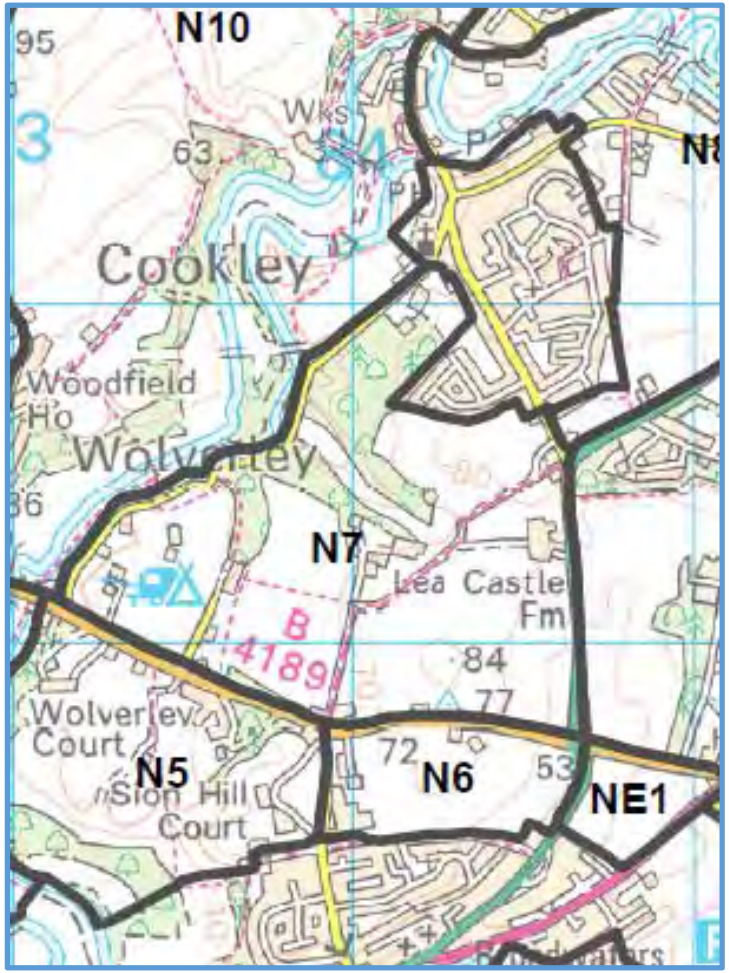
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br><br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br><br>*Openness*<br><br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>The size and containment of the parcel means that sprawl is readily contained. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br><br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br><br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br><br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br><br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br><br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>Land rising to the B4189 immediately north of the urban edge of Kidderminster, the land contains the built edge of the town, preventing encroachment beyond its current limit. The land also contributes to maintaining openness through its visual connection to the wider countryside to the north across the B4189 Wolverley Road. The parcel is visually exposed to parcel NE1 to the east across the A449 and vice versa, and past development has been kept back from encroaching onto this rising land. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through preventing the encroachment of the urban edge of Kidderminster into open countryside, bounded by roads but is visually sensitive land which rises to the B4189.which rises to the B4189. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | PRoW along southern border. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N7 – land to the north of the B4189 Wolverley Road, south of Cookley, west of the A449 Wolverhampton Road

Consisting largely of arable, pasture and woodland uses, with sports pitches and a caravan site to the south west, with limited field boundaries, there are extensive views southward and westward across this plateau landscape. Built development is limited to farmsteads and a cluster of barn conversions. The built edge of Cookley forms the north edge of the parcel, softened to the northwest by extensive woodland centred on the River Stour and the Staffordshire-Worcestershire Canal.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

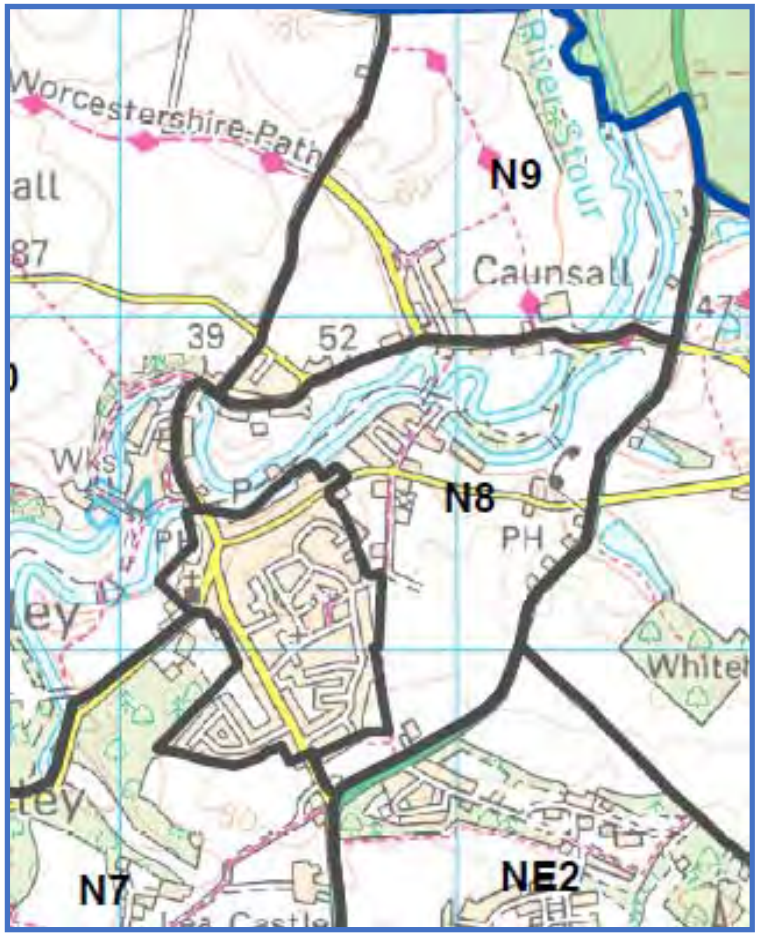
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel protects open land from potential development pressures associated with the A449 and creation of sprawl along this key road corridor. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns although locally this is the principal land separating Cookley and Kidderminster. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Forming open countryside to the north of Kidderminster, separating the town from Cookley, the land has a broadly open aspect. Green Belt contributes to the maintenance of openness through preventing incremental development in an accessible location, both from Cookley to the north and more generally across the parcel. Internal boundaries are limited to irregular hedges and woodland edges. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Contributes to preventing the incremental encroachment of development into open countryside, and sprawl of Kidderminster along the A449. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the southerly landscape context for Cookley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Three PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N8 – land to the east of Cookley, west of the A449 Wolverhampton Road, south of Caunsall Road

Largely comprising unimproved grazing and woodland in the floodplain of the River Stour, this parcel is largely an agricultural landscape, with some extensive woodland associated with floodplain of the River Stour to the east. On the rising land adjacent to the A449, the parcel is visually sensitive. There is significant semi-urbanised development to the northwest in the form of a mobile home park off Austcliffe Lane.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

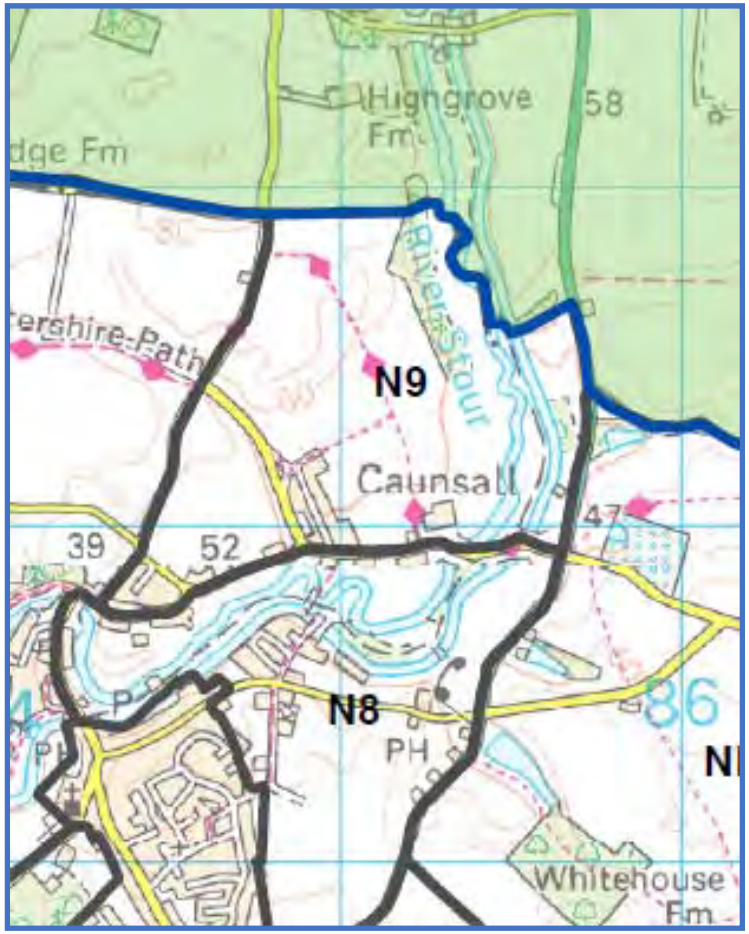
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No clear role in this location given location away from a large built-up area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Although intruded by some development to the north east of Cookley, the parcel retains an open aspect which is protected from incremental change in an accessible and visually sensitive location adjacent to the A449. Limited substantial internal boundaries (Austcliffe Lane and the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal). |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Contributes to maintaining the openness of land in a visually sensitive and accessible location adjacent to the A449. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the northerly setting for Cookley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW running along (in part) the built edge of Cookley. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N9 – land to the north of Caunsall Road, east of Cookley Lane, west of the A449 Kidderminster Road

Relatively remote countryside with predominantly large-scale arable land uses with fragmented hedgerows and extensive views across the gently undulating landscape, particularly from Cookley Lane. The large hamlet of Caunsall to the south comprises the bulk of built development in the parcel.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

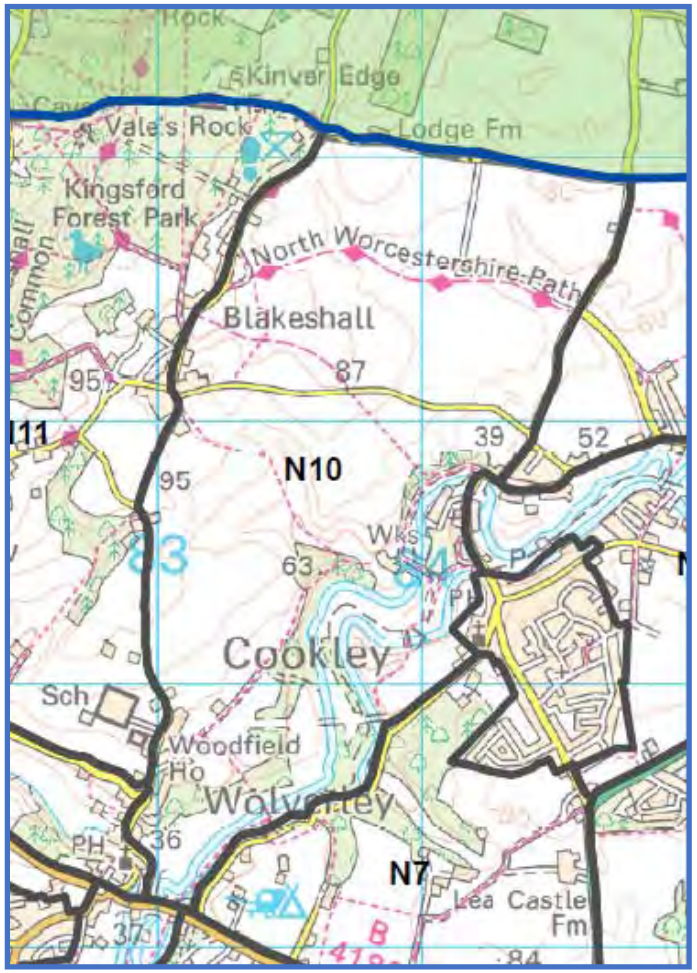
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from a large built-up area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Aside from development associated with the hamlet of Caunsall to the south, the parcel is open in character, but is nevertheless accessible (adjacent to the A449) and therefore potentially vulnerable to incremental change. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely of open countryside but is accessible and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the northerly setting for the hamlet of Caunsall. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | PRoW and canal towpath. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N10 – land to the northwest of Cookley bounded by Kinver Lane/Bridge Road, Lea Lane, B4189 Wolverley Road and Blakeshall Lane/Gipsy Lane

A rural landscape with extensive arable and improved grassland land uses, with limited hedgerow or woodland cover, and extensive views southwards and eastwards from the gently rising land from the valley of the River Stour. Built development is limited to a few isolated farmsteads and the Steel Wheels factory to the west of Cookley.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

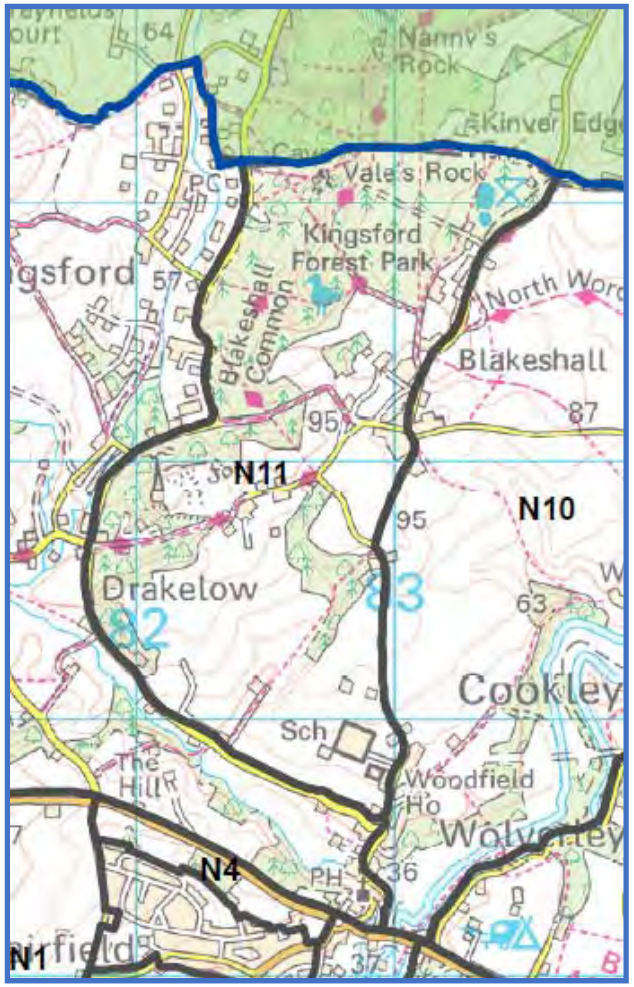
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from a large built-up area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Aside from development associated with fringes of Cookley to the east, the parcel is open in character, but is nevertheless accessible and therefore potentially vulnerable to incremental change. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely of open countryside but is accessible and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Is the westerly setting for Cookley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW and canal towpath. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL N11 – land to the west of Blakeshall Lane, east of Drakelow Lane/Kingsford Lane

A diverse, relatively remote rural parcel, dominated by Kingsford Forest Park to the north with mixed arable pastoral uses to the south. Views into and out of the parcel are variable in extent, reflecting the complex topography, dense woodland and substantial hedgerows. Built development comprises the hamlet of Blakeshall to the east, isolated farmsteads and some large properties on the periphery, including the extensive Wolverley Secondary School to the south.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from a large built-up area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is largely relatively remote open countryside, it is nevertheless vulnerable to incremental change. There are various field boundaries and woodland edges within the parcel |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

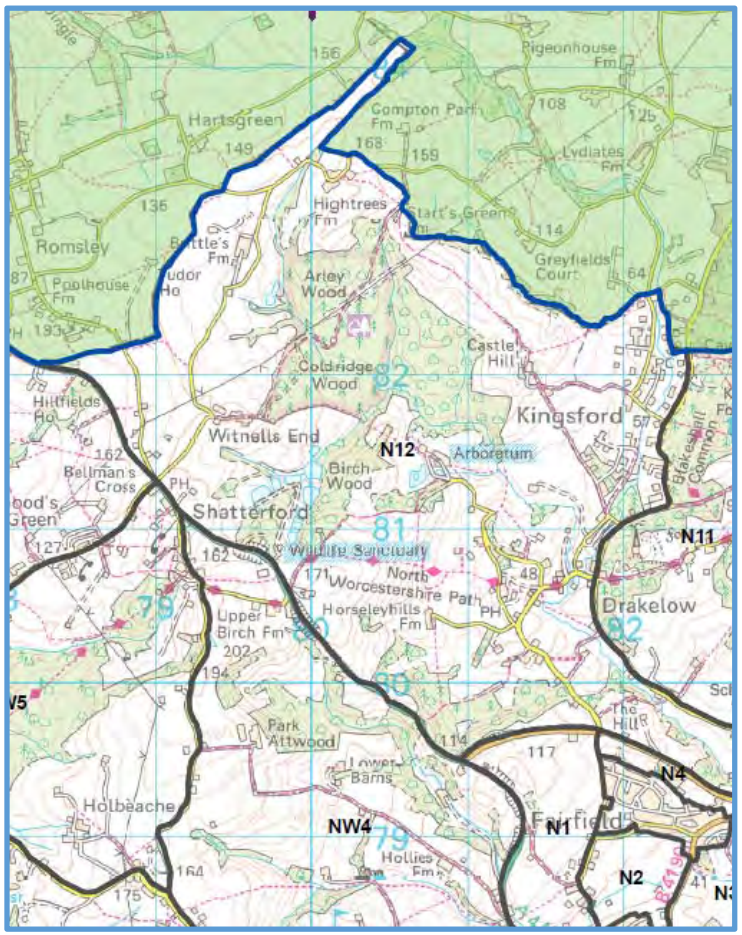
**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely of open countryside but is relatively accessible, particularly in its southern reaches, and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the setting for Kingsford to the west and Blakeshall to the east. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | SAM to the west of the parcel. |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | Local Nature Reserve/SSSI associated with Kingsford Forest to the north. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

## PARCEL N12 – land to the northeast of the A442 Bridgnorth Road, west of Drakelow Lane/Kingsford Lane

A remote rural landscape dominated by woodland, particularly to the north and west of the parcel. Reflecting the variable topography and variable woodland cover, there are a wide range of short, filtered and long-distance views, the latter particularly from the higher land towards the north and east. Built development largely comprises scattered farmsteads, but there is complex of large dwellings to the east at Kingsford along Sheepwash Lane and some medium-sized mobile home developments towards the south.



## Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from a large built-up area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given distance from towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is largely relatively remote open countryside, it is nevertheless reasonably accessible via the A442 Bridgnorth Road and thus potentially vulnerable to incremental change. There are various minor roads, field boundaries and woodland edges within the parcel |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

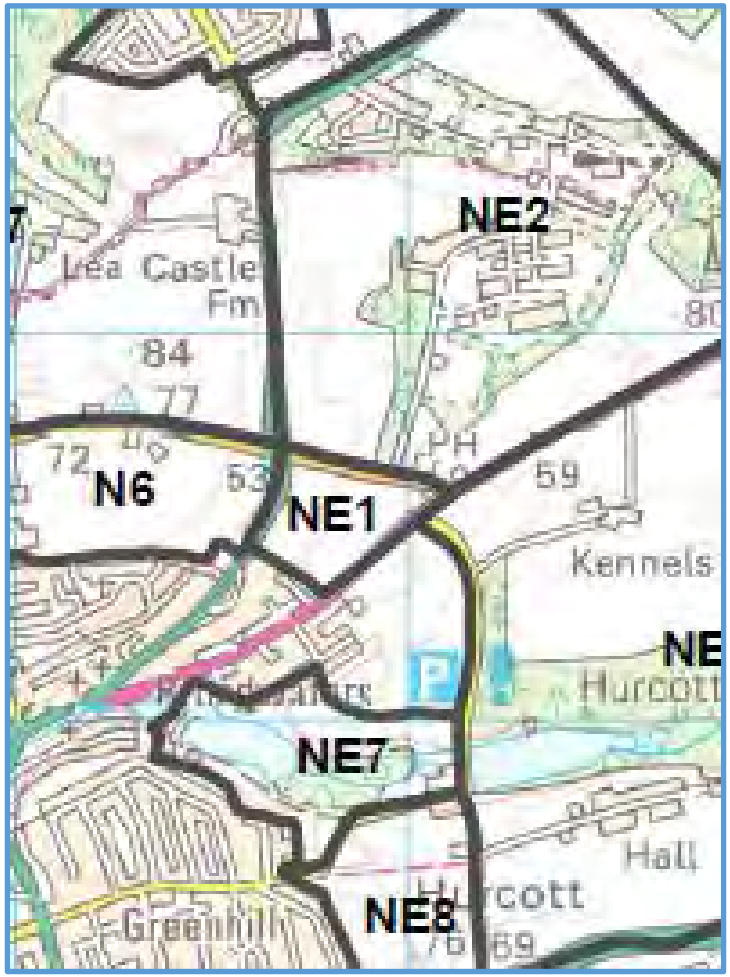
**Appendix B2 – Parcels N1 – N12**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely of open countryside but is relatively accessible, particularly in its southern and western reaches, and thus vulnerable to incremental change through encroachment. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains the scattered settlement of Kingsford to the east. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | SAM in the middle of the parcel. |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

## PARCEL NE1 – land between the A449 Wolverhampton Road, A451 Stourbridge Road and the B4189 Park Gate Road

Comprising one large arable field on rising land to the north east corner, this parcel forms part of the northerly arc of land which abuts the built edge of Kidderminster at Broadwaters. Complementing parcel N6 to the west on the opposite side of the A449, this land forms part of the northerly entrance to Kidderminster, both along the A449 and A451 and is part of medium-distance views along the B4189 Park Gate Road and B4189 Wolverley Road.



**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and containment of the parcel means that sprawl from the urban edge is readily contained. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Land rising to the B4189 immediately north of the urban edge of Kidderminster, the land contains the built edge of the town, preventing encroachment beyond its current limit. The land also contributes to maintaining openness through its visual connection to the north across the B4189 Park Gate Road, although this is compromised by significant development to the north. The parcel is visually exposed to the A449 and the A451, with past development has been kept back from encroaching onto this rising land. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |

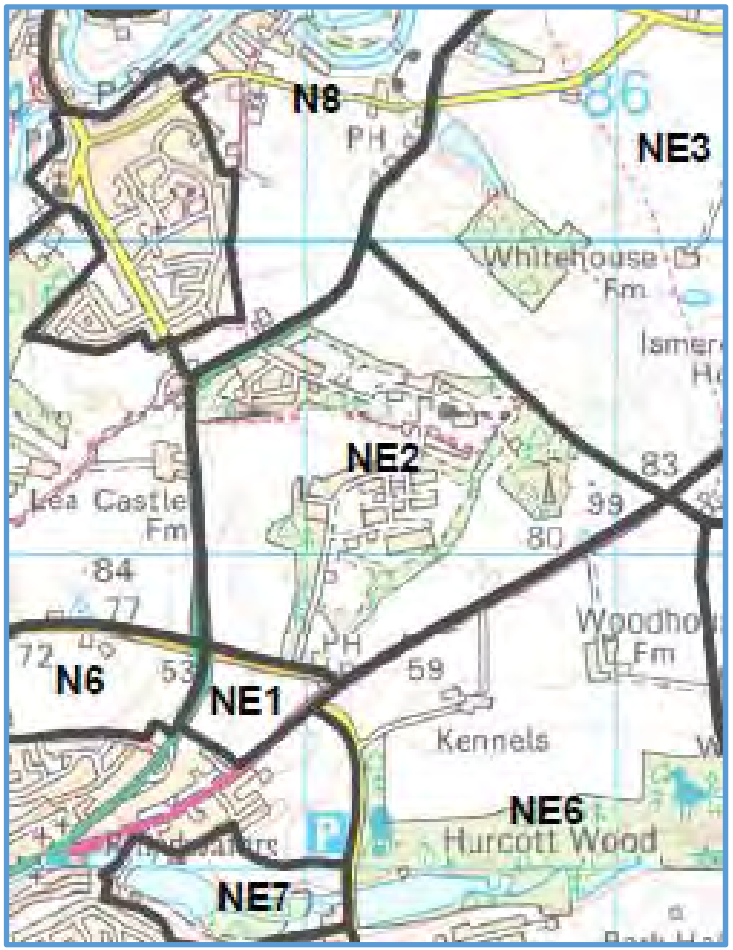
**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through preventing the encroachment of the urban edge of Kidderminster into open countryside and hence visual intrusion, despite being of a relatively small scale and bounded by roads. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | No relationship. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | None |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

**PARCEL NE2 – land between the A451 Stourbridge Road and the A449 Wolverhampton Road, extending from the B4189 Park Gate Road to Axborough Lane.**

This parcel contains both extensive built development (the Lea Castle Centre) and medium-scale arable farmland on rising land between Kidderminster and Stourbridge. Much of the development is concealed by reasonably dense woodland which extends to the high point of the parcel adjacent to Axborough Lane and there are extensive views southwards over the fringes of Kidderminster from the eastern, western and southern periphery of the parcel.



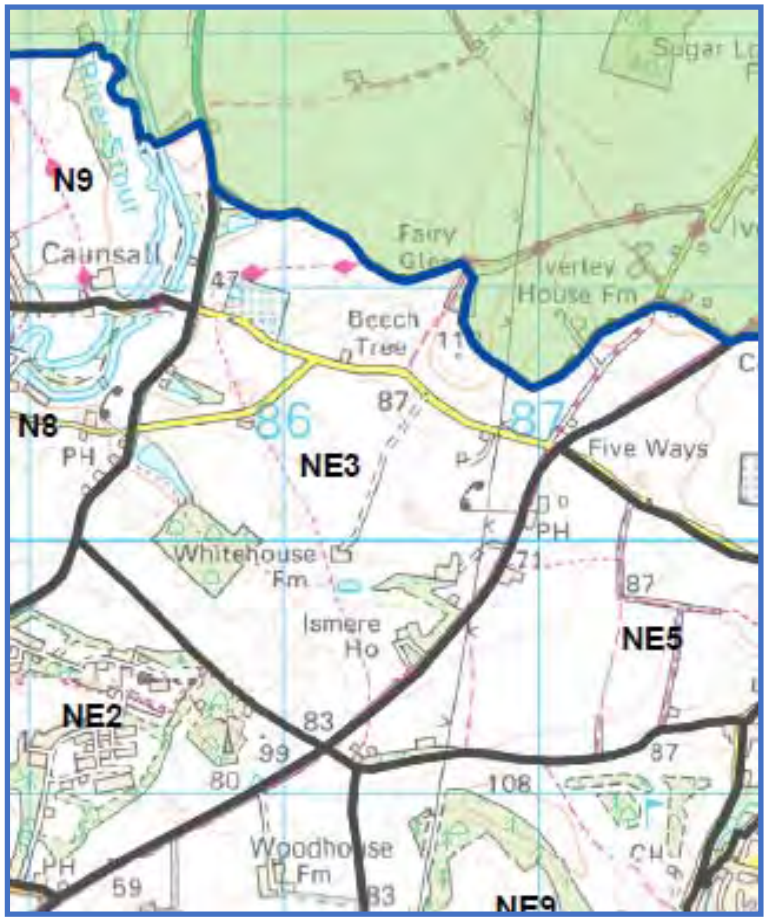
## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel protects remaining open land (which is visually sensitive) on its western and eastern flanks, bordering the A449 and A451 respectively, from potential development pressures associated with sprawl along these key road corridors. The built development which comprises the centre of the parcel sits on the hill top and is well-screened. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns although locally this part of the land separating Cookley and Kidderminster. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel has been developed across approximately half its extent, this has been carefully located and screened to minimise visual intrusion. Green Belt contributes to the maintenance of openness through preventing incremental development in an accessible location, on its visually sensitive eastern, western and northern flanks. There are various Internal boundaries associated with hedgerows and woodland edges. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | Whilst around half the land in the parcel is classed as previously developed and can be re-developed, it does not have an influence on the re-development of urban sites. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Notwithstanding carefully located and well screened existing development occupying approximately half the area, the parcel contributes to preventing the incremental encroachment of development into open countryside, and sprawl of Kidderminster along the A449 and A451, on its visually sensitive eastern, western and northern flanks. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | No relationship. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | None |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**PARCEL NE3 – land between the A451 Stourbridge Road and the A449 Wolverhampton Road, extending from Axborough Lane to the District boundary in the north**

Open countryside dominated by extensive arable uses (with some semi-improved pasture), variable hedgerows and isolated woodland blocks, with long distance panoramic views across open countryside to the north from the high point of Axborough Lane, in particular. Settlement is in the form of a few isolated dwellings and farmsteads only.



## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role given the open countryside location of the parcel. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character with limited development in the form of scattered development. There are various field boundaries and woodland edges throughout the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

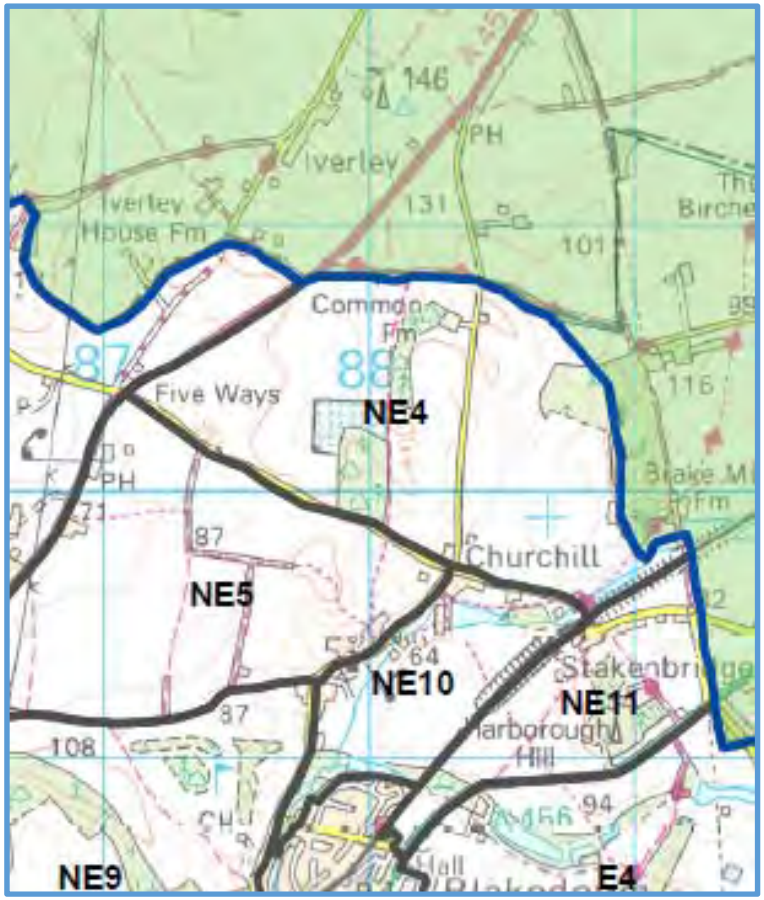
**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this accessible locality which is between two of the main routes between Kidderminster and the Birmingham conurbation (the A451 and the A449). |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Two PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

**PARCEL NE4 – land north of Churchill, between Rocky Lane/Stakenbridge Lane and the district boundary to the north, east of the A451 Stourbridge Road**

Open countryside comprising arable, pastoral and woodland uses, with isolated dwellings and farmsteads. The variable topography and hedgerow and woodland cover provides a variety of short and middle distance views into and out of the parcel, with long distance views to the west and south from Rocky Lane, and to the east from Iverley Lane which runs through the parcel. The south-facing, undulating topography helps presents a relatively remote rural character despite its proximity to Stourbridge and Hagley to the northwest. The parcel forms the northerly context for the village of Churchill.



## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

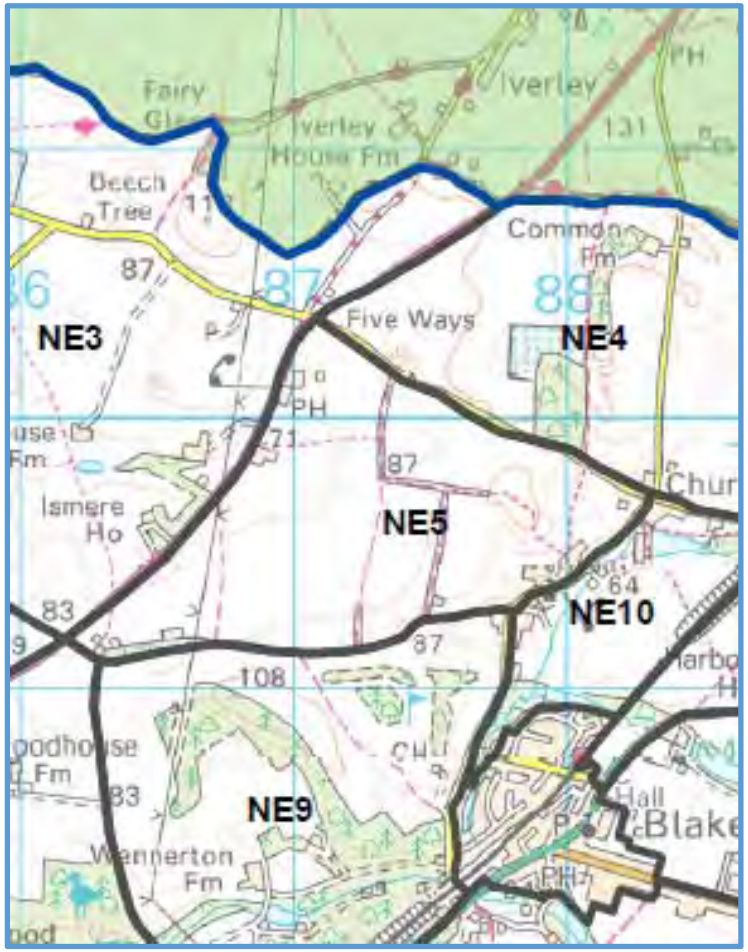
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role given the open countryside location of the parcel. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character with limited development in the form of scattered development. There are various field boundaries and woodland edges throughout the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this accessible locality which is between two of the main routes between Kidderminster and the Birmingham conurbation (the A451 and the A456). |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the northerly context for the village of Churchill. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW running north-south. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NE5 – land to the west of the A451 Stourbridge Road, between Waggon Lane and Rocky Lane

An open, largely even arable landscape with extensive views southward and westwards from Rocky Lane, across large fields with few hedgerows and no woodland cover. Some isolated properties on the fringes of the parcel being part of the village of Churchill.



## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

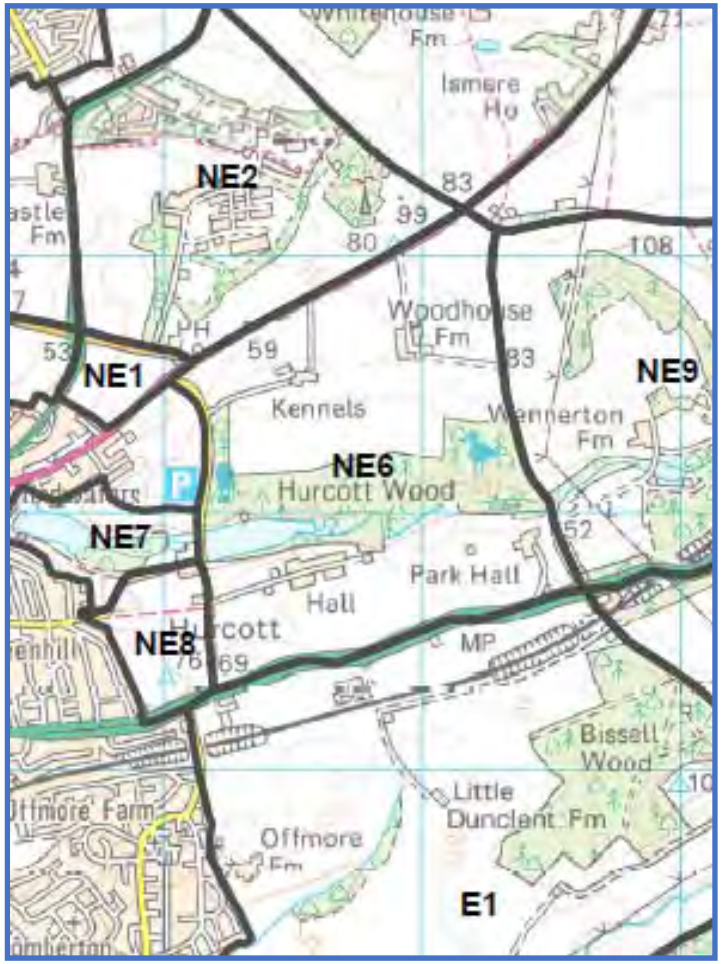
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role given the open countryside location of the parcel. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character with limited development in the form of scattered dwellings. There are various field boundaries throughout the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the westerly context for the village of Churchill. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**PARCEL NE6 – land between the A451 Stourbridge Road and the A456 Birmingham Road, Hurcott Lane to the west, Perriford Lane to the east**

A combination of open arable landscape to the north, pasture to the south and the large dense woodland of Hurcott Wood associated with Hurcott Pool and westward running valley in the centre. There extensive views across the parcel to the woodland from the A451, and from the A456. Built development is limited to two farmsteads and two large properties.



## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

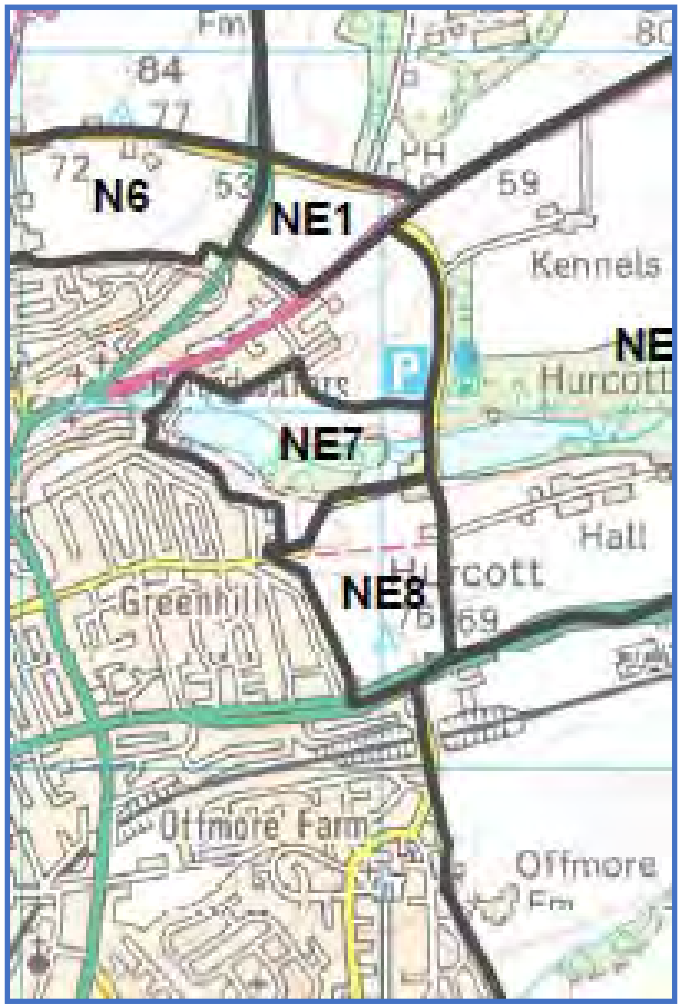
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is situated between the A451 and the A442 on the outskirts of Kidderminster. As such the land bordering these arterial routes is potentially vulnerable to sprawl from the urban edge of Kidderminster to the west. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character with limited development in the form of scattered dwellings. There are various field boundaries and woodland edges throughout the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through the maintenance of open countryside in this locality and containing potential pressures for sprawl along two of the main roads into Kidderminster (the A451 and A456). |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the easterly context for the hamlet of Hurcott. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Informal access through Hurcott Wood. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | Hurcott Pool and Woods Local Nature Reserve and Hurcott Pool and Woods SSSI, running through the centre of the parcel. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NE7 – land centred on Podmore Pool, north of Hurcott Road

Comprising rough grazing and woodland associated with Podmore Pool, its outflow and associated floodplain. Built development comprises part of the hamlet of Hurcott. Views are heavily restricted by woodland cover and dense hedgerows, which combined with the enclosing topography helps the land retain a rural character despite being adjacent to the built edge of Kidderminster at Greenhill immediately to the west.



**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt | | |
|---|---|---|
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br><br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br><br>*Openness*<br><br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>Part of the eastern arc of Green Belt which contains the built edge of Kidderminster, this parcel complements adjacent parcels in this function. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br><br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br><br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br><br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br><br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br><br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>Part a broader suite of parcels which help to contain the built edge of Kidderminster and thus protect the open countryside, although this parcel is well-bounded to the east and south. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br><br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

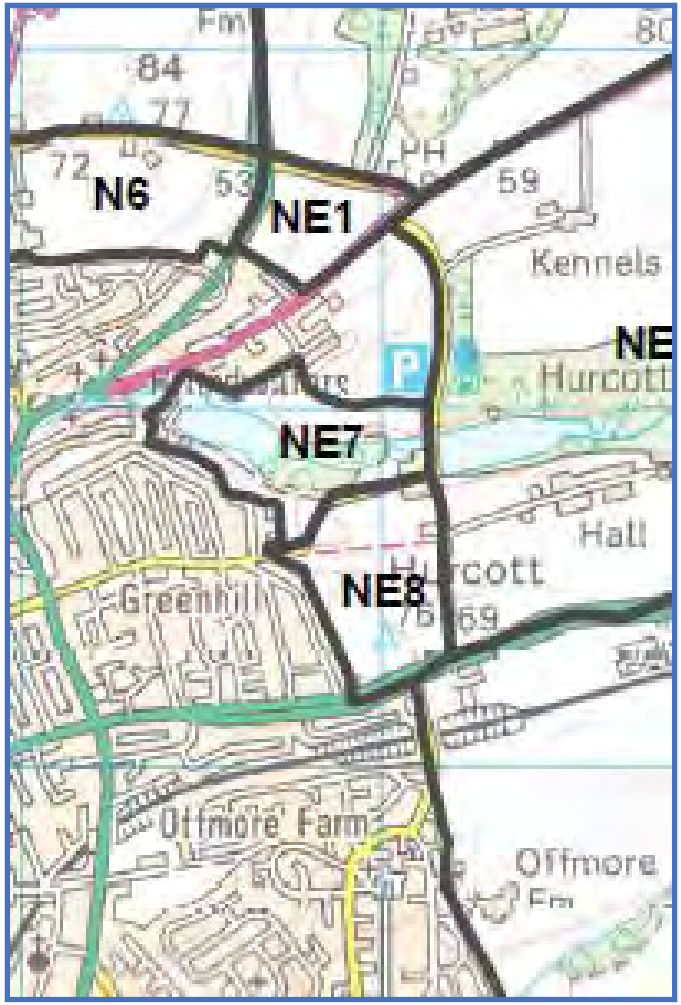
**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the arc of Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster which together help to contain the urban edge of the town, and act together to protect the open countryside in this location from incremental change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the westerly context for the hamlet of Hurcott. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | No public access. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

## PARCEL NE8 – land between Hurcott Lane, Hurcott Road and A456 Birmingham Road

Rough grazing land rising southwards from the hamlet of Hurcott. There are extensive views northwards and westwards from the elevated south eastern part of the parcel where it adjoins the A456.



## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

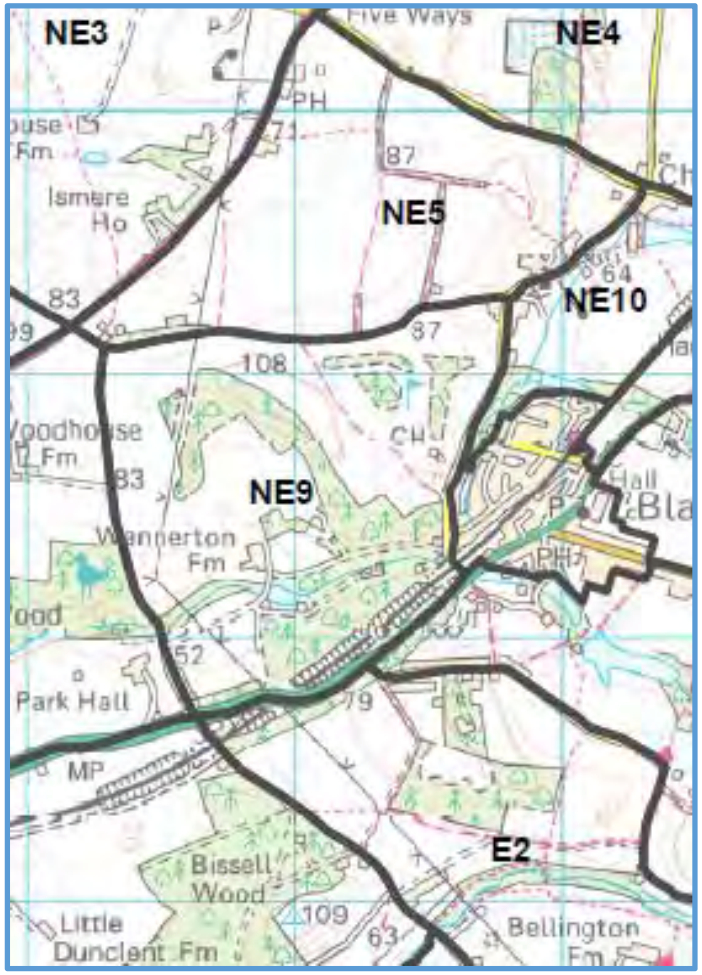
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the eastern arc of Green Belt which contains the built edge of Kidderminster, this parcel complements adjacent parcels in this function. The parcel retains a moderate sense of openness, reflecting its easterly-facing topography and strong vegetation cover which limits visual connection with the built edge of Kidderminster to the west. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part a broader suite of parcels which help to contain the built edge of Kidderminster and thus protect the open countryside, although this parcel is well-bounded to the north, east and south. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the arc of Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster which together help to contain the urban edge of the town, and act together to protect the open countryside in this location from incremental change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the southerly context for the hamlet of Hurcott. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NE9 – land between Waggon Lane, Perriford Lane, the A456 Birmingham Road and Churchill Lane

Comprising improved pasture land, dense woodland and Churchill & Blakedown Golf Course to the east, this parcel is topographical complex which in combination with the extensive, irregular woodland contains views in and out. Built development is limited to farmsteads, golf-related uses and a small part of Churchill village in the north east corner.



**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role given the open countryside location of the parcel. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character with limited development in the form of scattered dwellings. There are various field and woodland boundaries throughout the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the westerly context for Blakedown to the south and Churchill to the east. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NE10 – land between Churchill Lane, Stakenbridge Lane and the railway, north of Blakedown

Open pasture fringed by woodland and two small lakes on land gently rising to the north east, fringed to the west and north by large properties, some set in extensive grounds. From inside the parcel there are extensive views in all directions.

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

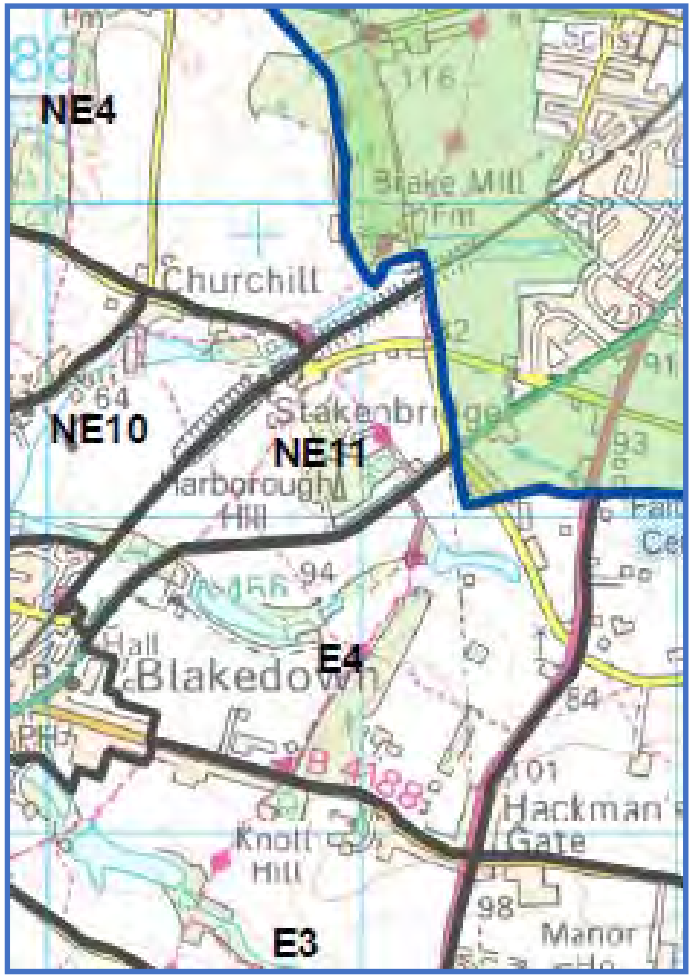
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role given the open countryside location of the parcel. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns, although there is a local role in respect of maintaining the separation of Blakedown and Hagley. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character despite being fringed by dwellings of various types and sizes which comprise the village of Churchill. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the northerly context for Blakedown and the southerly context for Churchill. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL NE11 – land between the A456 Birmingham Road and the railway line, northeast of Blakedown

Arable land to the south west, wooded Harborough Hill to the north east, with medium-distance views in all directions from the A456. Built development is limited to clusters of properties along Stakenbridge Lane.



## Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of open land between Hagley and Blakedown, adjacent to the A456 and helps to maintain the gap between these settlements, |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns, although there is a local role in respect of maintaining the separation of Blakedown and Hagley. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open rural character with limited built development. There are various field boundaries and woodland edges within the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

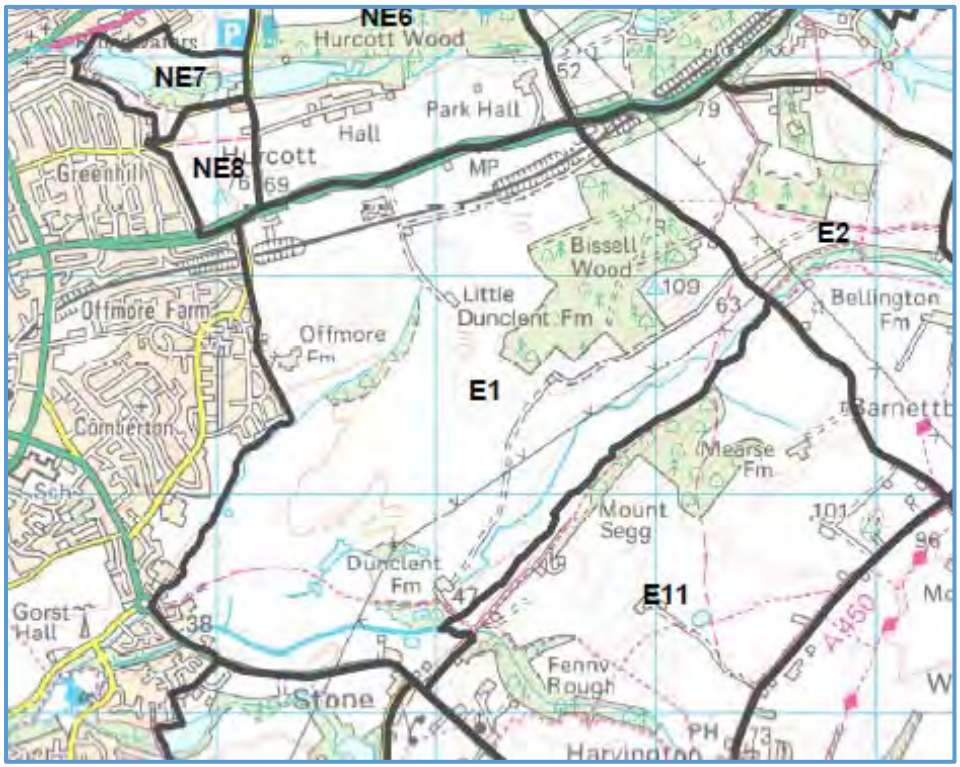
**Appendix B3 – Parcels NE1 – NE11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of the wider tract of Green Belt which maintains open land to the south west of Birmingham within this relatively accessible locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms part of the northerly context for Blakedown immediately to the south. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

**PARCEL E1 – land to the southeast of the A456 Birmingham Road, bounded by Deansford Lane to the northeast, the built edge of Kidderminster at Offmore Farm/Comberton to the west and Hoo Brook to the south east and the A448 Comberton Road to the south**

A large, complex parcel predominantly in arable cultivation but with extensive tracts of woodland (Bissell Wood) to the north east. Field size varies considerably defined by both substantial and gappy hedgerows. Varying topography and dense vegetation limits views into the parcel although there are some medium-distance views from the A448 Comberton Road, the A456 Birmingham Road and Deansford Lane. Built development is sparse, limited to farmsteads and some peripheral dwellings.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

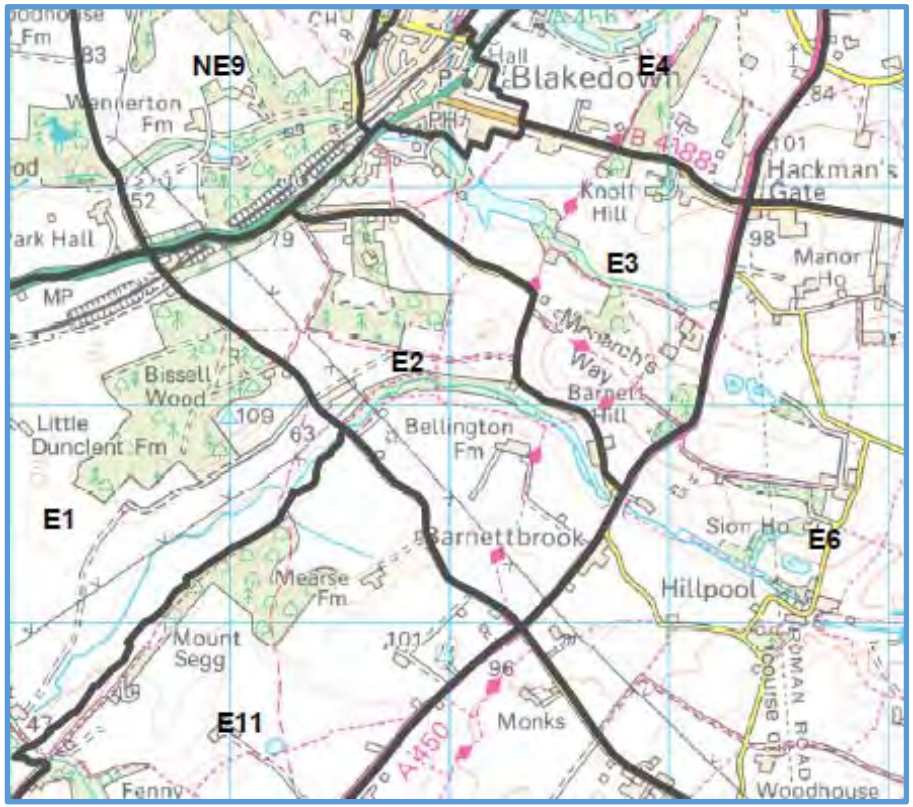
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel (being off the A456 Birmingham Road, the A448 Comberton Road and containing the urban edge of Kidderminster) means that it plays a significant role in preventing the uncontrolled spread of urban development into open countryside. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely free of urbanising development, reflecting its agricultural use. The greatly varying field size and strength of field boundaries means that there are no clear boundaries to development. The size of the parcel means that it makes a wider contribution preventing encroachment generally. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>This parcel forms a substantial part of the Green Belt to the east of Kidderminster, containing the urban edge and preventing sprawl into open countryside. The absence of significant internal boundaries, comprising field boundaries and hedgerows of varying strength, means that the parcel is potentially vulnerable to the containment of development pressures. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW to the south. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**PARCEL E2 – land bounded by the A456 Birmingham Road to the north, Deansford Lane to the south west, New Wood Lane/Sandy Lane to the northeast and the A450 Stourbridge Road to the southeast**

Broadly divided into two by Hoo Brook, with pasture and woodland to the north and arable land to the south. Apart from woodland blocks and the tree line centred on Hoo Brook, vegetation is relatively sparse with hedgerows often absent from the subdivided open fields (particularly along Deansford Lane where there is substantial 'horsiculture'). Consequently, there are extensive, long-distance views north eastwards across the parcel from Deansford Lane. Views from New Wood Lane/Sandy Lane are more restricted by vegetation and topography. Built development is restricted to farmsteads and some peripheral development to the north related to Blakedown.



**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Notwithstanding some development to the north of the parcel associated with the outskirts of Blakedown, the parcel is largely of a rural character. Its accessibility makes it potentially vulnerable to development pressure. There is an absence of strong boundaries within the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

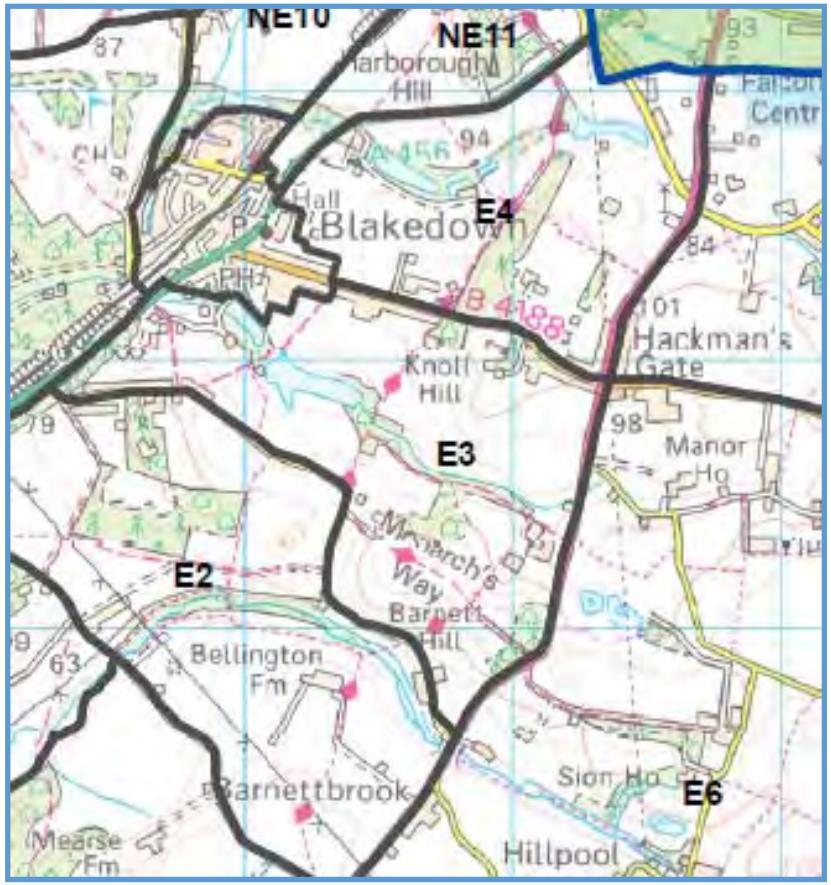
**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW throughout. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

## PARCEL E3 – land between New Wood Lane/Sandy Lane, the A450 Stourbridge Road, B4188 Belbroughton Road and the A456 Birmingham Road

Characterised by diverse land uses, with built development associated with Blakedown and Hackman's Gate fringing the north western and northern extent, shading into pasture and arable cultivation. Woodland cover is relatively extensive, associated with Swan Pool, Forge Pool and Ladies Pool in the centre of parcel, which combined with the varying topography creates a diverse range of short and medium-distance views. There are extensive nursery and market garden enterprises to the east of the parcel, and land between Ladies Pool and the Belbroughton Road has largely been subdivided for 'horsiculture'.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

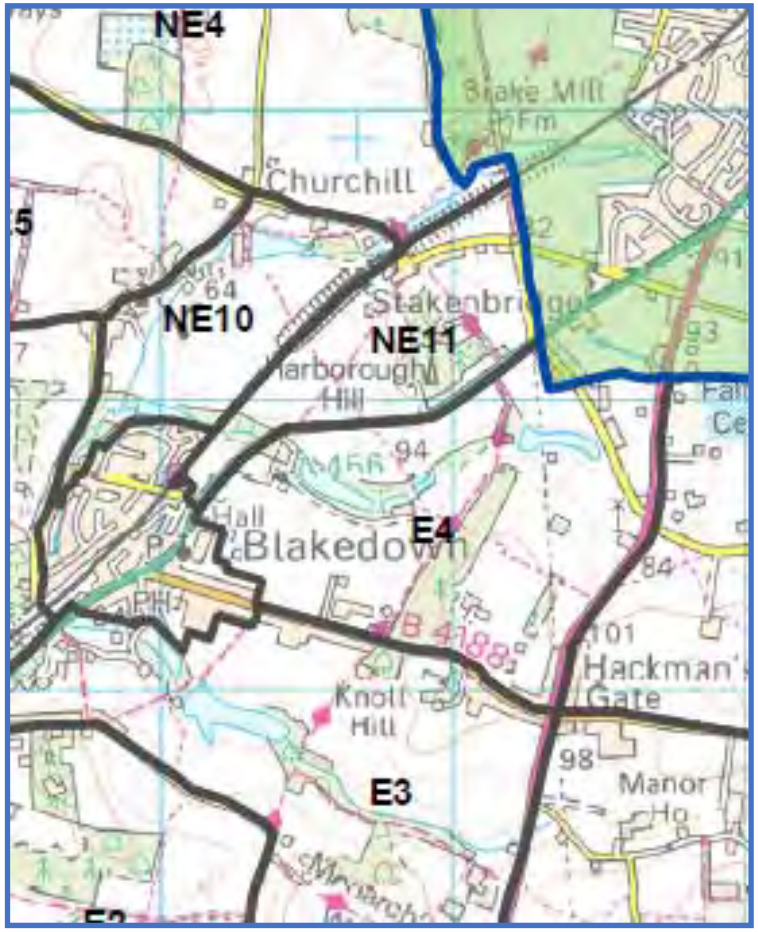
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area, although locally, this parcel contains the southern edges of Blakedown. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>There is extensive development to the north of the parcel associated with the village of Blakedown and Its accessibility makes it potentially vulnerable to development pressure. Boundaries within the parcel vary in strength and are complex, reflecting the diverse land uses. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly to the north where it contains Blakedown. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the south/southeasterly context for Blakedown. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW throughout. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL E4 – land northeast of Blakedown between the B4188 Belbroughton Road, the A450 Worcester Road and the A456 Birmingham Road

Of mixed arable, pastoral and woodland land uses, centred on a chain of large pools, this parcel is largely flat to the west, more varied to the east around Knoll Hill, with glimpsed views limited by woodland and hedgerows. Built development has encroached northwards from Belbroughton Road into the parcel.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

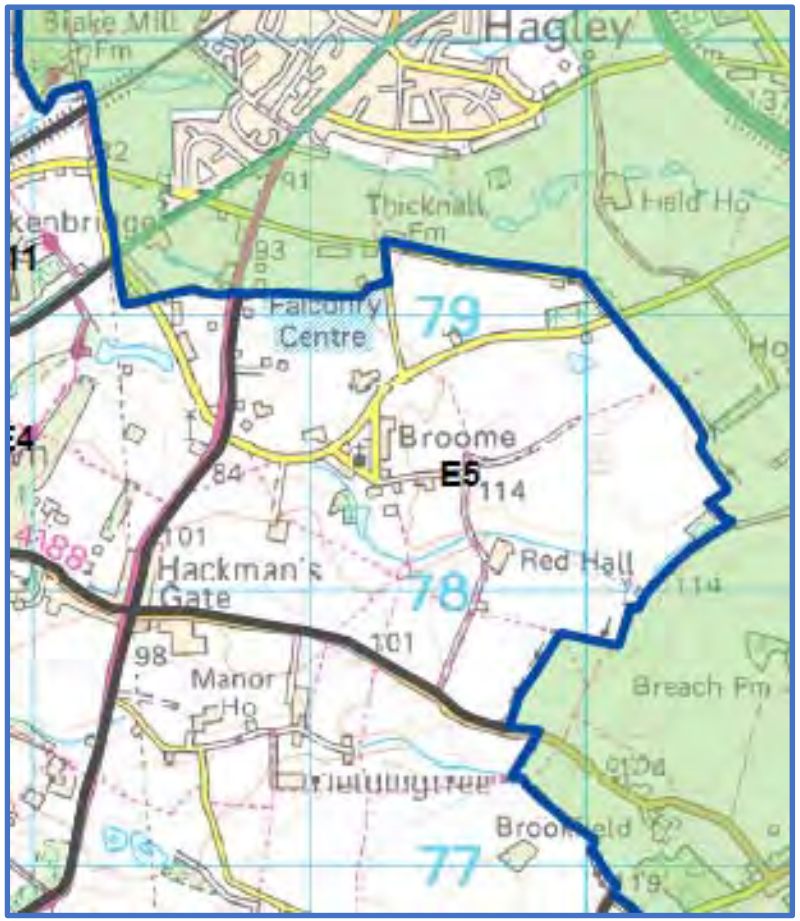
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms part of open land between Hagley and Blakedown, adjacent to the A456 and helps to maintain the gap between these settlements, |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>There is extensive development to the south of the parcel associated with the village of Blakedown and Its accessibility makes it potentially vulnerable to development pressure. Boundaries within the parcel vary in strength. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location between two main roads means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly to the south and west where it contains Blakedown. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the north easterly context of Blakedown. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Two PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL E5 – land to the east of the A520 Worcester Road, north of the B4188 Hackmans Gate Lane

A mixed land use agricultural landscape centred on the hamlet of Broome. The limited variation in topography and intermittent vegetation offers short, middle and longer distance views throughout the parcel, although these are more prominent along Hackmans Gate Lane with views northward to the Clent Hills. Built development is largely limited to Broome and isolated farmsteads, although there is peripheral development arou8nd Hackman's Gate to the west.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Notwithstanding the presence of the dispersed hamlet of Broome, the parcel has a largely open character. The land is adjacent to the A450 thus accessible which makes it potentially vulnerable to development pressure. Boundaries within the parcel vary in strength. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

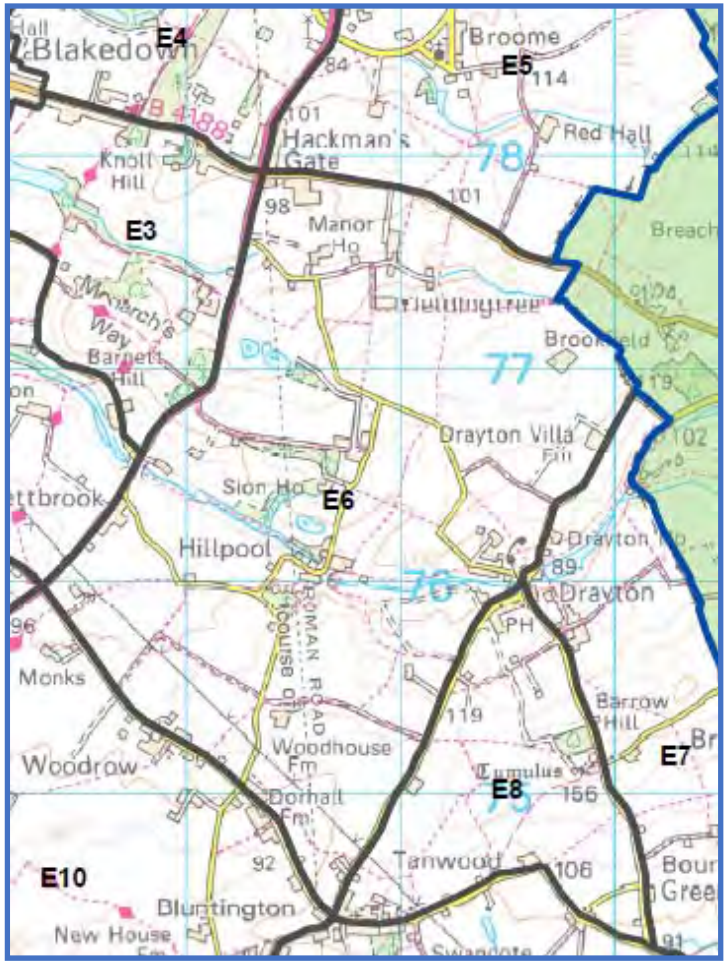
**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation, particularly associated with the hamlet of Broome. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Contains the hamlet of Broome and development at Hackman's Gate. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Two PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

**PARCEL E6 – land east of the A450 Stourbridge Road, between Woodrow Lane to the south, Drayton Road to the east and Hackmans Gate Lane to the north**

A large scale, relatively remote agricultural landscape largely in arable use, of undulating topography and with extensive views into and out of the parcel, including towards the Clent Hills to the north. Vegetation covers varies significantly with some pockets of woodland and varying hedgerows defining a variety a field sizes. Built development is largely limited to isolated farmsteads, with some isolated dwellings strung along Woodrow Lane, for example.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

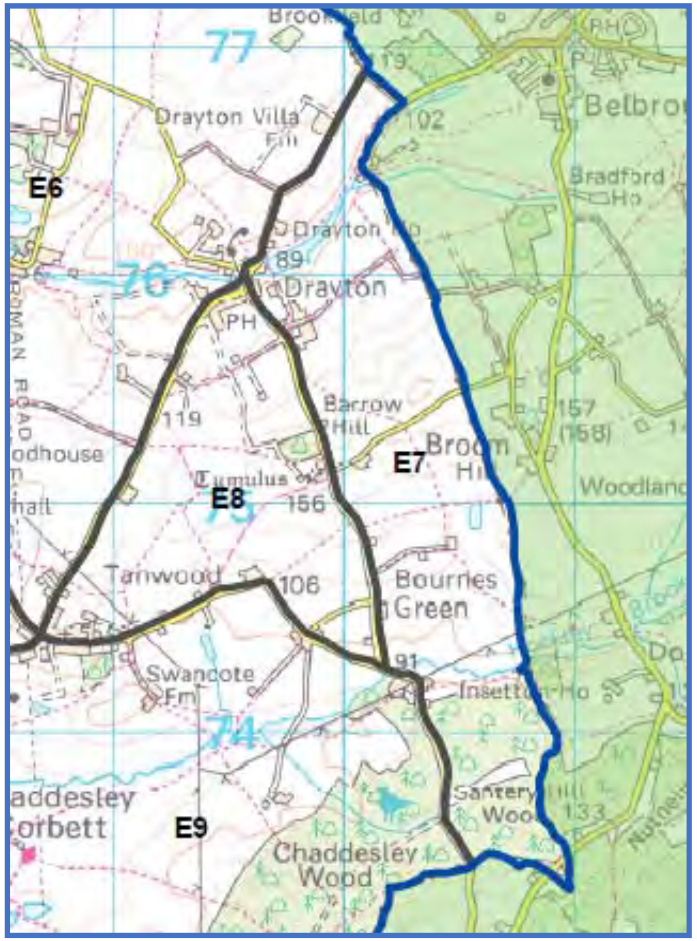
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has a largely open character. The land is adjacent to the A450 thus accessible which makes it potentially vulnerable to development pressure. Boundaries within the parcel vary in strength. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel retains a largely open rural character, its location means that it is relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to change through incremental urbanisation. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the westerly context for the hamlet of Drayton. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL E7 – land east of Barrowhill Lane and Drayton Road to the undefined District boundary

A relatively remote agricultural landscape of mixed land uses, including the dense woodland of Chaddesley Wood to the south. Field size varies considerably as does the strength of the boundary hedges. The land broadly rises west to east, offering panoramic views to the south, west and north. Built development is limited to isolated farmsteads.



**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

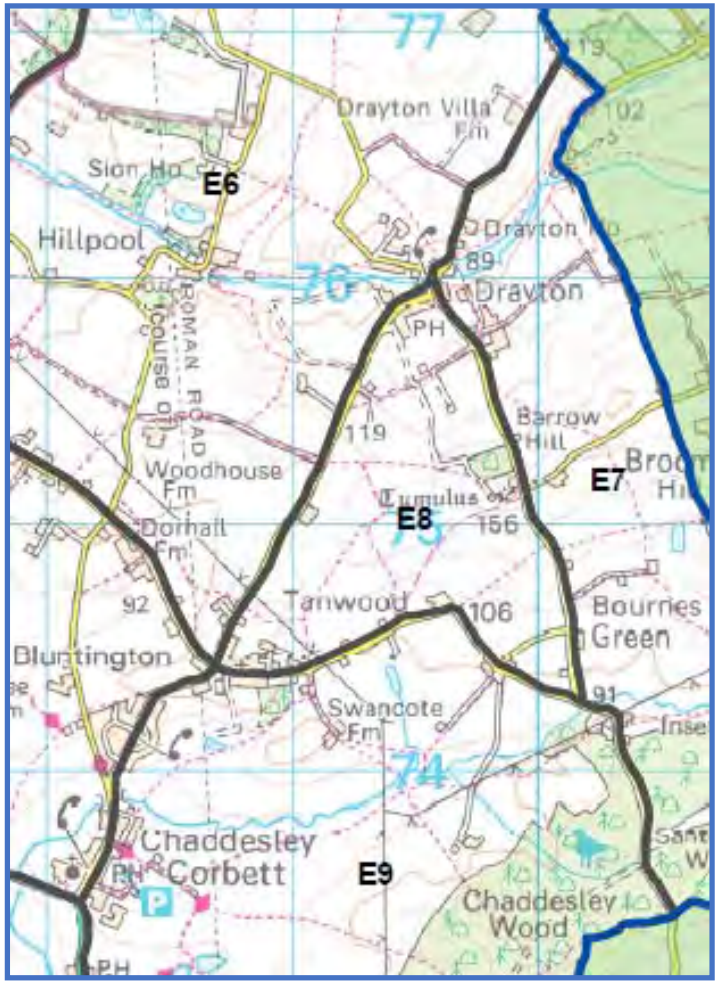
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open character with boundaries within the parcel varying in strength. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | National Nature Reserve/SSSI (Chaddesley Wood) to the south of the parcel. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL E8 – land between Barrowhill Lane, Tanwood Lane and Drayton Road

A large-scale, principally arable landscape rising eastwards towards Barrow Hill with panoramic views to the south, west and north. Development is largely peripheral at Bluntington to the south and Drayton to the north.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

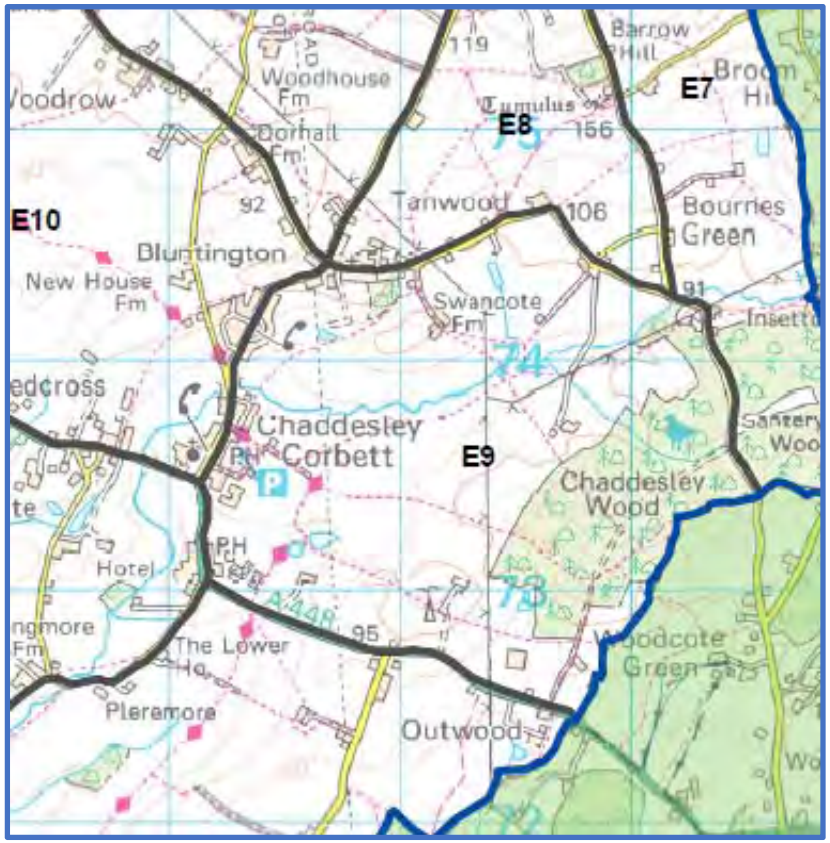
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open character with boundaries within the parcel varying in strength. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in its southern reaches in the vicinity of Bluntington and Drayton. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the northerly context for the hamlet of Bluntington and the southerly context for the hamlet of Drayton. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL E9 – land to the east of Chaddesley Corbett, south of Tanwood Lane, north of the A448 Kidderminster Road

A parcel of mixed land use, predominantly large-scale arable, but also pastoral and extensive woodland (Chaddesley Wood) to the east. The land rises gently from west to east with extensive views westwards over fields with intermittent hedgerows, with glimpsed views on the flatter land at Chaddesley Corbett. Built development extends into the parcel from Chaddesley Corbett and Bluntington to varying degrees. Proximity to the busy A448 Bromsgrove – Kidderminster Road makes the parcel relatively accessible.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

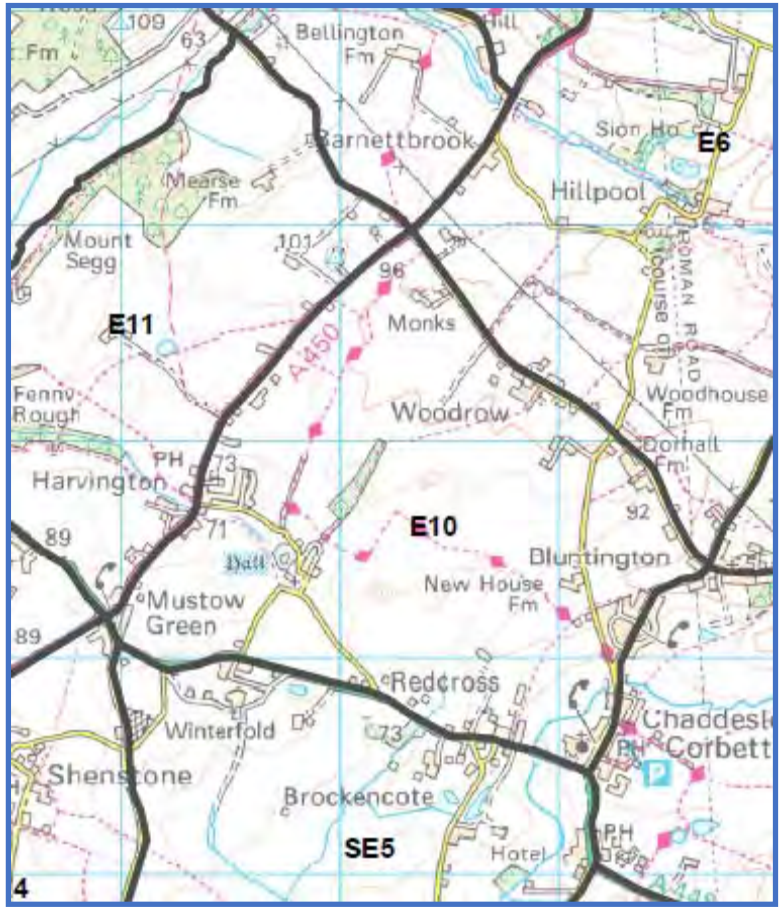
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open character with boundaries within the parcel varying in strength. The A448 forms the southern boundary making it relatively accessible and thus vulnerable to encroachment. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the westerly fringes where it forms the context for Chaddesley Corbett. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the easterly context for Chaddesley Corbett. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | National Nature Reserve/SSSI (Chaddesley Wood) to the east of the parcel. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL E10 – land west of Chaddesley Corbett between the A450 Worcester Road, the A448 Kidderminster Road and Woodrow Lane

A medium-scale arable landscape with often poorly defined field boundaries on gently undulating topography with short to medium scale views. Built development is generally peripheral with Harvington and Mustow Green to the west and more substantial development at Chaddesley Corbett and Bluntington to the east. Other built developments are Harvington Hall, isolated farmsteads and some intermittent ribbon development along Woodrow Lane.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open character with boundaries within the parcel varying in strength. The A448 forms the southern boundary and the A450 the western boundary making it relatively accessible and thus potentially vulnerable to encroachment. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

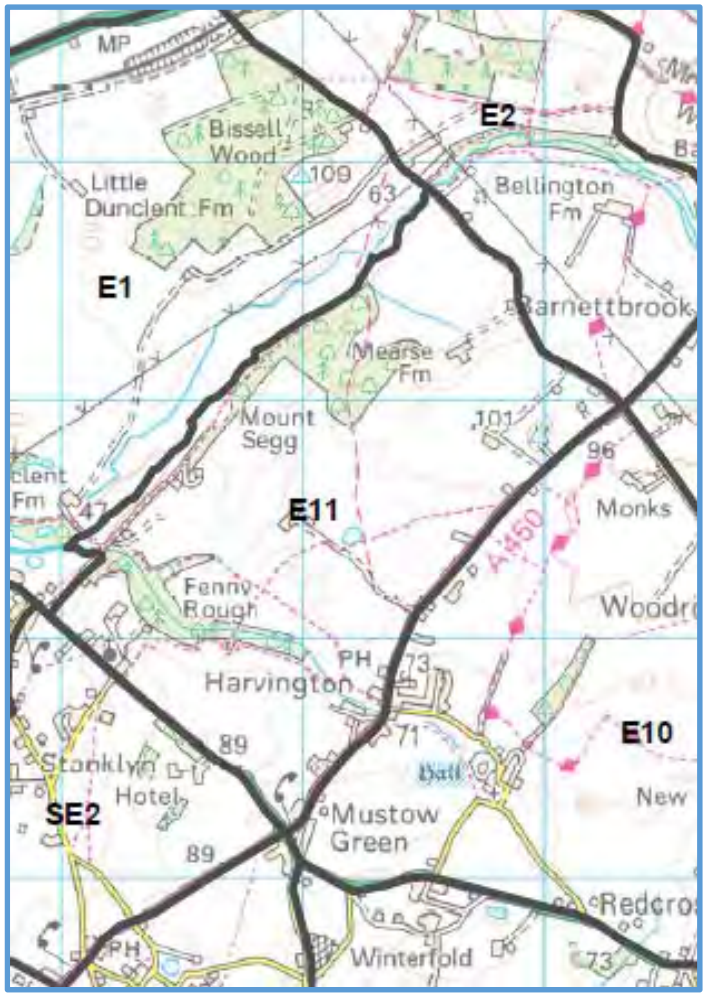
**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the southeasterly fringes where it forms the context for Chaddesley Corbett and the western fringes where it forms the easterly context for Harvington and Mustow Green. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the westerly context for Chaddesley Corbett and the eastern context for Harvington. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | SAM at Harvington Hall |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

**PARCEL E11 – land to the west of the A450 Worcester Road, north of the A448 Bromsgrove Road, east of Hoo Brook and south of Deansford Lane**

A parcel of mixed arable, pastoral and woodland uses, medium-sized fields with well-defined hedgerow/woodland boundaries, of gently undulating topography. Views into and out of the parcel and limited and often glimpsed through the boundary vegetation. Built development is limited to a few large properties and farmsteads, principally on the A448 at Stone and off the A450 Worcester Road.



## Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Not directly related to a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has an open character with boundaries within the parcel varying in strength. The A448 forms the southern boundary and the A450 the eastern boundary making it relatively accessible and thus potentially vulnerable to encroachment. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

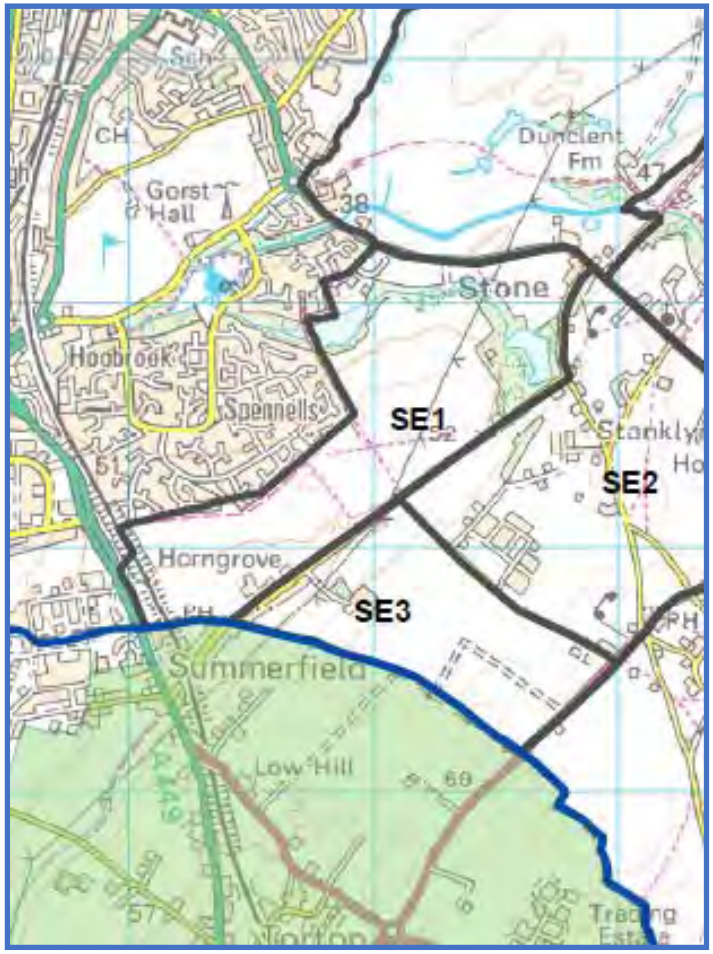
**Appendix B4 – Parcels E1 – E11**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel largely has an open rural character, it is still relatively accessible and sensitive to change, particularly in the southeasterly fringes where it forms the context for Harvington and Mustow Green. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the westerly context for Harvington. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW across the parcel. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in tHE parcel? | No |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

## PARCEL SE1 – land between the A448 Bromsgrove Road, Stanklyn Lane and the urban edge of Kidderminster at Spennells

Medium-scale mixed arable/pastoral land gradually falling from the urban edge of Kidderminster to Stanklyn Lane. There is some dense woodland associated with the Captain's Pool and Stanklyn Pool, otherwise hedgerow field boundaries are variable in strength and condition. A variety of medium and longer-distance views are available into and from the parcel. There is some ribbon development to the north of Stanklyn Road at its eastern extent, and where it adjoins the A448, and a caravan storage site off the A448.



## Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6

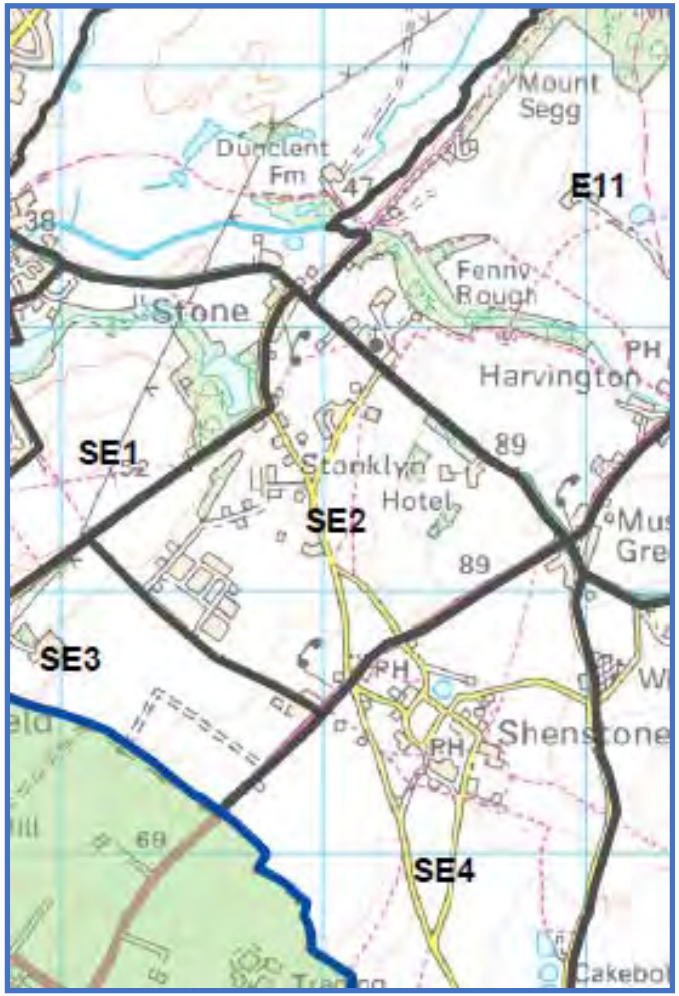
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contributes to preventing extension of the built edge of Kidderminster along the A448, although Stanklyn Lane forms a strong boundary to the south east. The parcel is largely open in character, part of the strong division between the built edge and open countryside. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel largely comprises open countryside, bounded by the strong boundary of Stanklyn Lane to the south east and the A448 to the north, preventing encroachment into the wider open countryside, to the south east |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel forms part of an easterly arc of open countryside containing the urban edge of Kidderminster, and as such makes a contribution to retaining its openness, it is well-bounded by Stanklyn Lane to the south east preventing further encroachment into the wider open countryside. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the western context for Stone. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SE2 – land bounded by theA448 Bromsgrove Road, Stanklyn Lane, the A450 Worcester Road and Heath Lane

A complex parcel containing extensive arable and pastoral uses, a hotel, an educational establishment and pockets of residential development. The land rises gently from north west to south east, with medium and long distance views available to the south east, particularly from within the parcel.



## Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contributes to preventing extension of the built edge of Kidderminster along the A448 Bromsgrove Road, although the distance from the urban edge of Kidderminster lessens the potential effect. The parcel has been intruded by various forms of development, compromising the quality of openness through its western extent. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is principally open countryside, this has been compromised in its western extent by residential, leisure and institutional development which detracts from its open character. However, much of this is concealed by undulating topography and dense vegetation which limits views across the western reaches of the parcel. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

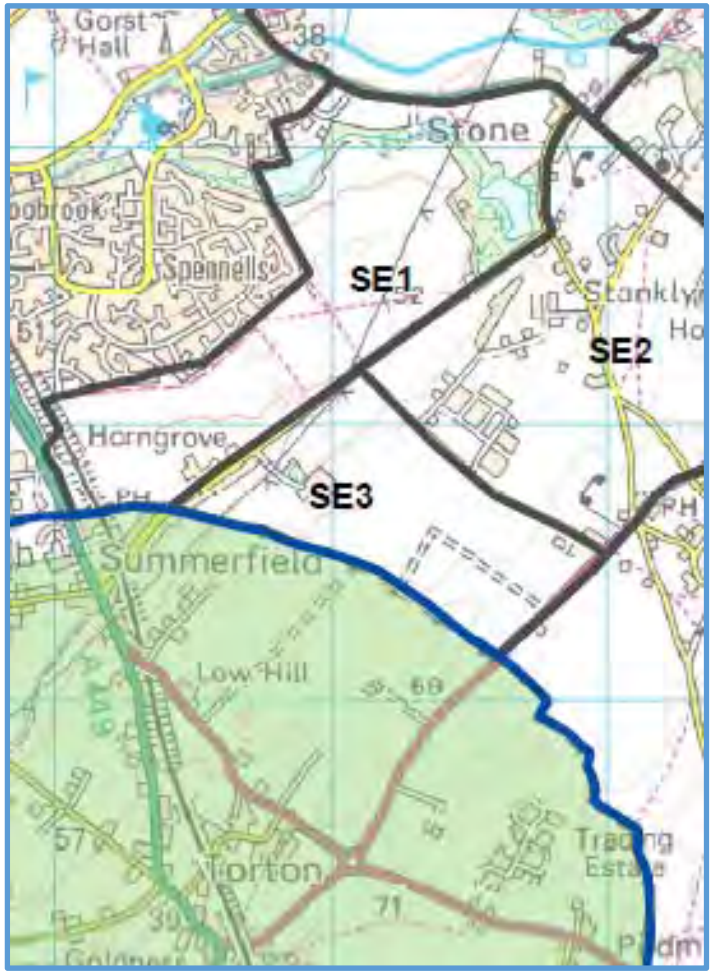
**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is related to the easterly arc of open countryside containing the urban edge of Kidderminster and has been subject to scattered built development of various forms. Although this is not intrusive there is the potential for further incremental change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Forms the southern context for Stone. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW and minor roads. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

**PARCEL SE3 – land bounded by the A450 Worcester Road, Heath Land, Stanklyn Road and the undefined District boundary to the south west**

A large-scale arable and pastoral landscape on flat topography with insubstantial field boundaries and no woodland cover. From the A450 Worcester Road and Heath Lane, there are long-distance views across the parcel towards the built edge of Kidderminster and beyond to the Wyre Forest and elevated ground at Abberley. This is the north eastern half of a wider parcel which extends south westwards into Wychavon District.



## Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contributes to preventing further ribbon development along the peripheral roads, particularly Stanklyn Lane. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is principally open countryside, this has been compromised in its north western extent by development along Stanklyn Lane. There are no substantial internal boundaries in this large-scale landscape. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of wider land outside Wyre Forest which runs to the junction of the A450 and the A442 which as a whole has been subject to incremental development particularly along the southern edge of Stanklyn Lane. The parcel contributes to maintaining the openness of this large-scale arable landscape which is part if the transition to wider open countryside to the south east of Kidderminster. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | No public access. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

## PARCEL SE4 – land between the A450 Worcester Road, Cursley Lane and the A442 Droitwich Road

A large-scale mixed arable and pastoral landscape on gently rising ground eastwards to Cursley Lane, offering extensive views westwards, eastward and southwards to the Malvern Hills. Vegetation is limited to boundary hedgerows of varying strength. The fragmented hamlet of Shenstone towards the north of the parcel forms the bulk of built development, with a substantial storage facility to the south, and part of Mustow Green to the north.

## Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6

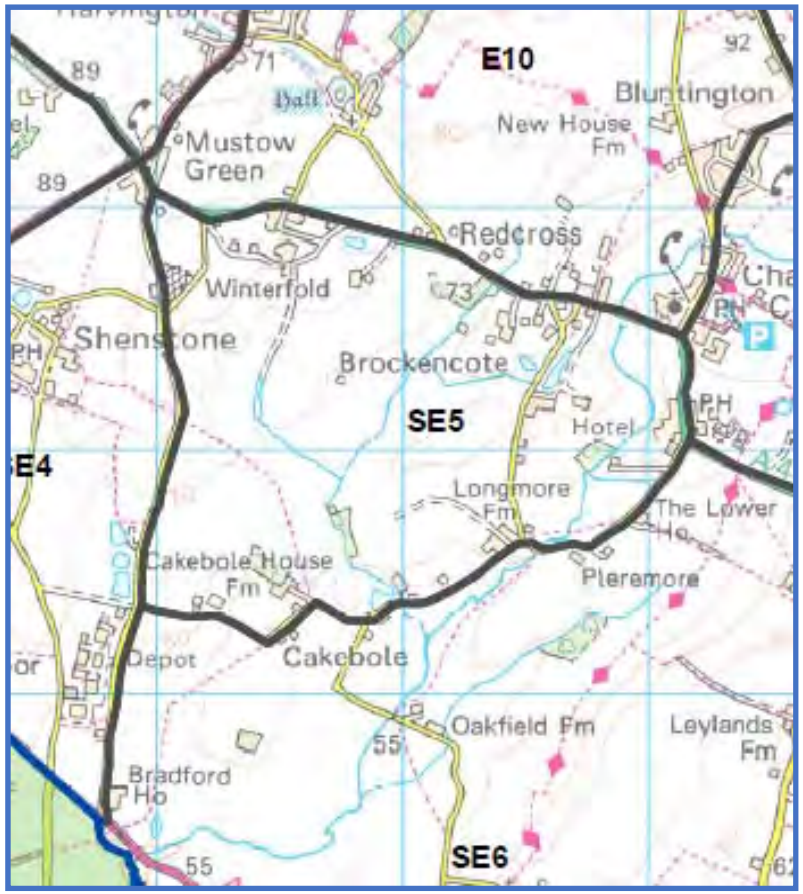
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is located away from a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel, being in a relatively accessible location off the A450 and A442, is potentially vulnerable to encroachment through incremental change, particularly associated with the hamlet of Shenstone where there is some evidence of change through new build and extensions to properties. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst the current footprint is modest, being largely centred on Shenstone, the openness, topography and extensive vistas make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the setting for Shenstone. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW throughout. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SE5 – land contained by the A448, Cursley Lane and Cakebole Lane/Fox Lane

A mixed arable and pastoral landscape of diverse field pattern and size, on undulating ground broadly falling south eastwards from Mustow Green. There are extensive views eastwards across the parcel from Cursley Lane, with short and medium distance views towards the south, impeded by topography and dense field boundary vegetation. Built development is limited to a school in the northern corner and various isolated dwellings around the periphery of the parcel.



## Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6

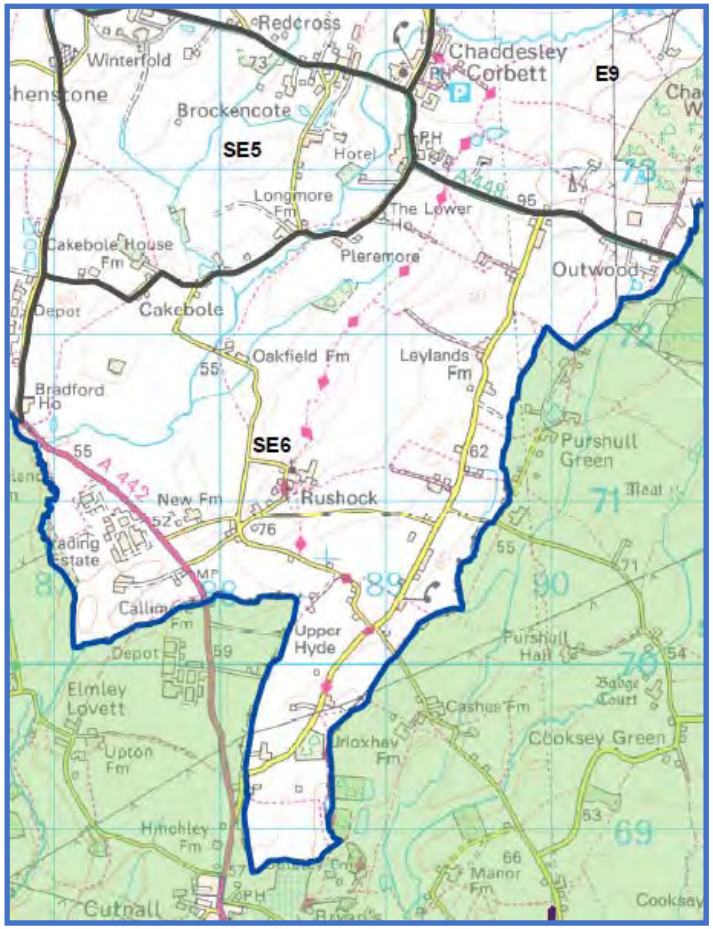
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is located away from a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel, being in a relatively accessible location off the A448, is potentially vulnerable to encroachment through incremental change, although there is limited evidence of this. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst current development is modest, the openness, topography and extensive vistas (particularly eastwards from Curslow Lane) make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the southwesterly setting for Chaddesley Corbett. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW throughout. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SE6 – land between Fox Lane/Cakebole Lane, the A448 Bromsgrove Road and the undefined District boundary to the southeast and southwest

A relatively remote parcel largely in mixed arable and pastoral use on land rising from the valley of Elmley Brook to the village of Rushock from where there are extensive views north westwards over the parcel. Filtered medium and longer distance views to west and east are available along the length of Clattercut Lane. Vegetation is generally limited to field boundary hedgerows, although there are more substantial woodland belts associated with Elmley Brook. Aside from the nucleated village of Rushock, built development is generally limited to isolated farmsteads across the parcel and properties along Clattercut Lane, although to the west across the A448, the Rushock Trading Estate is a significant presence.



## Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is located away from a large urban area. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No role in this location which is not between towns |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel, being in a relatively accessible location off the A442 and A448, is potentially vulnerable to encroachment through incremental change, although this is limited to the hamlet of Rushock and the Rushock Trading Estate. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from historic towns. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

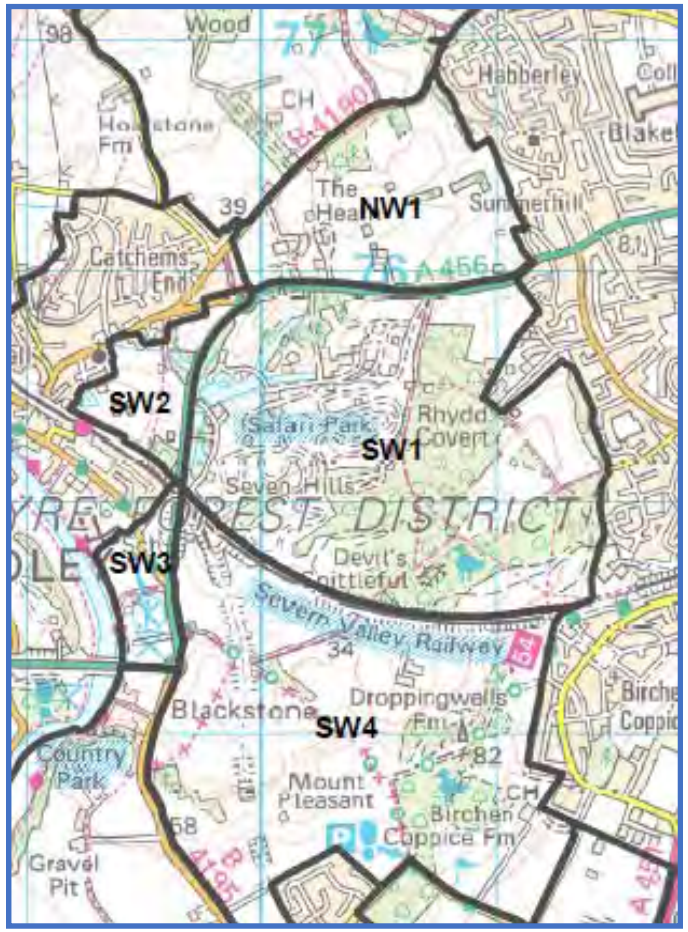
**Appendix B5 – Parcels SE1 – SE6**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Overall, the parcel contributes to Green Belt purposes through its prevention of change through incremental encroachment of existing built development into open countryside. Whilst current development is modest, the openness, topography and extensive vistas (particularly to the west from Rushock) make the parcel sensitive to change. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the setting for Rushock. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW throughout. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

## PARCEL SW1 – land between the A456 Kidderminster Road, the Severn Valley Railway, the A456 Stourport Road and the built edge of Kidderminster

Broadly divided between the West Midlands Safari Park and common land (including Whitehill Wood/Rhydd Covert), much of the latter designated as a SSSI, this parcel presents a diverse character. There is significant built development associated with the Safari Park, although because of the topography and extensive vegetation this is largely contained visually within the river valley to the north west of the parcel, resulting in the overall impression of a semi-rural landscape being retained. Views are generally filtered from paths and roads within the parcel, reflecting the complex topography and significant vegetation cover, with more general views available across the southern reaches of the parcel from the Severn Valley Railway to the south.



## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Adjacent to the A456 Kidderminster Road, the parcel (along with parcels to the north and the south) contains the westerly extent of Kidderminster, preventing further extension of the town into open land. However, this is limited by the presence of an extensive SSSI and the West Midlands Safari Park., the latter having introduced significant built development into the parcel. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Along with parcel NW1 to the north of the A456, this parcel forms the land between Kidderminster and Bewdley and as such is central to the maintenance of the gap between them (albeit compromised by the built development associated with the West Midlands Safari Park). |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Although openness has to some extent been compromised by development associated with the West Midlands Safari Park, the parcel retains a largely open aspect, particularly to the east where the land is protected by the SSSI designation. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Contributes to the setting of Bewdley, forming part of the easterly entrance to the town, although the direct visual connection between the two is limited. |

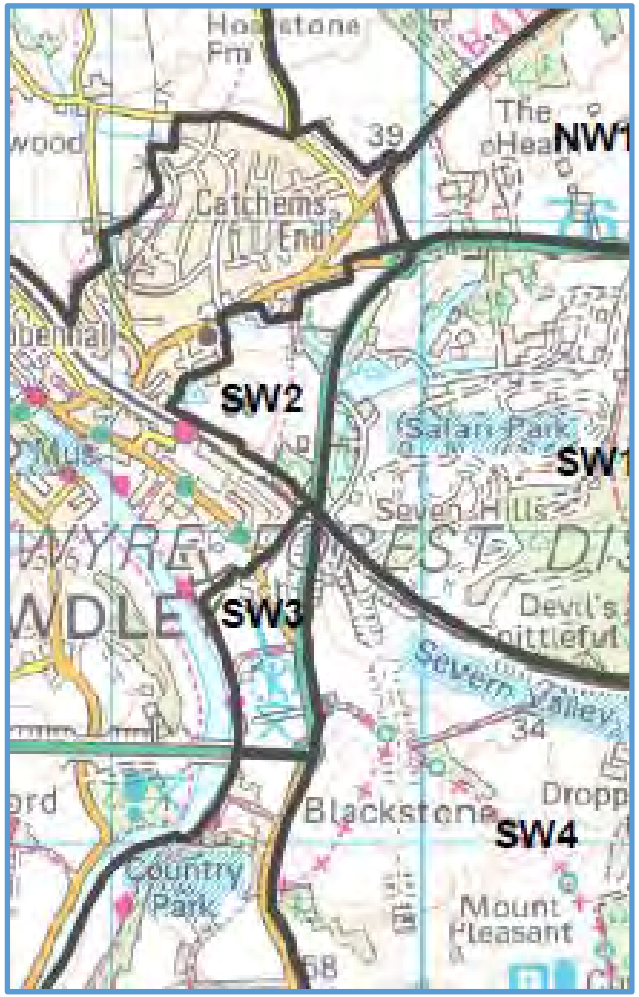
**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFJCANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>A combination of roles makes the overall contribution of this parcel to Green Belt purposes significant, reflecting its role in separating Kidderminster and Bewdley and providing part of the eastern context for Bewdley. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW/open access |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | SSSI covers eastern half. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

## PARCEL SW2 – land between the A456 Stourport Road, the B4190 Kidderminster Road and the Severn Valley Railway

Broadly unimproved grazing with improved pasture to the north and east, on domed topography with variable tree cover, largely on the south western fringe. Built development comprises a single dwelling, although ribbon development along the B4190 Kidderminster Road largely forms the northern edge of the parcel giving an urbanised character in this location.



## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

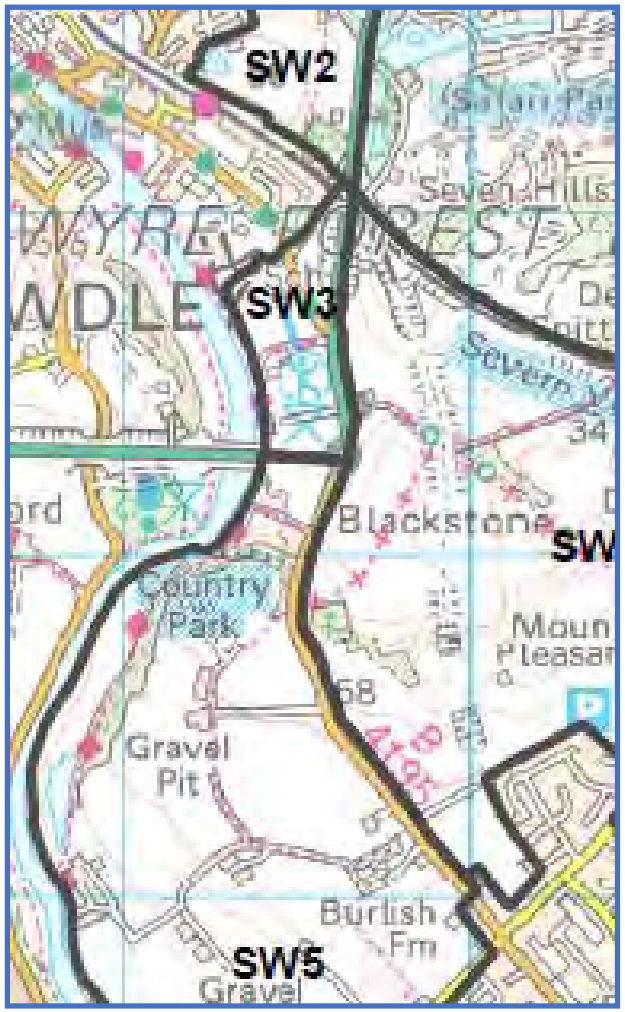
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel prevents further development along the B4190, and potential extension of development along the A456 Stourport Road. This role is, however, modified by the size and enclosure of the land, making the contribution as much local as strategic. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>In combination with parcels NW1 and SW1 to the east, this parcel forms part of the gap between Bewdley and Kidderminster, albeit bounded by the A456 Stourport Road. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel, whilst having a largely undeveloped character, is strongly bounded by roads and a railway and as such is not open countryside *per se,* but nevertheless retains the character of countryside. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Despite development along the B4190, the parcel provides an important sense of openness at the junction with the A456 Stourport Road and adjacent to All Saints Church and consequently to the easterly entrance to Bewdley. |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The overall role of the parcel is to maintain a degree of openness to the east of Bewdley, contributing to the character of the town as well as helping to maintain its separation from Kidderminster. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the southerly context for the Wribbenhall area of Bewdley. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One ProW, |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW3 – land between the A456 Stourport Road and the River Severn

Comprising arable land, sports pitches and recreational grassland, this floodplain land is level with glimpsed views across its extent to the Wyre Forest rising to the west. Built development is limited to recreational buildings of various kinds and a secondary school.



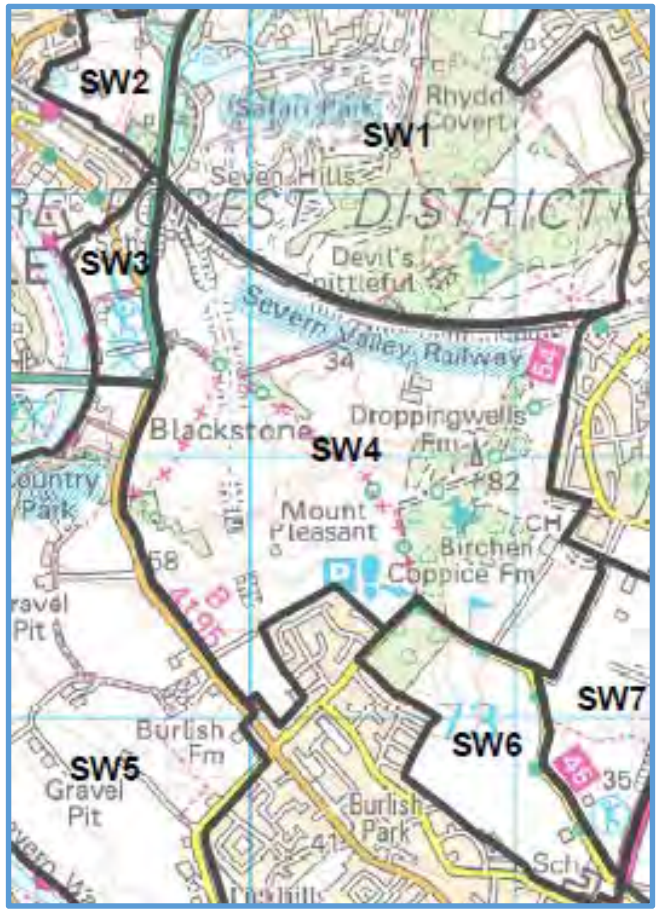
## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Contributes to containing pressures for the southerly expansion of Bewdley, albeit bounded by the A456, the B4195 and the River Severn. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of the cluster of parcels which contribute to preventing the merger of Bewdley with Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is not open countryside *per se*, but is visually related to it to the south. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Provides part of the southerly context for Bewdley, particularly from the B4195 Stourport Road, although the historic core of the town is not visible from this land. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of the southern gateway to Bewdley and such provides an important part of the setting of the towns from both the A456 Stourport Road and the River Severn., as well containing pressures for southerly expansion of the town and being part of a group of parcels separating Bewdley from Kidderminster and from Stourport. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various sports pitches. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW4 – land to the east of the A456 Stourport Road/B4195 Stourport Road/Bewdley Road North, the Severn Valley Railway and built edges of Kidderminster (at Birchen Coppice) and Stourport (at Burlish Park)

A complex parcel, generally in arable use but shading into pastoral, dense woodland (largely Burlish Top Local Nature Reserve), scrub and Wyre Forest golf course (part of) to the east. Topography varies considerably, but is generally formed of a ridge broadly aligned west to east, offering panoramic views westwards to Bewdley and the Wyre Forest, with undulating land falling away to the north and south. Built development is restricted to a farmstead, golf course related buildings and two properties adjacent to the A456 Stourport Road. The parcel is exposed to glimpsed views from the B4194 Ribbesford Road on the western bank of the River Severn.



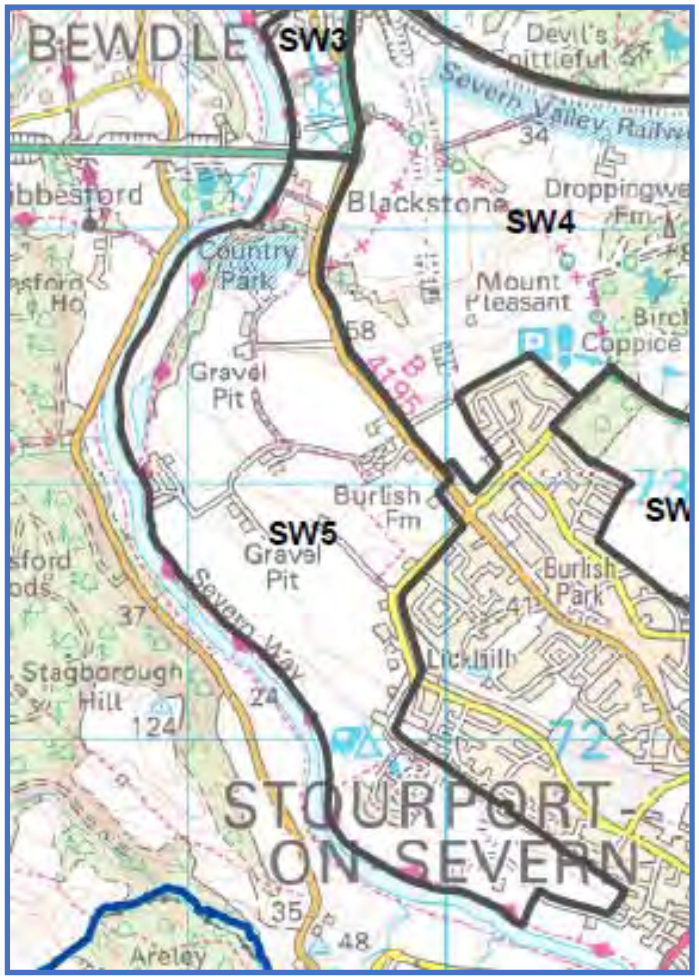
## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contains the westerly fringes of Kidderminster at Birchen Coppice and the northwestern extent of Stourport at Burlish Park, particularly along the B4195 Bewdley Road North where there is evidence of some ribbon development although the majority of this appears to be at around 50 years old. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms a significant proportion of the land which separates both Kidderminster and Stourport from Bewdley. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel appears to be largely free from encroachment, but it is nevertheless vulnerable to change being in a accessible location and visually exposed, being part of rising ground from the valley of the River Severn. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of the context for Bewdley and Stourport, particularly when viewed from the western side of the River Severn, and from Burlish Top Nature Reserve. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel makes a significant contribution to four of the five purposes of Green Belt, being extensive, strategically located land between Bewdley, Kidderminster and Stourport and forming a significant proportion of the open land in this locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Two PRoW. Open access on Burlish Top Local Nature Reserve. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | Burlish Top Local Nature Reserve to the east of the parcel. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW5 – land between the B4195 Stourport Road/Bewdley Road North, the River Severn and the built edge of Stourport at Lickhill

Generally improved pasture (but with a significant variety of other uses) on land rising north eastwards from the River Severn. There are glimpsed views westwards to the Wyre Forest across the parcel from the B4195, and from within the parcel. There are various degrees of intrusive development across the parcel, including four semi-permanent mobile home parks, two quarries and various isolated dwellings. The parcel is exposed to glimpsed views from the B4194 Ribbesford Road on the western bank of the River Severn.



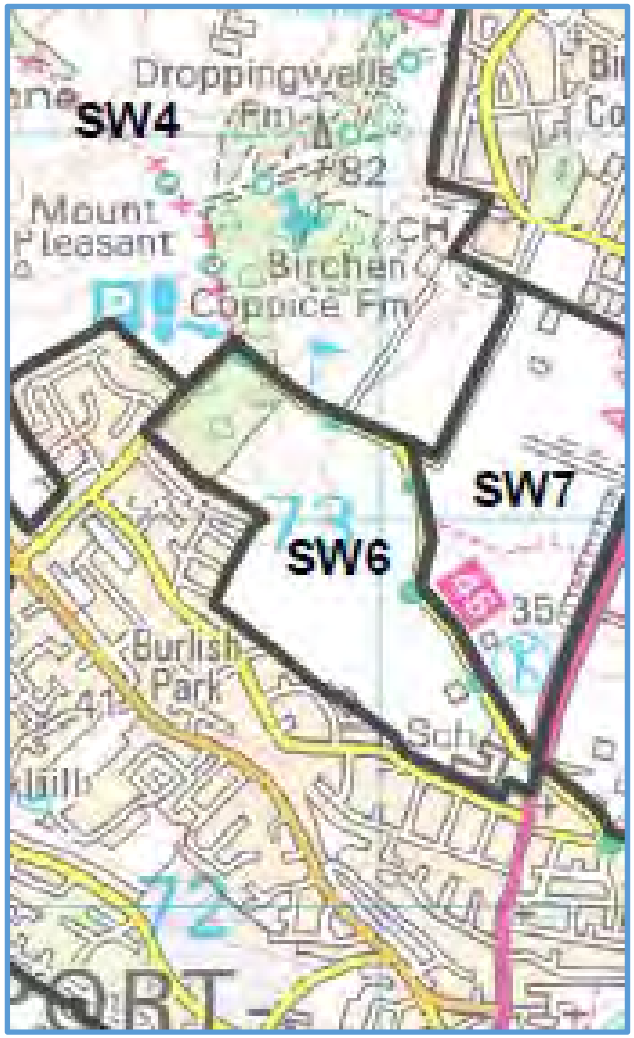
## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel contains the northwestern extent of Stourport at Burlish Park, particularly along the B4195 Bewdley Road North where there is evidence of some ribbon development created through infill of various eras. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel forms a significant proportion of the land which separates Stourport from Bewdley. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has been significantly encroached by various forms of permanent and semi-permanent development (much of it leisure related) which in combination with its accessibility makes it vulnerable to change. The parcels is also visually exposed, being part of rising ground from the valley of the River Severn. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of the context for Bewdley and Stourport, particularly when viewed from the western side of the River Severn. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel makes a significant contribution to four of the five purposes of Green Belt, being extensive, strategically located land between Bewdley and Stourport and forming a significant proportion of the open land in this locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Two PRoW including the Severn Way. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW6 – land between the built edge of Stourport at Burlish Park and Kingsway

Comprising dense woodland, around one third of the Wyre Forest golf course, a school and associated sports facilities and allotments, this is typical mixed use urban fringe land. Medium-distance views are available across the parcel and built development is limited to the school.



## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

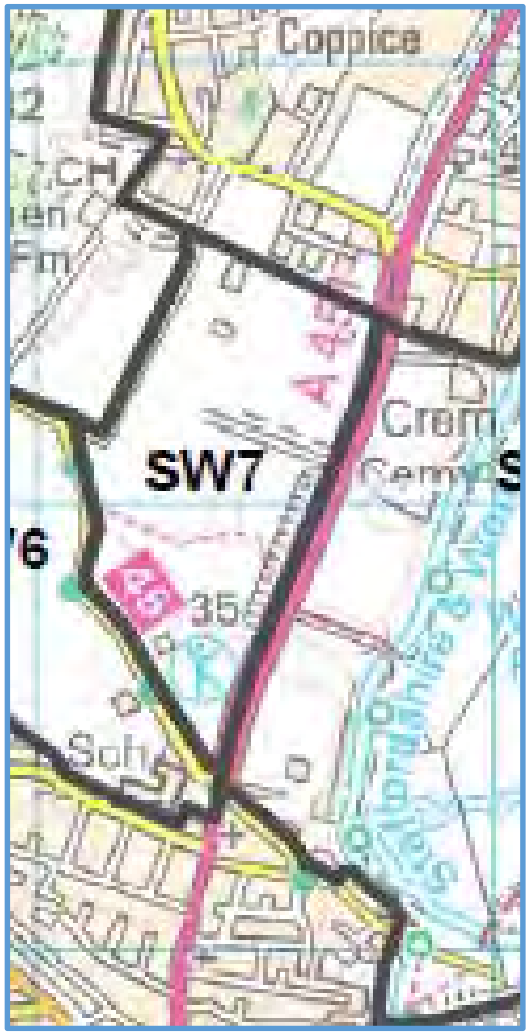
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is largely open in character and contains the northern edge of Stourport at Burlish Park. However the land is contained by Kingsway and would not constitute sprawl. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is part of a series of parcels which prevent the physical merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is well bounded and largely separated from open countryside to the northwest. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Locally, the parcel is part of the land between Stourport and Kidderminster which helps to concentrate development within the built envelope of these towns. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Golf course, allotments and school playing fields. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW7 – land to north of Kingsway and west of the A451 Minster Road

Comprising sports pitches and part of the Wyre Forest golf course, this land complements adjacent parcels with a variety of generally short distance views throughout the parcel.



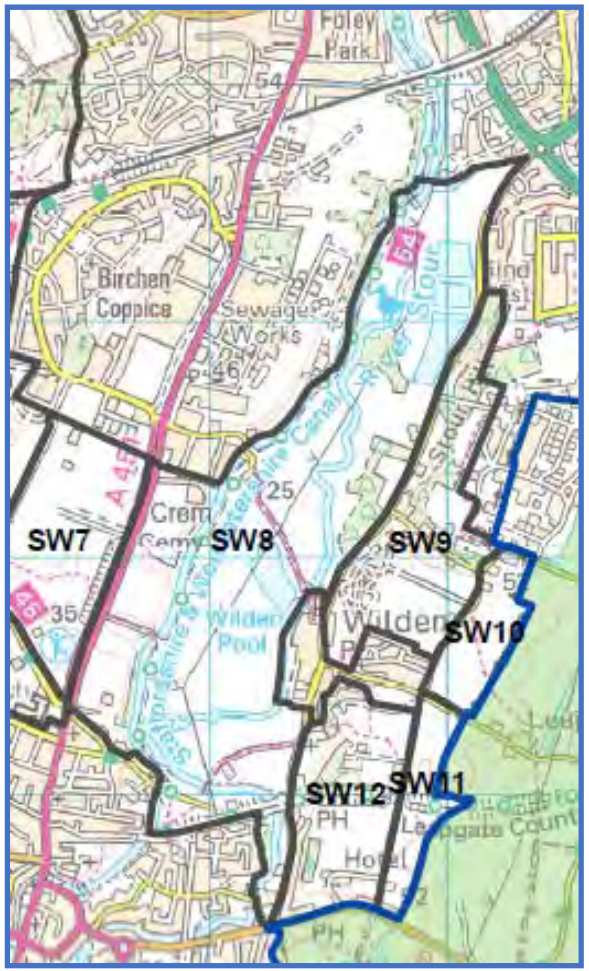
## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is largely open in character and contains the southern edge of Kidderminster at Birchen Coppice. It borders the A451 Minster Road and is vulnerable to sprawl along this extent, although the presence of sports pitches reduces thus risk. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is part of a series of parcels which prevent the physical merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is well bounded and largely separated from open countryside to the northwest. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | Locally, the parcel is part of the land between Stourport and Kidderminster which helps to concentrate development within the built envelope of these towns. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Golf course, playing fields and part of the Burlish Top Nature Reserve. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW8 – land between the A451 Minster Road, the Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal and Wilden Lane

Largely improved pasture land and dense woodland on the floodplain of the River Stour, this parcel contains various urban fringe developments including a cemetery and waste recycling facility, and Wilden Marsh SSSI to the north. There are various glimpsed, short distance views into the parcel from surrounding roads, and despite being fringed by the urban edge of Kidderminster, the northern part of the parcel retains a reasonably strong semi-rural character.



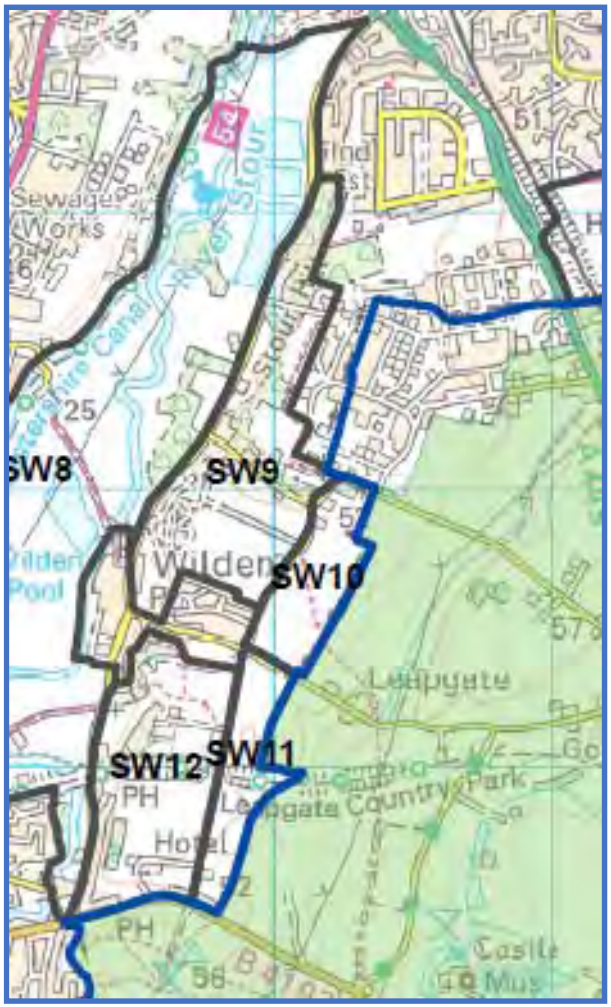
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is largely open in character and contains the southern edge of Kidderminster and the northern edge of Stourport. It borders the A451 Minster Road and is vulnerable to sprawl along this extent. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is part of a series of parcels which prevent the physical merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is separated from open countryside to the east, although because of its size and land uses it has an open aspect. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Locally, the parcel is part of the land between Stourport and Kidderminster which helps to concentrate development within the built envelope of these towns. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster as well as specifically preventing sprawl along the A451. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW and canal towpath. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | Wilden Marsh SSSI |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No? |

## PARCEL SW9 – land to the east of Wilden Lane and west of Wilden Top Road

Variously rough grazing, woodland and residential development, on steeply rising land from Wilden Lane to a plateau at Wilden Top Road, the parcel retains a semi-rural character with long-distance views westwards from Wilden Top Road. Built development is limited to clusters of properties along Wilden Lane and Hillary Road which are generally well-concealed by dense vegetation.



## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is largely open in character and contains part of the southern edge of Kidderminster, and makes a contribution to preventing local sprawl along Wilden Lane. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is part of a series of parcels which prevent the physical merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The land is well bounded and largely separated from open countryside to the northwest. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | Locally, the parcel is part of the land between Stourport and Kidderminster which helps to concentrate development within the built envelope of these towns. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of swathe of land which together help to ensure the continued separation of Stourport and Kidderminster. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the northern context for Wilden. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One peripheral PRoW. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW10 – land to the east of Wilden Top Lane, north of Leapgate Lane

Pasture land, part of open countryside extending eastwards into Wychavon District. There are extensive, panoramic views across the parcel, with minimal interruption by gappy hedgerows. Built development is limited to a cluster or properties to the north of the parcel at Hillary Lane/Summerway Lane.

## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely free from development, but is potentially vulnerable to localised sprawl from existing development to the north and west. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of a swathe of parcels preventing the merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely free from built development and part of the wider open countryside extending south eastwards. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **CONTRIBUTION** |

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| | | Locally, the parcel is part of the land between Stourport and Kidderminster which helps to concentrate development within the built envelope of these towns. |
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and protecting the wider countryside from encroachment. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | One PRoW |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW11 - land to the east of Wilden Top Lane, south of Leapgate Lane

Pasture land, part of open countryside extending eastwards into Wychavon District. There are extensive, panoramic views across the parcel, with minimal interruption by gappy hedgerows. Built development is limited to a cluster or properties to the south of the parcel at Hartlebury Road.

## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

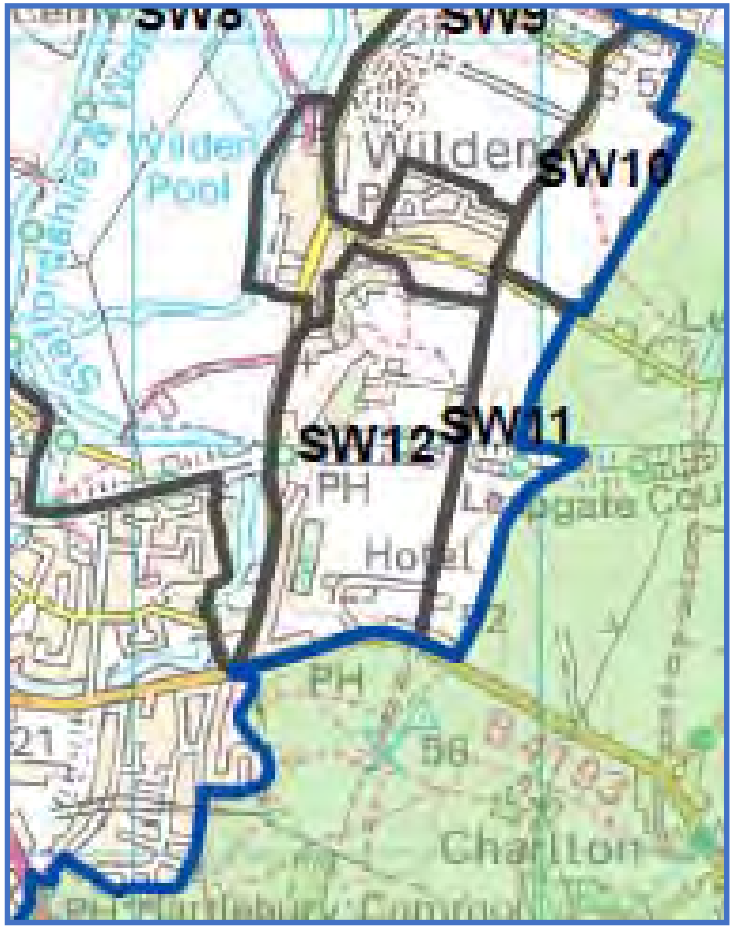
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely free from development, but is potentially vulnerable to further localised sprawl from existing development to the west along the B4193 Hartlebury Road. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of a swathe of parcels preventing the merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is largely free from built development and part of the wider open countryside extending south eastwards. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and protecting the wider countryside from encroachment. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Leapgate Country Park. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW12 – land between Wilden Lane and Wilden Top Lane, between Bigbury Land and the B4193 Hartlebury Road

Predominantly improved pasture on a plateau rising steeply from Wilden Lane, the parcel has been heavily intruded by ribbon development along Wilden Lane, by a hospital occupying the southern extent and by an isolated cluster of development towards the centre. Nevertheless, the parcel retains a broadly open aspect, related to land to the east of Wilden Top Lane, with medium-distance views across the well-hedged fields.



## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

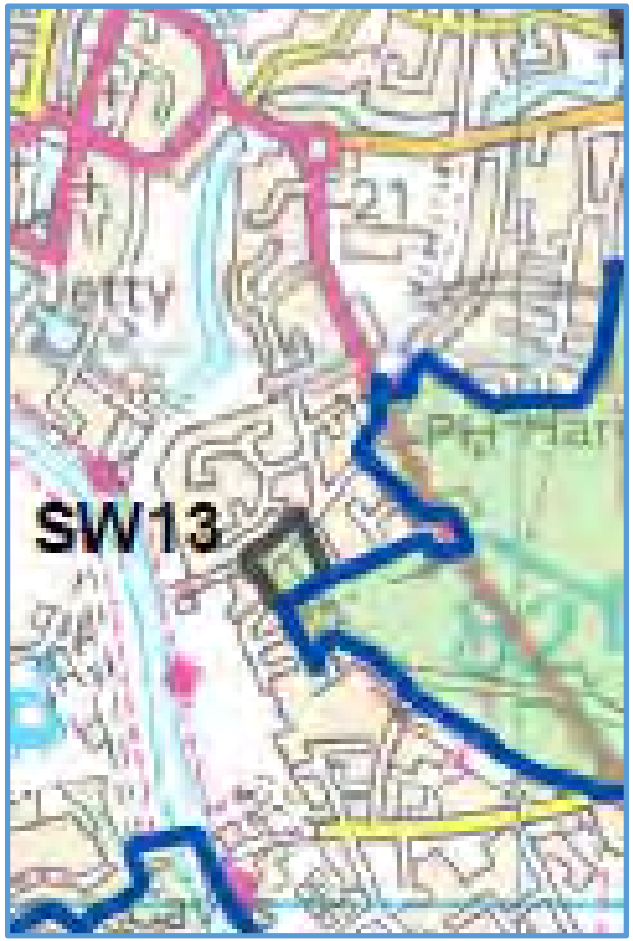
| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is potentially vulnerable to further localised sprawl from existing development to the west along the B4193 Hartlebury Road and along Wilden Lane. . |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>Part of a swathe of parcels which prevent the merger of Kidderminster and Stourport. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMTED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel has been significantly intruded by built development around in southern, western and northern edges but retains a largely open aspect which connects visually with the wider countryside to the east. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>Whilst the parcel is in proximity to Stourport, its location means it has no connection with the historic core. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>No direct role given the location of the parcel away from areas requiring regeneration. |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION**<br>The parcel is part of the wider Green Belt in this location which performs multiple functions, preventing local sprawl, separating urban areas and potentially contributing to urban regeneration in this locality. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | Provides the southern context for Wilden. |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Various PRoW and Leapgate Country Park. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | No |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

## PARCEL SW13 – land to south east of Power Station Road, Stourport

Effectively a remnant parcel, surrounded by development, which has escaped development, but is protected as part of the wider National Nature Reserve/SSSI of Hartlebury Common which extends to the east within Wychavon District. The parcel is small and flat, dominated by an electricity pylon and has only a limited visual connection to the wider countryside to the east.



## Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| **NPPF Purposes of the Green Belt** | | |
| To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built up areas | *Ribbon development*<br>Does the parcel play a role in preventing ribbon development, particularly along major transport corridors, and/or has the Green Belt already been compromised by ribbon development (significant role, moderate role, limited role)?<br>*Openness*<br>To what extent Is the parcel free from development and have a sense of openness (strong, moderate, weak)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in this respect. |
| To prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another | *Location of the parcel and distance between neighbouring settlements.*<br>Does the parcel lie directly between two settlements and form all or part of a gap between them?<br>What is the width of the gap between settlements (<1km, 1-2km, >2km)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in this respect. |
| To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment | *Significance of existing urbanising influences*<br>Has the parcel been affected by the encroachment of urbanising development (comprises open countryside, some urbanisation, openness compromised)?<br>*Significance and permanence of boundaries/features to contain development and prevent encroachment*<br>Are there existing natural or man-made features/boundaries that would prevent encroachment in the long term (none, limited, substantial)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in itself but it is part of the wider Green Belt to the south east. |
| To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns | What is the proximity and degree of intervisibility with the historic core (such as a Conservation Area) of an historic town (proximate/good, partial, no connection)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in this respect. |
| To assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land | Does the parcel act in concert with adjacent parcels to encourage urban regeneration, either generally or more specifically (possible role, no clear role)? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in this respect. |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

| Topic | Criteria | Assessment |
|---|---|---|
| Overall Assessment of Contribution to Green Belt Purposes | In light of the assessment of individual purposes, what is the overall contribution of the parcel to the Green Belt, both individually and in a wider context? | **LIMITED CONTRIBUTION**<br>The size and location of the parcel means that it has a limited contribution in itself but it is part of the wider Green Belt to the south east. |
| **Local Role of the Green Belt** | | |
| Preserving the setting and character of villages and other settlements | What is the relationship between a village or hamlet and the surrounding Green Belt? | None |
| **Opportunities to Promote Positive Use of the Green Belt** | | |
| Current public access and opportunities to provide access/ recreation | What is the degree of existing public access and/or provision of recreational facilities? | Part of Hartlebury Common open access land. |
| Enhancing landscapes and visual amenity | Does the parcel form part of the setting of a sensitive landscape (historic or otherwise)? | No |
| Enhancing biodiversity | Are there any national or local biodiversity designations within the parcel? | Part of Hartlebury Common SSSI. |
| Improving derelict and damaged land | Is there any derelict land in the parcel? | No |

**Appendix B6 – Parcels SW1 – SW13**

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# Appendix C
# Analysis of villages within the Green Belt

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## Purpose and Method of Appraisal

As part of the review of the Green Belt across the District, the NPPF requires that there is consideration of settlements set within the Green Belt and whether the designation can be removed to allow appropriate growth, specifically:

> *"If it is necessary to prevent development in a village primarily because of the important contribution which the open character of the village makes to the openness of the Green Belt, the village should be included in the Green Belt. If, however, the character of the village needs to be protected for other reasons, other means should be used, such as conservation area or normal development management policies, and the village should be excluded from the Green Belt"* (NPPF para 86).

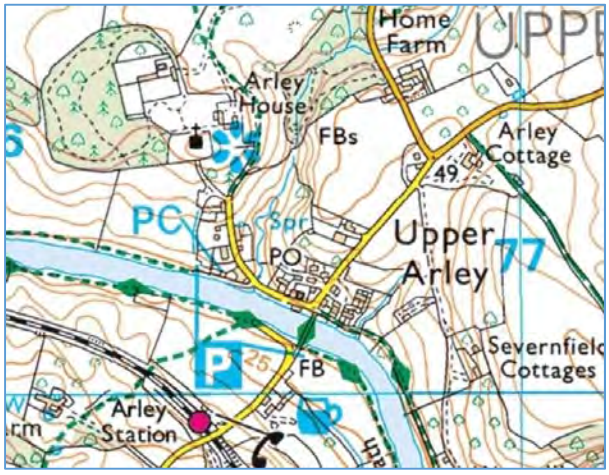
Policy in the NPPF does not preclude the definition of a village envelope, even if a village remains washed over by the Green Belt, which would allow for limited infilling, thereby complying with para 89(5) which allows for *"limited infilling in villages, and limited affordable housing for local community needs under policies set out in the Local Plan."*

## Analysis

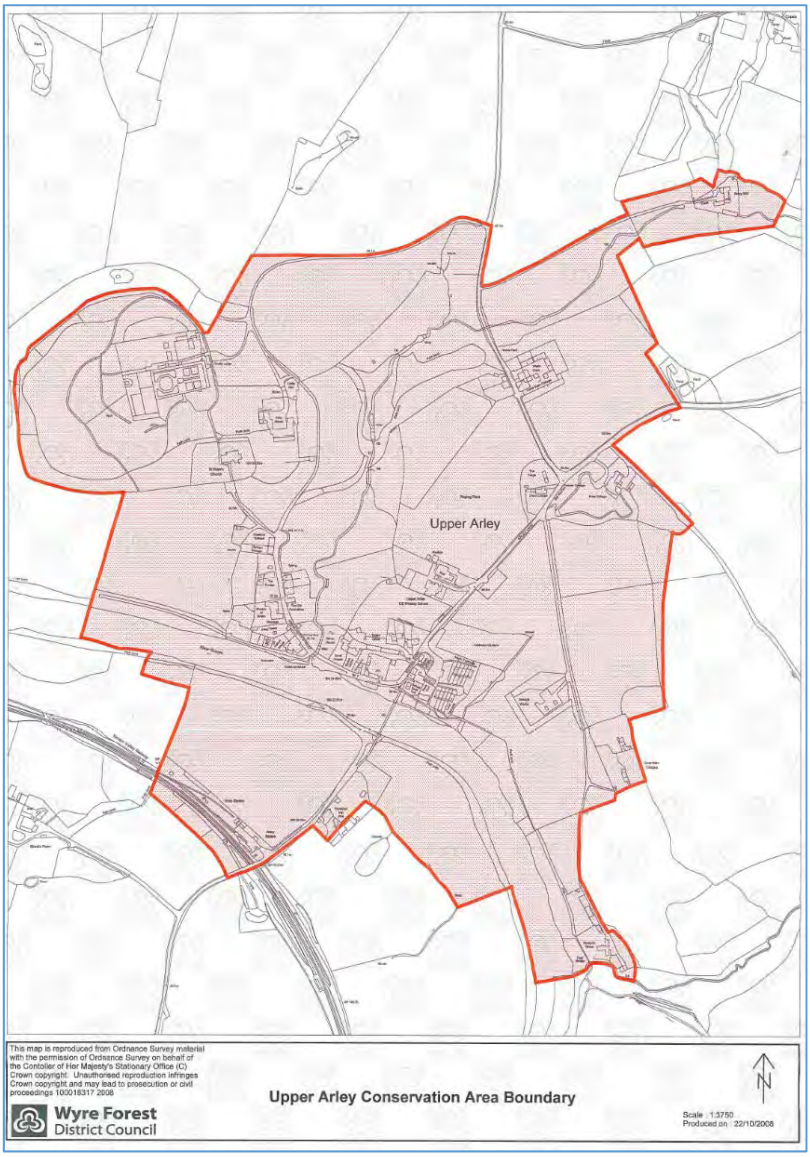
The following analysis of character and relationship with the Green Belt takes a similar approach to the assessment of the parcels of the wider Green Belt. The criteria used for assessment are finer grained in their detail and with a specific focus on the relationship of built development with its context, as follows:

- **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s).
- **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill, existing village boundary.
- **Presence and character of open space** – location and relationship with settlement.
- **Interface with the surrounding landscape** – settlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context.

## Upper Arley


Home
Farm
Arley
House
FBs
Arley
Cottage
49
PC
Spr
PO
Upper
Arley
77
Severnfield
Cottages
FB
Arley
Station

Arley Lane
Arley Estate
Arley Lane


Upper Arley
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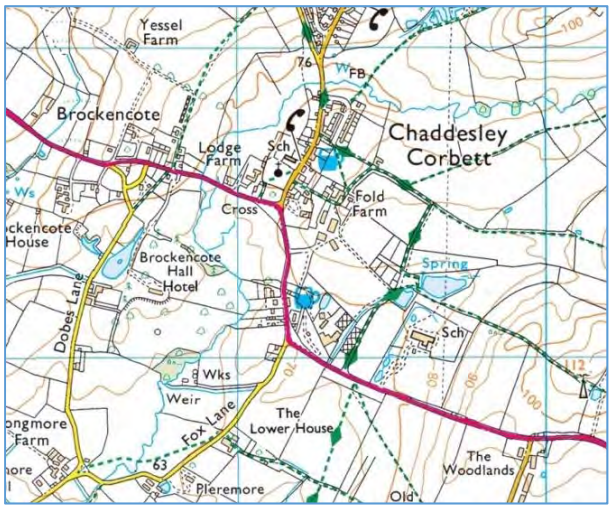
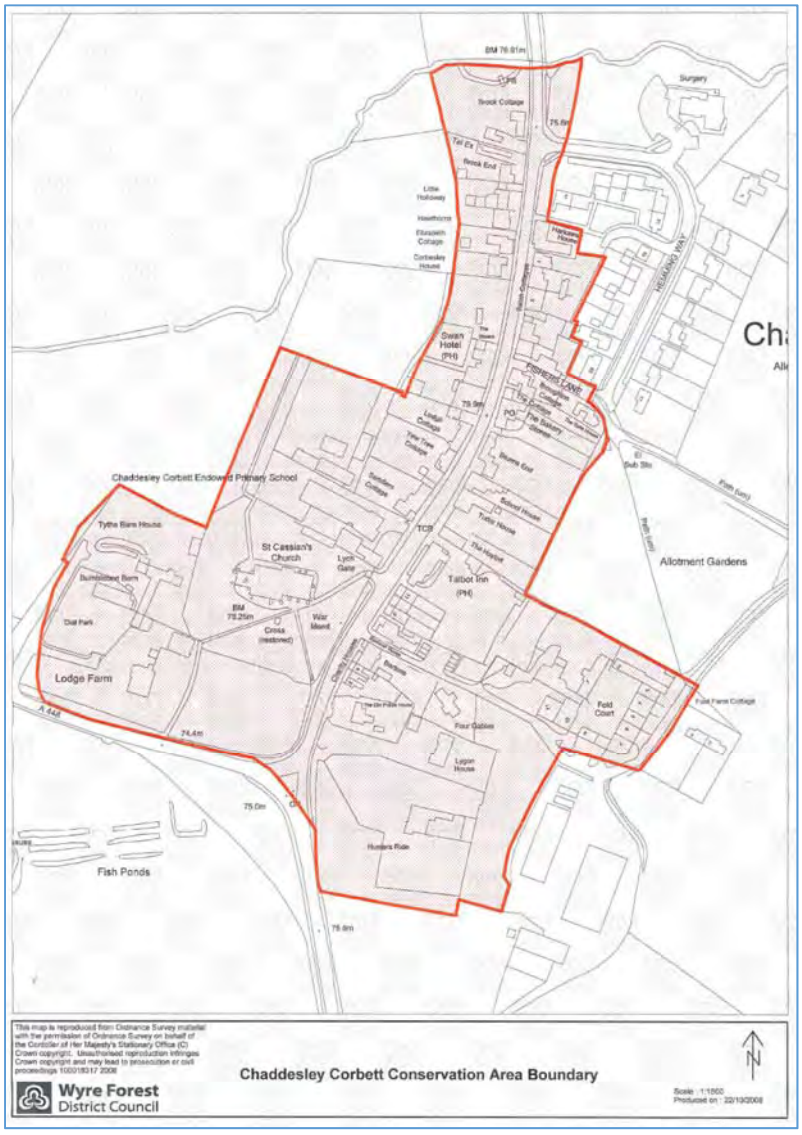
Upper Arley Conservation Area Boundary
Wyre Forest
District Council
Scale : 1:3750
Produced on : 22/10/2008

## Upper Arley

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | A cluster of houses set alongside the River Severn, largely of a uniform nineteenth century character. A large Conservation Area covers the village and environs, which together have a close relationship with the wider countryside and are an integral part of the cultural landscape of the area. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Low density; possible opportunities for modest infill. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | No formal areas of open space. |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | Extensive views across the River Severn. Strongly connected to the landscape context. |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | The size and open character of the village means that there is a close relationship with the wider countryside which would be compromised through further development.<br>**DO NOT INSET** |

## Chaddesley Corbett

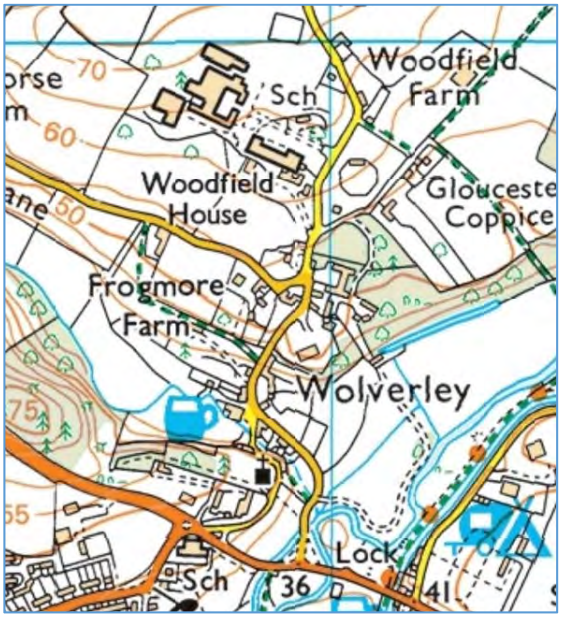




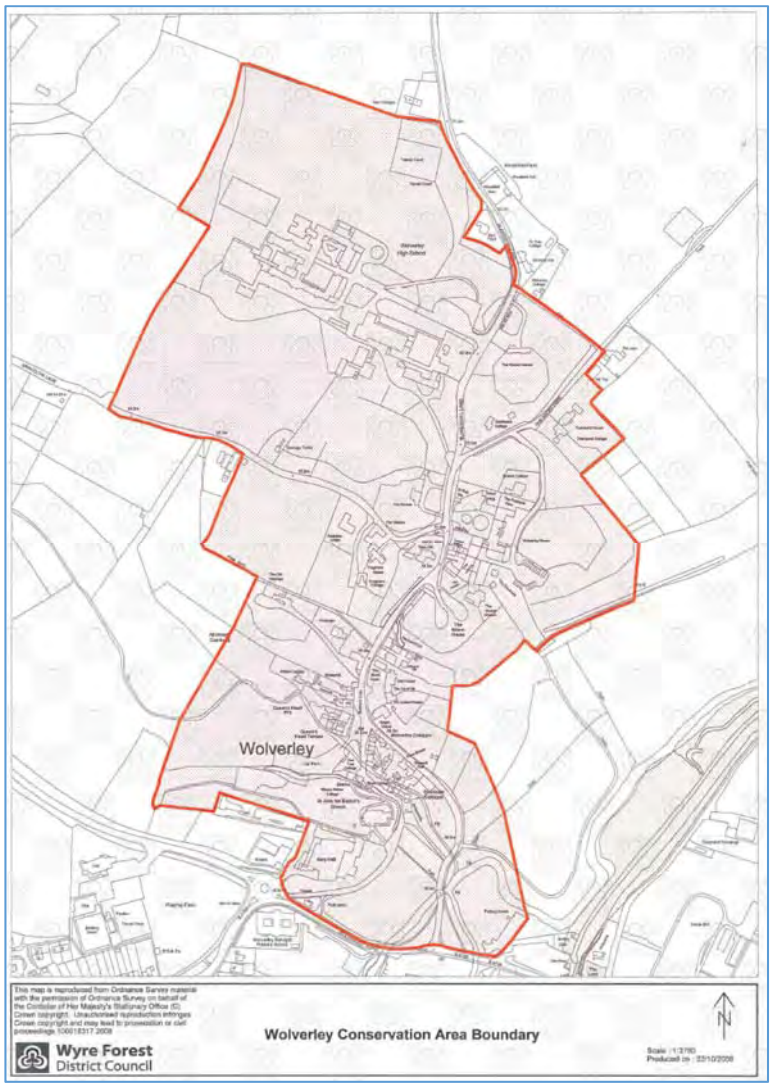
## Chaddesley Corbett

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | A small street village with buildings of widely varying eras, sizes and character, but typically one deep with gardens bordering onto open countryside. The village has a strong visual and physical connection with the surrounding countryside. The majority of the village is covered by a Conservation Area. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Low density with glimpsed views to open countryside from Briar Hill. Possible modest infill opportunities. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | Associated with the church only. |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | High degree of connection with the surrounding landscape |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | The village has a strong connection with the surrounding open countryside and is part of the cultural landscape of this area. In this location, Green Belt designation contributes to preventing encroachment into open countryside. In-setting through the establishment of a village boundary and therefore potential further development, would impinge upon this.<br>**DO NOT INSET** |

## Wolverley


Woodfield
Farm
Sch
Woodfield
House
Gloucestershire
Coppice
Frogmore
Farm
Wolverley
Lock
Sch
36
41
70
60
50
75
55

The Shortyard
Drakelow Lane
Stour
Lea Lane
B4189
Stour
Avenue
Lane


Wolverley
Wolverley Conservation Area Boundary
Wyre Forest
District Council
N

## Wolverley

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | A street village of attractive nineteenth century buildings, set within an enclosed valley. The village is covered by a Conservation Area. Strong unity of character and high sensitivity to change. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Strong degree of enclosure reflecting topography and vegetation, but built form is of low density. Potential opportunities for limited infill. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | Associated with the church only. |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | Properties are typically one deep, of varying character and whilst there is limited visual connection with the wider countryside, the settlement is clearly part of the character of the countryside. |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | Whilst the village has a contiguous character, arranged along Blakeshall Lane, it nevertheless retains a strong relationship with the countryside by virtue of the depth and character of the properties, some of which are set in extensive grounds. In this location, Green Belt designation contributes to preventing encroachment into open countryside. In-setting through the establishment of a village boundary and therefore potential further development, would impinge upon this.<br>**DO NOT INSET** |

## Blakedown

Waggon Lane
87
Churchill Farm
Churchill Lane
Harborough Hill
Churchill & Blakedown Golf Club CH
Harborough Hall
74
Blakedown
Schools
Wannerton
Downs Plantation
Sewage Works
Weirs
B 4188
Swan Pool
Forge Pool
New House Farm
FB
New Wood Farm
Ladies Pool

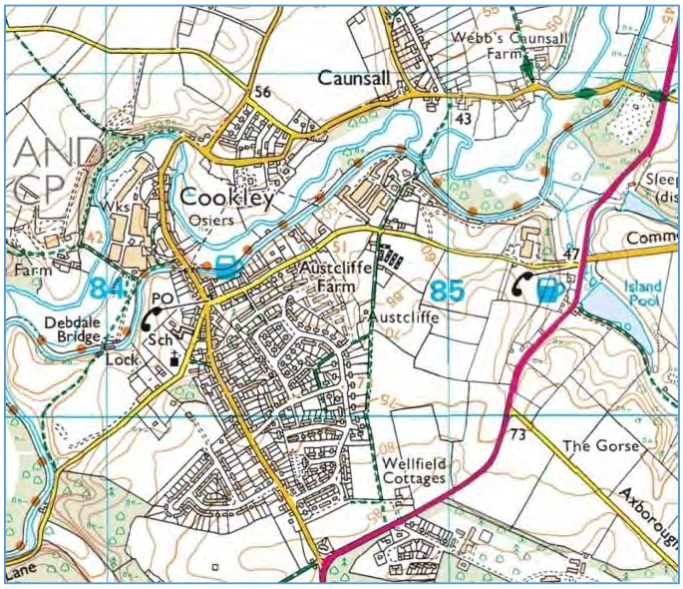
akedown Golf Course
Churchill Lane
Sculthorpe Road
The Croft
Mill Lane
Blakedown
Station Drive
Mill Close
Broadside Way
Wannerton Road
A456
Birmingham Road
B4188
Belbroughton Road
Forge Lane
ngham Road
New Wood Lane

NE5
64
NE10
Staken
NE11
87
Harborough Hill
CH
A456
94
Hall
E4
Blakedown
PH
B 418
Knoll Hill
79
E3

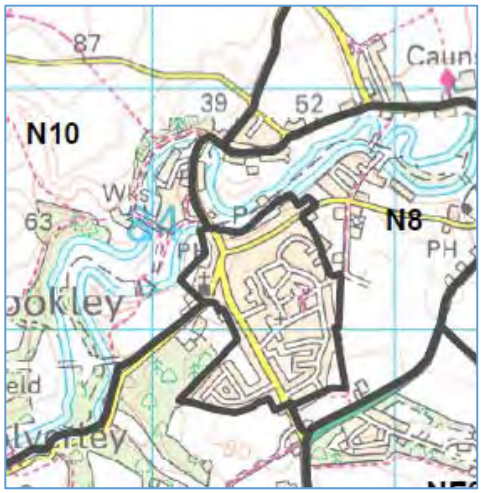
## Blakedown

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | An expanded street village which has grown through significant post-ward additions to the west of the station but also more generally through infill. Nevertheless, a well-treed, relatively low density character has been retained which helps to create a degree of continuity with the surrounding countryside. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Highly varying according to era, but overall medium – low density. Potential opportunities for infilling. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | Community use of school facilities? |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | Varying, but overall relatively limited connection with the wider landscape, particularly to the west of the A456 and the railway line. |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | The size of the settlement means that insetting into the Green Belt is appropriate. However, the development envelope could be revised in light of the fragmented character of development to the east and south of the village where there is evidence local sprawl along the Belbroughton Road, for example.<br>**RETAIN INSET – POTENTIAL FOR MODEST EXTENSION?** |

## Cookley


Webb's Caunsall Farm
Caunsall
56
43
Cookley
Osiers
Wks
Farm
84
PO
Sch
Debdale Bridge
Lock
Austcliffe Farm
85
Austcliffe
47
Island Pool
73
The Gorse
Wellfield Cottages
Axborough

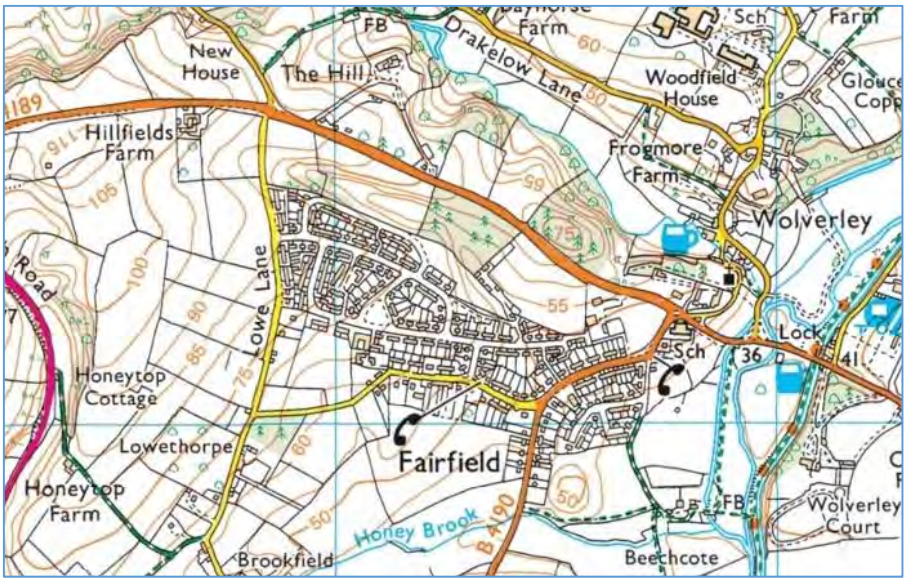
Kinver Lane
New Road
Caunsall Road
A449
Kidderminster Road
Bridge Road
Stourbridge Canal
Austcliffe Road
Austcliffe Lane
Common Barn Lane
Stone Drive
Gay Drive Road
Lea Lane
Castle Road
Elm Place
Wolverhampton Road
The Crescent
Axborough Lane
Orchard Road
Lea Castle Drive
New Road
Woodland Grove


87
39
52
N10
Wks
63
N8
PH

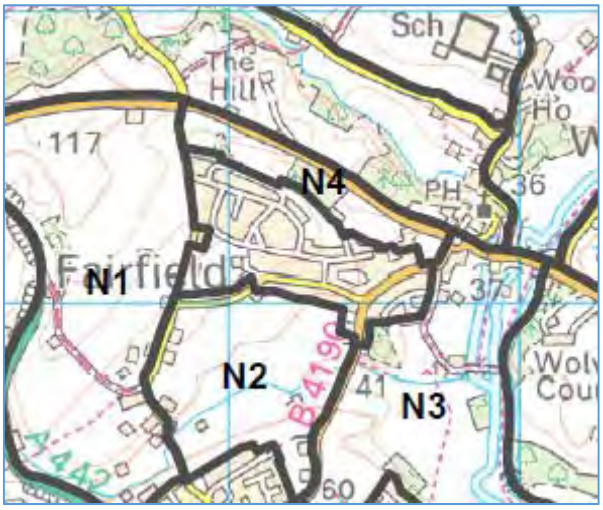
## Cookley

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | Characterised by extensive development of immediate post-war to contemporary housing extending off the main through road off Castle Road. However, development has evolved into a generally nucleated character, and by virtue of topography and location, a modest visual relationship with the wider countryside is retained. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Generally dense. Some opportunities for infill. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | Playing fields to the west. |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | Some connection with the wider landscape through glimpsed views, but general relatively dense built form. |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | The size and character of this much expanded street village means that its insetting into the Green Belt is appropriate and there could be opportunities for modest extension of the village envelope.<br>**RETAIN INSET – POTENTIAL FOR MODEST EXTENSION?** |

## Fairfield


New House
The Hill
Drakelow Lane
Woodfield House
Hillfields Farm
Frogmore Farm
Wolverley
Lowe Lane
Honeytop Cottage
Lowethorpe
Fairfield
Honeytop Farm
Honey Brook
Brookfield
Beechcote
Wolverley Court
Lock
Sch
FB

B4189
Wardle Way
Hayes Road
Sebright Road
Fairfield Lane
Beechcote Avenue
Mill Lane
B4190
The Shortyard
Drakelow Lane


N1
N2
N3
N4
Sch
The Hill
PH
B4190
A442

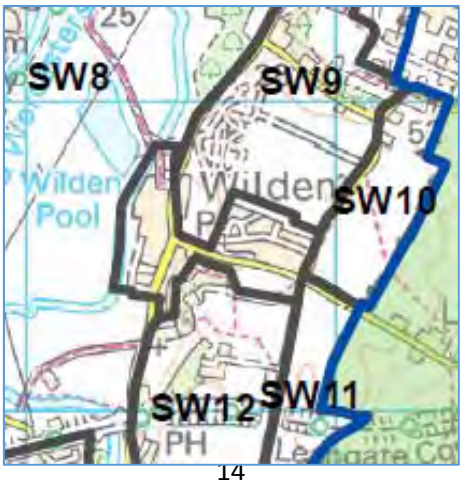
## Fairfield

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | A predominantly post-war development of a variety of styles and sizes and generally high density. There is very limited connection with the surrounding countryside beyond some glimpsed views from its elevated, southward orientation. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Relatively dense built form. Few opportunities for infill. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | Recreation ground to the east. |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | Some connection with the wider landscape through glimpsed views, but general relatively dense built form. |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | The size and density of the development makes insetting appropriate, with the potential for modest extension of the current development envelope.<br>**RETAIN INSET – POTENTIAL FOR MODEST EXTENSION?** |

## Wilden

Wilden La
The Upland
28
Towing Path
Wilden Pool
Wilden
Wilden New Farm
Industrial Estate
PO
57
River Stour
Leapgate Lane
Leapgate
Sch
Wiremill Farm
FB
Pit (dis)
Wilden Top

Stour
Wilden Lane
Wilden Industrial Estate
The Slad
Wivelden Avenue
Wilden Top Road
Bigbury Lane
Leapgate Lane
Stour


SW8
SW9
Wilden Pool
Wilden
SW10
SW12
SW11
PH

## Wilden

| Criterion | Observations |
|---|---|
| **General character** – location and overall setting, topography, settlement form, building type/age, overall sensitivity, sense of identity/unity/cohesion, key focal points, Conservation Area(s). | A relatively modest cluster of houses with no clear centre to the village, which has been expanded with a clustered extension of relatively recent construction. The development as whole has no significant relationship with the surrounding countryside within which it is set. |
| **Density and layout of buildings** – degree of spaciousness/enclosure, opportunities for infill within existing village boundary. | Medium density built form. No significant infill opportunities. |
| **Presence and character of open space - l**ocation and relationship with settlement. | Play space. |
| **Interface with the surrounding landscape - s**ettlement depth, rear garden character, glimpsed/panoramic views to the wider landscape, connectivity with landscape context. | Limited connection with the wider landscape apart from general location. |
| **Analysis and Recommendation** | The scale and density of development and the absence of a relationship with the surrounding countryside merits insetting of the village, although further expansion would be detrimental to the Green Belt in this location because of its contribution to the separation of Kidderminster and Stourport.<br>**RETAIN INSET** |