



BROXTOWE PART 2 LOCAL PLAN EXAMINATION

MATTER 11 GREEN BELT

**NOTTINGHAMSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL HEARING
STATEMENT**

Matter 11 Green Belt

ISSUE: Is the approach taken to review and protect the Green Belt justified, effective and consistent with national policy in the NPPF.

1. Site allocations in the Green Belt: Is the Green Belt Review consistent with national policy in the NPPF and PPGs and with the sequential approach set down in Policy 2 of the ACS?

Toton Strategic Location for Growth

- 1.1 Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) considers the Green Belt Review is consistent with national policy and the sequential approach set out in Policy 2 of the Greater Nottingham Aligned Cores Strategy (ACS).
- 1.2 The Preferred Approach to Site Allocations (Green Belt Review) (PD/13) considers the performance of Green Belt land parcels in accordance with four of the five Green Belt purposes set out in Paragraph 80 of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012) (NPPF), with more detailed assessment criteria developed to create a scoring system which clearly outlines which sites score highly against the Green Belt purposes (i.e. are less suitable for release from the Green Belt) and which score more poorly (i.e. are more suitable for release from the Green Belt).
- 1.3 Paragraph 85 of the NPPF also requires future Green Belt boundaries to be clearly defined using 'physical features that are readily recognisable and likely to be permanent'; this requirement is reflected in Policy 3 of the ACS. The Green Belt Review provides specific commentary on future Green Belt boundaries for each site, within the context of the NPPF and ACS requirements.
- 1.4 The overall methodology of the Green Belt Review is therefore considered to be in accordance with the NPPF.
- 1.5 Recognising the inherent sustainability of larger settlements, Policy 2 of the ACS establishes a settlement hierarchy. Of relevance to Broxtowe Borough, this places the main built-up area of Nottingham at its top, with key settlements identified for growth below (i.e. Awsworth, Brinsley, Eastwood and Kimberley) and other settlements at the bottom – in those other settlements, development would be for local needs only. Given that the Preferred Approach to Site Allocations (Green Belt Review) only considers land parcels surrounding the

Nottingham built-up area and settlements of Awsworth, Brinsley, Eastwood and Kimberley, NCC considers the approach adopted in the document to be consistent with the sequential approach set down in Policy 2 of the ACS .

- 1.6 In particular, NCC supports the scoring of land at Toton on the edge of the main built-up area of Nottingham (Zones 41 and 42 within the Green Belt Review).

2. Development in the Green Belt. Does Policy 8 make appropriate provision for the protection of the Green Belt in line with national policy? Specifically is part 3) of the policy justified and consistent with the NPPF?

- 1.7 NCC does not wish to submit a response to this question.