

Barnsley Metropolitan Borough
Council

Barnsley Green Belt Review

Green Belt: Goldthorpe (Dearne
Towns)

01

Issue | August 2014

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client.

It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

Job number 233367-00

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1 Introduction

This report provides an analysis of the Green Belt surrounding Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns, including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne). It forms one of ten¹ Green Belt Review Documents forming the wider Green Belt Review undertaken for the extent of South Yorkshire Green Belt which falls within the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's administrative local authority area.

The Green Belt Review has been prepared as part of the evidence base for the emerging Barnsley Local Plan, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG).

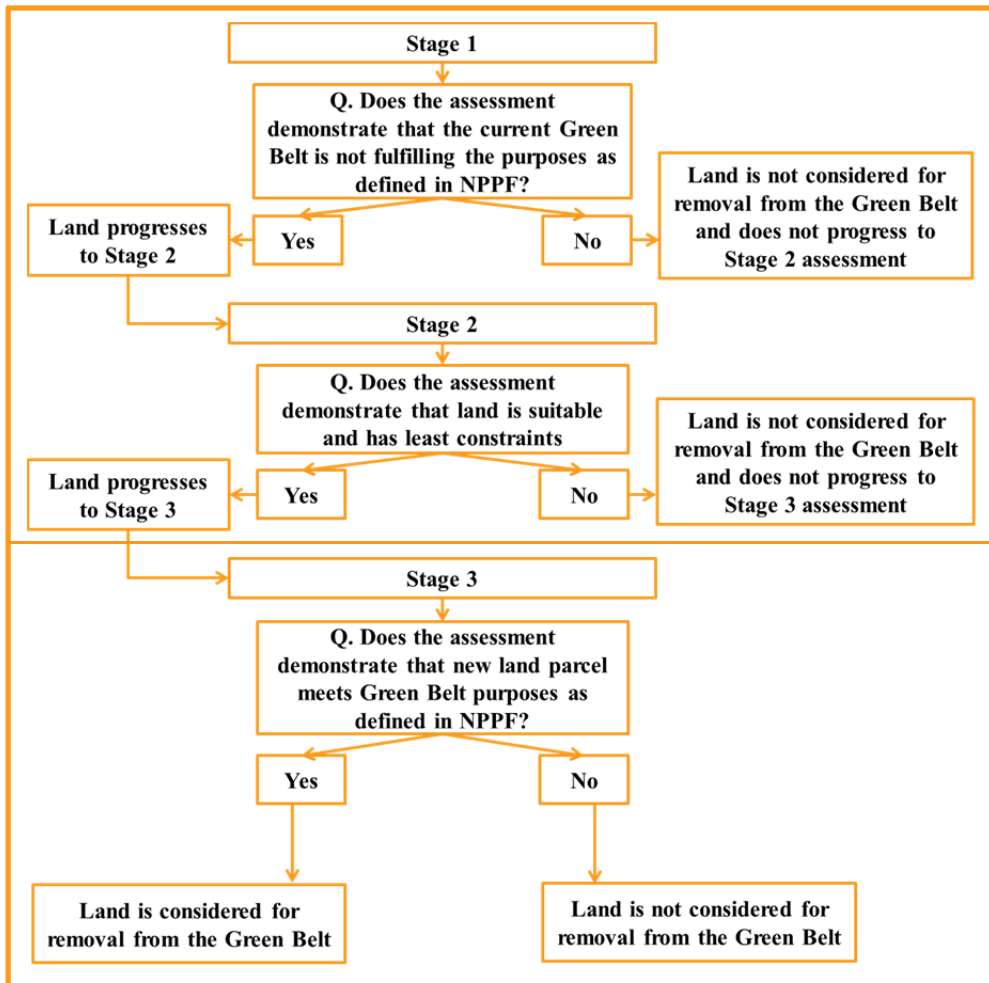
The flow diagram below represents the stages through which Green Belt land surrounding Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns, would progress in order to reach a conclusion on whether land should be released from the Green Belt. Both Stage 1 and Stage 2 are detailed within this report, and an indication of whether the land should be removed from the Green Belt is summarised in Stage 3. A summary table identifying any resulting land parcels has been provided at the end of this report in Section 10.

Stage 3 is supplemented by a separate justification produced by BMBC Officers, which was in progress during Spring/Summer 2014.

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¹ The Green Belt Review Reports cover the areas of Darfield; Wombwell; Goldthorpe (Dearne Town); Dodworth; Cudworth; Urban Barnsley; Hoyland; The Western Villages; Mapplewell and Penistone.

Figure 1.1: Methodology Flow Diagram for Green Belt review



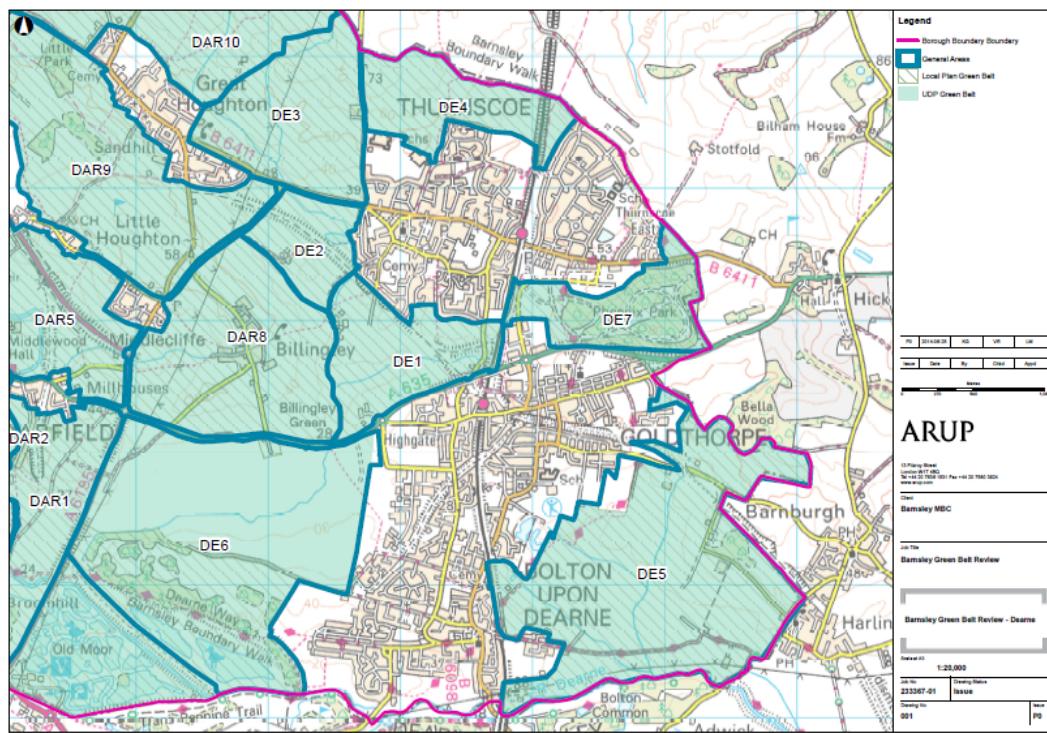
2 Assessment of Green Belt 'General Areas'

2.1 Introduction

This assessment has been produced for land within the Green Belt adjacent to the urban area of Goldthorpe.

As a result of recommendations within the Barnsley Settlement Assessment Update and the adopted Barnsley Core Strategy 2011, Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns, including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne, have all been classed as a single group of settlements. There are seven Green Belt General Areas surrounding Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), which were determined by BMBC officers on the basis of possessing strong, defensible potential Green Belt boundaries.

Figure 2.1: Seven General Areas within Dearne Towns



2.2 Approach

Each of the seven General Areas has been appraised to understand the extent to which the existing Green Belt is fulfilling the five purposes as defined in the NPPF and their interpretation within Phase 1 Green Belt Methodology. If the Green Belt within a General Areas is considered to be weakly fulfilling the purposes, a further assessment of significant site based constraints has been carried out to understand how suitable and developable the land is within the General Area.

From this site-based assessment a series of Resultant Land Parcels has been created, showing the land within the General Area which could be removed from

the Green Belt and which could be suitable for development. Where land is identified it has been re-tested against the five purposes of Green Belt to ensure that any re-defined Green Belt boundary meets the purposes and wherever possible strengthens the role of Green Belt within the given location. This final section will be supplemented by a separate justification produced by BMBC officers.

The site assessment proforma appraises the ‘general area’ against each of the five equally-weighted purposes of the Green Belt and determines a score out of 25.

- A higher score represents a ‘general area’ which most fulfils the ‘purposes’ and therefore is unlikely to constitute a Green Belt ‘General Area’ for release.
- A lower score represents a ‘general area’ which least fulfils the Green Belt ‘purposes’ and therefore is more likely to constitute a ‘general area’ suitable for Green Belt release.

The Stage 1 assessment confirmed that there were five General Areas which were very strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt and two General Area which were moderately fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Table 1: Green Belt Assessment of the Dearne

Reference	Proforma	Site Visit	Score
DE1	Y	December 2013	15
DE2	Y	December 2013	16
DE3	Y	December 2013	17
DE4	Y	December 2013	16
DE5	Y	December 2013	15
DE6	Y	December 2013	16
DE7	Y	December 2013	16

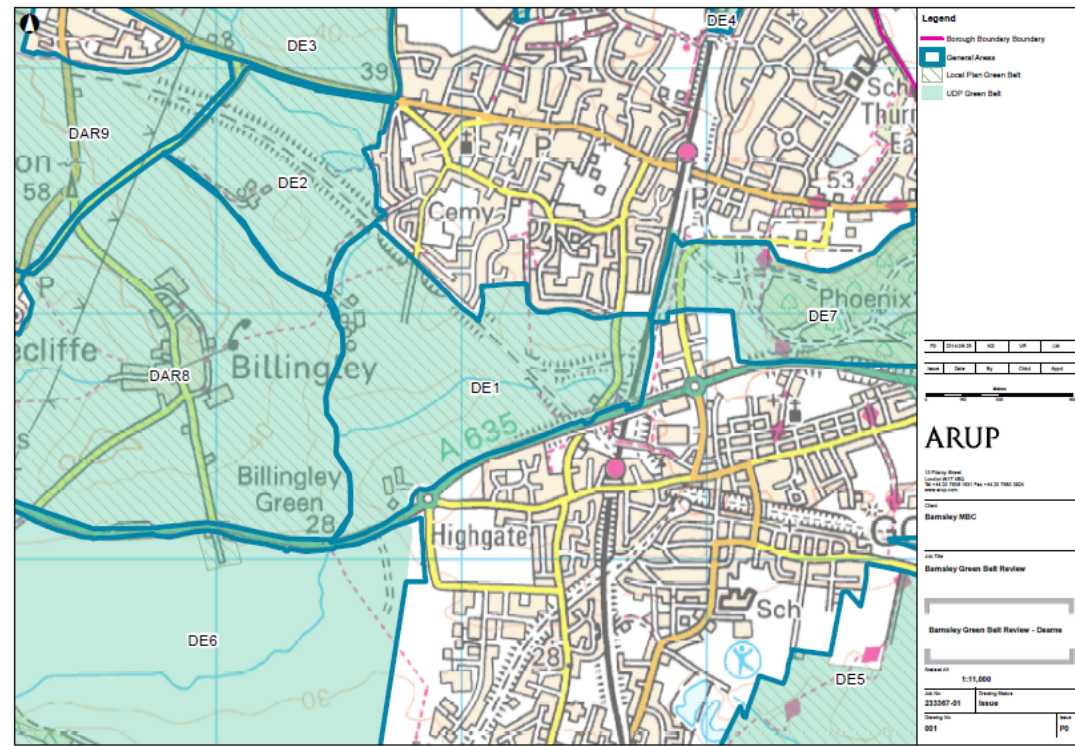
3 General Area DE1

3.1 Stage 1: DE1 Green Belt Assessment Proforma

3.2 Introduction

DE1, which comprises a funnel-shaped area of Green Belt to south of Thurnscoe and to the north of Goldthorpe, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the Green Belt Assessment proforma. DE1 achieves a score of 15 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area is moderately fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 3.2 DE1 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE1		
	Location	South of Thurnscoe		
	Site Area (Ha)	90.6		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area': Low – Highgate House Farm to the south-west of DE1 and Greyhound racing track to the south-east corner.		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form: Approximately 20% - 25% connected to the built form to the south of Thurnscoe		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence. 5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl .and provides a sense of permanence.	The existing green belt boundary is weakly defined by the irregular built form to the south of Thurnscoe. Areas near Derry Grove and Thurnscoe Bridge Lane are where the current boundary is weaker. The disused railway line in the north west and the railway line in the east do represent two strongly-defined features which support the definition of the existing Green Belt boundary. The strength of the Green Belt boundary is therefore mixed. The disused railway line could provide defensible boundaries within DE1, as could Carr Dike (travelling north-south) and Thurnscoe Dike (travelling west to east).
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/ unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.		
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

Level of Containment		
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect ‘Green Arcs’ or ‘Green Swathes which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect ‘open land’ from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be ‘open land’.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).</p> <p>DE1 is contiguous to the built form of Thurnscoe, and therefore connected to the built form of Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns). This General Area provides some function to protecting the open landscape to south of Thurnscoe.</p>
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: ‘general area’ which is fundamental to maintaining a ‘strategic gap’ of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: ‘general area’ which protects a ‘strategic gap’ which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: ‘general area’ which does not function to protect a ‘strategic gap’.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).</p> <p>As part of Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns, DE1 does have some role in protecting a strategic gap between Goldthorpe and Urban Barnsley. However, this gap is very wide and significantly over 5km. Therefore, the extent to which this General Area protects this strategic gap is very limited.</p>
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban form (approximately 50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .</p>	<p>Partly contained within the southern urban area of Thurnscoe and has a functional relationship with the southern built form.</p> <p>Area of DE1 between Thurnscoe and disused railway line could represent a consolidation of the built form.</p>
Total Score		2/ 5

Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.	<p>5: Supports four or more ‘beneficial uses’ of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>3: Supports two or three ‘beneficial uses’ which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	DE1 contains two PRoW – one connecting Thurnscoe with Billingley and one connecting Thurnscoe with Goldthorpe. The General Area therefore offers opportunities for access into the countryside, which is likely to serve a local audience. The General Area is also in agricultural use by Highgate House Farm and recreation and leisure use by Greyhound track.
	Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.	<p>5 represents a ‘general area’ which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses large areas of previously developed land (more than 25% built form).</p>	<p>The General Area contains the Greyhound Racing Track and Highgate House Farm, and therefore the General Area contains between 5 – 10% built form.</p> <p>Given the low levels of built form, relatively flat topography and long-line views back towards Urban Barnsley, the General Area supports a strongly rural character and protects the open countryside from urban sprawl.</p> <p>The area to the north east of the tree buffered railway line displays a lower level of openness.</p> <p>Alongside DE3, DE1, DAR8 and DAR10, this General Area forms part of wider green network which is perforated by the villages of Greater Houghton and Billingley.</p>
	Total Score:		4/ 5

Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width. 3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging 1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements	Whilst, Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne, are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update), it is important to respect the degree of separation between these areas. Development would represent loss of 'largely essential gap' between Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe which is less than 0.5km.
	Total Score		4/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development 3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area 1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value	Land at DE1 does not protect any views of historic value, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value. There are no listed features within this General Area, however the Grade II listed Thurnscoe Hall exists within the built form to the north and the General Area contains the route of disused railway line, which suggests links back to an industrial heritage.
	Total Score		2/ 5
Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	The overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt encourages regeneration and re-use at the strategic level, by channelling development activity into	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be awarded a consistent baseline score for the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt. 2: Locations where there is significant new development or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not	On the whole, this General Area has restricted development within the Green Belt and has supported a concentration of development within Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns

	the urban area.	considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	
	Total Score		3 / 5
Total			15/ 25

3.2.1 Functional Relationship of DE1 to Existing Built Form

DE1 achieved a score of 15 out of 25 within the General Area Green Belt Assessment Proforma. This score demonstrates the DE1 is fulfilling the five purposes of the Green Belt to a moderately strong degree.

The functional relationship of the Green Belt to the existing built form varies from the north east and south west of the dismantled railway line.

To the north east of the Green Belt boundary, the General Area has a strong functional relationship with the built form of Thurnscoe. The existing Green Belt boundary at this north eastern location is only weakly defined by the irregular built form to the south of Thurnscoe.

Whilst Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe are considered to form part of the same Principle town, this eastern portion of the General Area does serve to protect a land gap between Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe from coalescence. However, the industrial area to the east of the railway line and the Greyhound Stadium to the west have largely resulted in coalescence between Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe. The operational rail line and the Nicholas Lane could also reduce the opportunity for full coalescence.

Low levels of built form, a largely flat topography and long-line views back towards Urban Barnsley, result in the south and western portion of the General Area supporting a strong rural character and strongly protecting the open countryside from urban sprawl. There are no listed features within this General Area, however the Grade II listed Thurnscoe Hall exists within the built form to the north.

This General Area does only partially fulfil the purposes of the Green Belt Land. The route of the disused rail line, Nicholas Lane and Thurnscoe Dike could form a stronger boundary for the Green Belt which would endure beyond the plan period.

3.3 Stage 2: Technical Site Assessment

3.3.1 Overview

An overall score of 15 indicates that the Green Belt in DE1 is considered to be fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt to a weaker extent than other Green Belt areas within Barnsley.

To establish whether land within DE1 is suitable for development, the General Area will be assessed against three technical site constraints which would limit opportunities for development.

The three technical site constraint criteria used to appraise Green Belt land align with the criteria developed by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as part of the Housing Sites Selection Methodology and Employment Sites Selection Methodology. This ensures that all sites (both within and outside of the Green Belt) are appraised in a consistent and robust manner.

Statutory Designations

This General Area contains two Public Rights of Way, one which connects Thurnscoe to Billingley and the second which connects Goldthorpe to Thurnscoe. There are no other statutory designations within the General Area.

Flood Risk

The Barnsley SFRA (2010) reveals that DE1 is situated partly with Flood Risk Zone 2 and Zone 3. Two streams which flow into Thurnscoe Dike are at risk of Flood Risk Zone 3.

Locations to the south and west of the General Area are therefore relatively highly constrained by Flood Risk. The area to the north and east of the disused railway lines is within Flood Risk Zone 1 and is therefore unconstrained by risk of flooding.

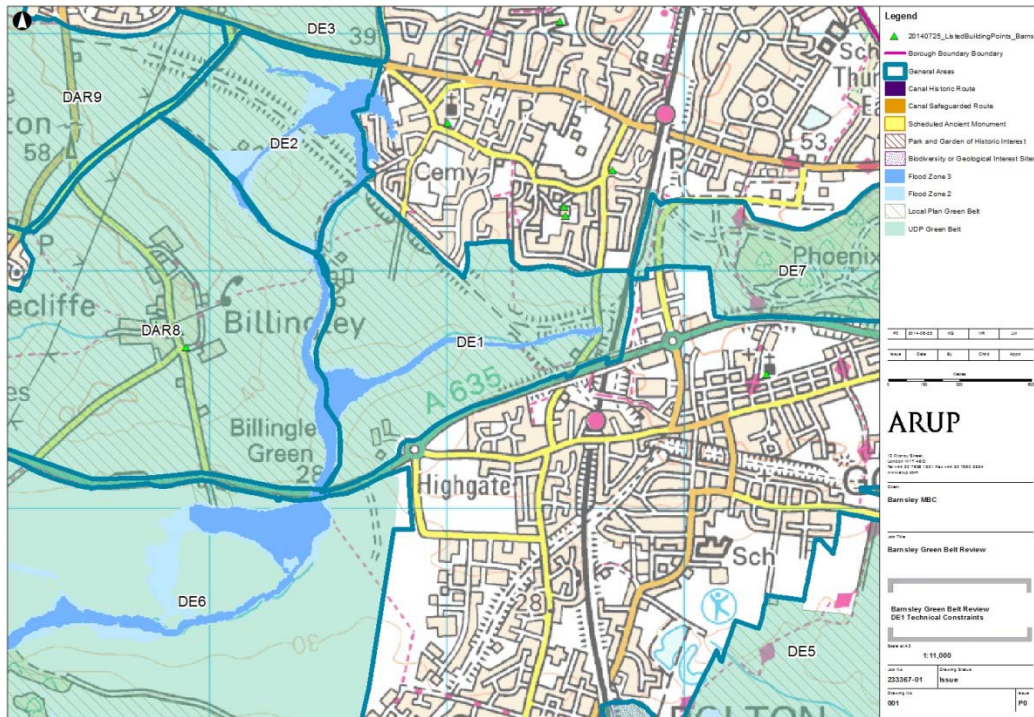
Topography / Landscape / Visual

The topography within DE1 is relatively flat with a gentle slope down towards Thurnscoe Dike in the west.

Low levels of built form and this relatively flat topography support long-line shallow views back towards the urban landscape of Barnsley. In addition to DE1 falling within the Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature improvement area, this General Area supports a strongly rural character and protects the open countryside from urban sprawl.

Historic Environment

There are no listed features within this General Area, however the Grade II listed Thurnscoe Hall exists within the built form to the north.

Figure 3.2: DE1 Technical Constraints Map

3.3.2 Conclusion

It is clear that the General Area can be divided into two parts along the dismantled rail line.

To the north east of the disused railway line, Green Belt land is relatively unconstrained by technical site constraints such as Flood Risk and statutory landscape designations. This north eastern portion does restrict Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe from coalescence, although the curve of the dismantled rail line and the Greyhound Stadium would limit total coalescence.

All Green Belt land within DE1 is identified as falling within the Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature improvement areas. Therefore this General Area, as a whole, has some role to play in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. However given the well-contained area of the Green Belt in the north east, and the relatively open nature of land in the south west, it is likely that the north eastern portion of DE1 is not assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment to the same extent as the south western portion.

The western portion of the General Area does therefore strongly assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment, however this north eastern area has a weaker functional relationship with the built form of Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe.

3.3.3 Defining a Resultant Land Parcel

Overview

Based on the assessment of whether the existing Green Belt is fulfilling the purposes as set out in the NPPF, and the analysis of site based constraints, it is possible to define a Resultant Land Parcel from DE1 that could be put forward for consideration in the Housing Sites Selection Methodology and the Employment Sites Selection Methodology.

Resultant Land Parcel DE1a

This Resultant Land Parcel identified for potential release from the Green Belt is located to the east of the General Area DE1.

The land parcel identified as a potential option to be released from the Green Belt is situated to the north and east of the disused rail line and west of the operational rail line. This would present a more permanent, defensible boundary which is likely to endure beyond the lifetime of the Local Plan.

3.4 Stage 3: Evaluating the Potential Newly Defined Green Belt Boundary

3.4.1 Overview

The following assessment is made on the basis that the land parcel in DE1 is removed from the Green Belt. This allows the 'new' Green Belt boundary to be tested against the five Green Belt purposes as defined within the NPPF, and to ensure that the 'new' Green Belt boundary is appropriate, defensible and likely to be permanent.

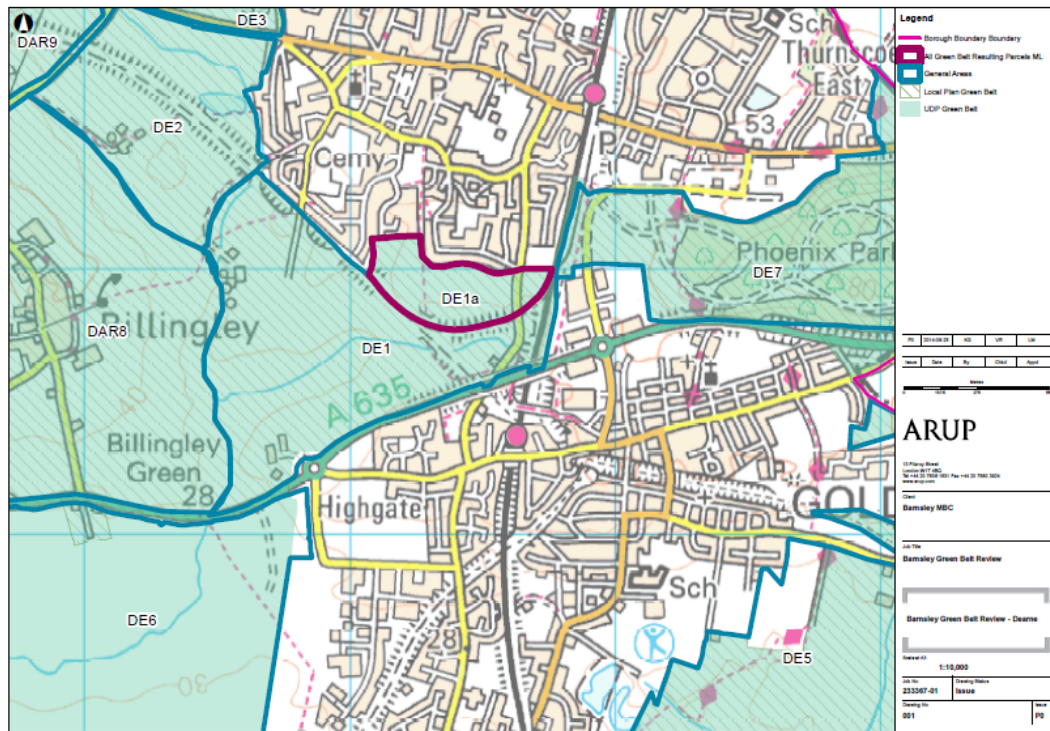
Any resulting land parcels proposed for release from the Green Belt will then subsequently be put forward for assessment using the Barnsley Housing Site Assessment Methodology.

3.4.2 Re-appraisal of Resultant Land Parcel DE1a

Green Belt Purpose	Assessment
To check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The proposed Green Belt boundary would be defined by the permanent features of the disused rail line in the west and the operational railway in the east. This boundary will check the unrestricted sprawl from the irregular built form of Thurnscoe. On this basis the boundary would be significantly stronger than currently exists at Thurnscoe
To prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne, are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update). Although these areas are considered to form part of Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), DE1 plays a key role in supporting a land gap between Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne. To the east of the rail line, the development of the industrial estate has resulted in some visual coalescence with the residential development off Lindley Crescent. Release of land within DE1 would result in a reduction of the 'largely

	essential gap' between Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe, however the curve of the disused rail line and the Greyhound Station would not perceptibly reduce this land gap between settlements any further.
To assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The new boundary based on the disused railway network would serve to safeguard the more valued rural and open character of the countryside in the west. Development in the north east section of the General Area would be relatively well-contained within the built form of Thurnscoe, however any development would need to respect the Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature improvement area.
To preserve the setting and special character of historic towns.	Development in the land parcel would not have a detrimental impact on the historic character and nature of Thurnscoe, or the setting of any listed buildings
To assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.	In creating a stronger, permanent boundary the newly defined Green Belt would continue to assist the overall objective to deliver urban regeneration.

Figure 3.3 Resultant Land Parcel DE1a



3.5 Conclusion for DE1

DE1 attains a score of 15 out of 25 within the General Area Assessment proforma, which indicates that Green Belt land at this location is not strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt. The existing Green Belt boundary is weakly defined by the irregular built form to the south of Thurnscoe.

An appraisal of the technical site constraints suggests that the western portion of the General Area is highly constrained by areas of Flood Risk Zone 2 and 3. All land within the General Area falls within the boundary of the Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature Improvement Area. High levels of containment and a strongly defined proposed Green Belt boundary result in the north eastern portion of the General Area offer a weaker contribution towards safeguarding the countryside from encroachment than the west.

Therefore, the dismantled railway line to the north east of General Area offers the potential to strengthen the Green Belt boundary through use of a defensible feature that is likely to be permanent. The Resultant Land Parcel DE1a therefore comprises the area to the north eastern portion of the General Area which is defined by the disused rail line.

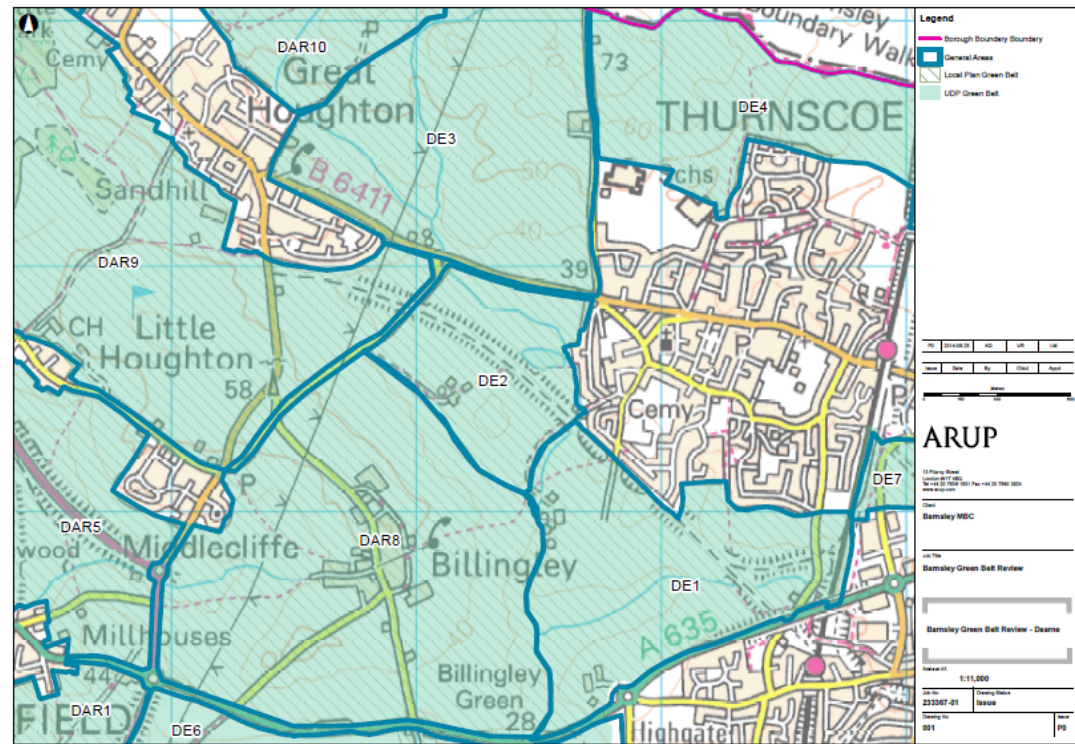
4 DE2 ‘General Area’

4.1 Stage 1: DE2 Site Assessment Proforma

4.1.1 Introduction

DE2, which comprises a square area of Green Belt to the west of Thurnscoe, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the Site Assessment proforma. DE2 achieves a score of 16 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area is deemed to be strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 4.1 DE2 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE2		
	Location	West of Thurnscoe		
	Site Area (Ha)	47.8		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area': Very low, less than 5%, with one farm - Holmes Farm		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form: Approximately 10% connected to the built form to the west of Thurnscoe		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence. 5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl .and provides a sense of permanence.	The existing Green Belt boundary is defined by the regular built form to the west of the Thurnscoe. The existing Green Belt boundary is therefore moderate in strength and is likely to have a moderately strong role in protecting the Green Belt from urban sprawl. The proposed Green Belt boundary could be defined by the B6411 to the north and Billingley Lane to the north west. The proposed southern boundary of DE2 could be defined by a track way and footpath and would therefore not be strongly defined by a permanent feature. There are a number of internal features within DE2 which could provide permanent defensible boundaries, including the disused railway line cutting through the centre of the General Area (travelling south-east to north-west) and the brook/dyke/stream which passes through DE2 from north to south.
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/ unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.		
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

Level of Containment		
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect 'Green Arcs' or 'Green Swathes which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect 'open land' from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be 'open land'.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).</p> <p>DE2 is contiguous to the built form of Thurnscoe, and therefore connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns). This General Area functions to protect the open landscape to the south of Thurnscoe.</p>
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: 'general area' which is fundamental to maintaining a 'strategic gap' of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: 'general area' which protects a 'strategic gap' which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: 'general area' which does not function to protect a 'strategic gap'.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update). Great Houghton and Billingley are identified as villages.</p> <p>As part of Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns, DE2 does have some role in protecting a strategic gap between Goldthorpe and Urban Barnsley. However, this gap is very wide and significantly over 5km. Therefore, the extent to which this General Area protects this strategic gap is very limited.</p>
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban form (approximately 50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .</p>	<p>The General Area is not contained within the existing built form of Goldthorpe and therefore development would be relatively detached from the existing built form.</p>

	Total Score		4/ 5
Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.	<p>5: Supports four or more ‘beneficial uses’ of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>3: Supports two or three ‘beneficial uses’ which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	<p>One prominent public right of way runs through the centre of DE2, which connects Thurnscoe and Billingley This public right of way provides an opportunity for access and is likely to serve a local audience.</p> <p>The remainder of DE2 has limited access and does not support any other beneficial uses, however DE2 is actively used by the two farms</p>
	Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.	<p>5 represents a ‘general area’ which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses large areas of previously developed land (more than 25% built form).</p>	<p>Low levels of built form and low levels of containment within the existing urban area of Thurnscoe do help support the openness of DE2. Alongside DE3, DE1, DAR8 and DAR10, this General Area forms part of wider green network which is perforated by the villages of Greater Houghton and Billingley.</p> <p>A gently cascading topography and low levels of vegetation do support views towards Billingley.</p>
	Total Score:		4/ 5

Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width. 3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging 1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements	Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update). Great Houghton, Little Houghton and Billingley are identified as villages. DE2 currently serves to protect a 'largely essential gap' between Thurnscoe and the villages of Great Houghton, Little Houghton and Billingley. This gap between Thurnscoe and these settlements is less than 1km in places. Development within this General Area could also reduce the 'essential gap' between Darfield and Thurnscoe to approximately 1.7km. This essential gap is therefore relatively wide.
	Total Score		4/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development 3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area 1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value	Land at DE2 does not protect any historically-valued views, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value. There are no listed features within this Green Belt General Area however DE_2 does include the route of disused railway line.
	Total Score		1/ 5
Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the	The overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt encourages regeneration	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be awarded a consistent baseline score for the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt.	On the whole, this General Area has restricted development within the Green Belt and has supported a concentration of development within

recycling of derelict and other urban land	and re-use at the strategic level, by channelling development activity into the urban area.	2: Locations where there is significant new development or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns
Total Score		3 / 5	
Total		16/ 25	

4.1.2 Functional relationship of DE2 to existing built form

DE2 achieves a score of 16 out of 25 within the Green Belt General Area Assessment Proforma. A score of 16 suggests that this General Area is strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Although this Green Belt General Area does have a relatively strong relationship with the existing built form of Thurnscoe, this existing Green Belt boundary is moderate in strength as defined by the existing built form to the west of Thurnscoe. Central and western areas of DE2 are not contiguous with the existing urban area of Thurnscoe, and therefore development would be relatively detached from the existing built form.

This General Area does assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. Whilst access to the Green Belt is relatively low and the General Area supports only limited beneficial uses, low levels of built form and low levels of containment within the existing urban area of Thurnscoe do help support the openness of DE2. Alongside DE3 and DE1, this General Area forms part of a wider Green Network which is perforated by the villages of Greater Houghton and Middlecliffe.

DE2 does support a largely essential gap between Thurnscoe and the villages of Great Houghton and Billingley, which is less than 1km in places.

This Green Belt General Area is therefore considered to be strongly assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and preventing neighbouring towns merging into one another.

4.2 Conclusion for DE2

Although this General Area has a relatively strong functional relationship with the built form of Cudworth, DE2 does play a strong role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and protecting a largely essential gap between Thurnscoe, Greater Houghton and Middlecliffe. The existing Green Belt boundary is also relatively strong. Therefore, there are no Resultant Parcels identified within the General Area which could be suitable for release from the Green Belt.

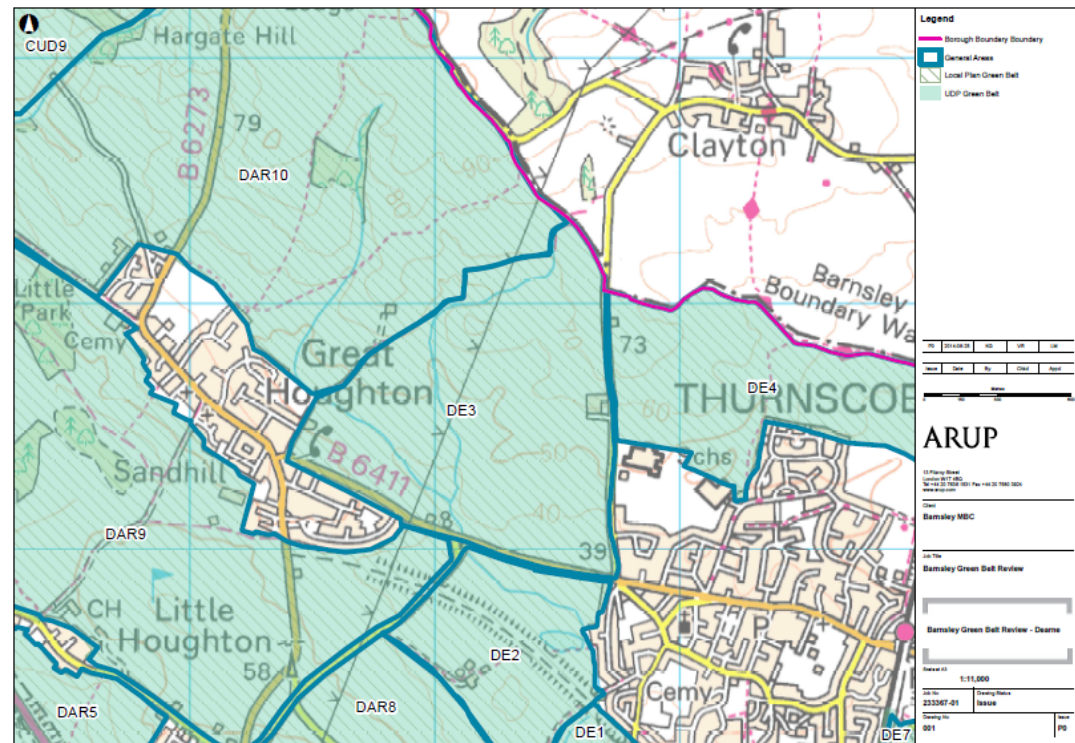
5 DE3 ‘General Area’

5.1 Stage 1: DE3 General Area Assessment Proforma

5.1.1 Introduction

DE3, which comprises a triangular area of Green Belt, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the General Area assessment proforma. DE3 achieves a score of 17 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area is strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 5.1 DE3 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE3		
	Location	118.7		
	Site Area (Ha)	North West of Thurnscoe and East of Great Houghton		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area': Low: Allotment Gardens, Sewage Works and partially-demolished storage warehouse		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form: Low: South western boundary adjoins the urban area of Great Houghton and the south eastern boundary of the site adjoins the built form of Thurnscoe.		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence.	The existing Green Belt boundary is strongly defined by the Thurnscoe Lane, Houghton Road and Clayton Lane. These roads have performed well in constraining the built form of Great Houghton to the west and Thurnscoe to the east. The existing Green Belt boundary is therefore strong. The proposed boundary could be defined by Clayton Lane in the east and be weakly defined by the route of Stonebridge Lane to the north, which becomes an unmade track beyond the Mount Pleasant Farm. There are no internal features which would form suitably strong boundaries, should the General Area be considered for sub-division.
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/ unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.	5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl .and provides a sense of permanence.	
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

Level of Containment		
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect ‘Green Arcs’ or ‘Green Swathes which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect ‘open land’ from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be ‘open land’.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).</p> <p>This General Area is contiguous to Thurnscoe, and therefore connected to Goldthorpe. The Green Belt boundary does protect the openness of the Green Belt from urban sprawl.</p>
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: ‘general area’ which is fundamental to maintaining a ‘strategic gap’ of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: ‘general area’ which protects a ‘strategic gap’ which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: ‘general area’ which does not function to protect a ‘strategic gap’.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update). Greater Houghton is identified as a village.</p> <p>As part of Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns, DE3 does have some role in protecting a strategic gap between Goldthorpe and Urban Barnsley. However, this gap is very wide and significantly over 5km. Therefore, the extent to which this General Area protects this strategic gap is very limited.</p>
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban form (approximately 50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .</p>	<p>As a whole, DE3 is not contained within the built form of Thurnscoe and Greater Houghton.</p>

	Total Score		4/ 5
Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.	<p>5: Supports four or more 'beneficial uses' of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>3: Supports two or three 'beneficial uses' which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	<p>This General Area contains allotment gardens, which are likely to have a local neighbourhood/ Barnsley Borough audience.</p> <p>The remainder of DE3 has limited access and does not support any other beneficial uses.</p>
	Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.	<p>5 represents a 'general area' which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a 'general area' which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a 'general area' which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses large areas of previously developed land (more than 25% built form).</p>	<p>Low levels of built form and low levels of containment, a gently cascading topography and low levels of vegetation do help support the openness of DE3.</p> <p>Alongside DE2, DE1, DAR8, DAR10 and DE4, this General Area forms part of wider green network which is perforated by the villages of Greater Houghton and Billingley.</p>
	Total Score:		4/ 5

Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	<p>5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width.</p> <p>3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging</p> <p>1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update). Great Houghton, Little Houghton and Billingley are identified as villages.</p> <p>DE3 currently serves to protect a 'largely essential gap' between Thurnscoe and Great Houghton, Little Houghton and Billingley. This gap between Thurnscoe and Great Houghton is less than 1km in places.</p> <p>This General Area serves to protect an 'essential gap' between Thurnscoe and Cudworth which is more than 1.5km. This General Area also has some role in protecting an 'essential gap' between Thurnscoe and the 'Larger Defined Village' of Clayton in Doncaster.</p>
	Total Score		5/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	<p>5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development</p> <p>3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area</p> <p>1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value</p>	<p>Land at DE3, does not protect any views, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value.</p> <p>There are no listed features within this Green Belt General Area.</p>
	Total Score		1/ 5

Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	The overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt encourages regeneration and re-use at the strategic level, by channelling development activity into the urban area.	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be awarded a consistent baseline score for the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt. 2: Locations where there is significant new development or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	On the whole, this General Area has restricted development within the Green Belt and has supported a concentration of development within Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns
	Total Score		3 / 5
Total			17 / 25

5.1.2 Functional relationship of DE3 to existing built form

DE3 attains a score of 17 out of 25 in the General Area Assessment Proforma, which indicates that the Green Belt in this location is relatively strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

The existing Green Belt boundary is strongly defined by Thurnscoe Lane, Houghton Road and Clayton Lane. Development within DE3 would therefore constitute unrestricted urban sprawl which would have a weak functional relationship with the built form of Thurnscoe.

Goldthorpe, including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne, are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update), and Great Houghton is identified as a village. Whilst this General Area does not protect a strategic gap between the Dearne Towns and large urban areas within Barnsley, DE3 does protect a largely essential gap between these villages and Thurnscoe which is less than 1.5km. This General Area also serves to protect an 'essential gap' between Thurnscoe and Cudworth which is more than 1.5km and has some role in protecting an 'essential gap' between Thurnscoe and the 'Larger Defined Village' of Clayton in Doncaster.

Alongside DE1, DE2 and DE4, DE3 has a strong role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and forms part of a wider green network which is perforated by the villages of Great Houghton and Billingley. This Green Belt General Area is therefore considered to be strongly assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and having some role in preventing neighbouring towns merging into one another.

5.2 Conclusion for DE3

DE3 does have a strong role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and protecting a largely essential gap between Thurnscoe and Greater Houghton. The existing boundary of the Green Belt is strong, and therefore development within this General Area would represent unrestricted encroachment into the countryside. Development within the Green Belt at this location would result in built form with a very weak functional relationship to the existing urban form of Thurnscoe. There are no Resultant Land Parcels identified within the General Area which could be suitable for release from the Green Belt.

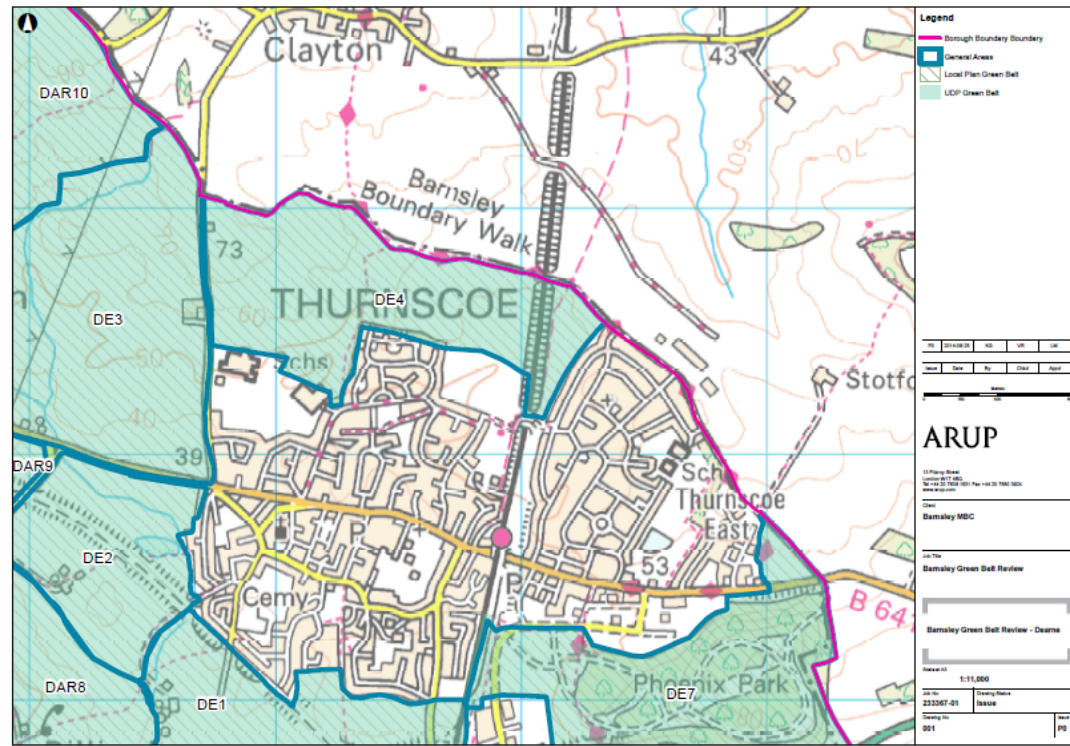
6 DE4 ‘General Area’

6.1 Stage 1: DE4 General Area Assessment Proforma

6.1.1 Introduction

DE4, which comprises a rectangular area of Green Belt to the north of Thurnscoe, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the Site Assessment proforma. DE4 achieves a score of 16 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 6.1 DE4 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE4		
	Location	North of Thurnscoe		
	Site Area (Ha)	77.3		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area' Very low. Dog kennels		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form: Between 10 and 15% connections to the built form to the north of Thurnscoe and Thurnscoe East		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence. 5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl and provides a sense of permanence.	The existing green belt boundary is weakly defined by the existing built form to the north of Thurnscoe, including a weak boundary defined by Robert Ogden School and a weak boundary defined by recent housing delivery on allocated site DEA 17. N.B. Delivery at DEA17 is only part way complete. Outstanding allocated land remains developable and allocated site DEA11 near Robert Ogden School has yet to commence. Site remains a suitable and developable site. Boundary at western edge of Thurnscoe East is defined through a more regular built form. The strength of the Green Belt boundary is therefore mixed. Proposed boundaries could be defined by Clayton Lane in the west, the tree-lined Barnsley Boundary Walk the north and Deighton Street in the east. Internal features within DE4 could provide permanent defensible boundaries, including dyke/brook/stream which passes through centre of
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/ unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.		
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

			DE4 along with public right of way. The Leeds-Sheffield railway line also passes through the eastern part of DE4 providing a permanent boundary close to Thurnscoe East.
Level of Containment			
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect ‘Green Arcs’ or ‘Green Swathes’ which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect ‘open land’ from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be ‘open land’.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).</p> <p>This General Area is contiguous to Thurnscoe, and therefore connected to Goldthorpe. The Green Belt boundary does protect the openness of the Green Belt from urban sprawl. Green Belt at this location is considered to be characteristic open land, which is lacking development and has possesses a topography which supports a high level of openness.</p>	
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: ‘general area’ which is fundamental to maintaining a ‘strategic gap’ of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: ‘general area’ which protects a ‘strategic gap’ which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: ‘general area’ which does not function to protect a ‘strategic gap’.</p>	DE4 does not function to protect a strategic gap between Barnsley and Goldthorpe (the Dearne Towns).	
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban form (approximately</p>	<p>As a whole, DE4 would only be partially contained within the existing built form of Thurnscoe.</p> <p>Areas which would be particularly well-contained within the existing urban form surround the estate to the north of Thurnscoe.</p> <p>A second area of containment could be achieved to the west of the residential built form off Deightonby Street.</p>	

		50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .	
Total Score			3/ 5
Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.	<p>5: Supports four or more ‘beneficial uses’ of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>3: Supports two or three ‘beneficial uses’ which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	One prominent public right of way running through the centre of DE4. Barnsley Boundary Walk runs across the top of DE4 on same route as the BMBC boundary edge. The General Area therefore provides opportunities for outdoor recreation and visual amenity.
	Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.	<p>5 represents a ‘general area’ which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses large areas of previously developed land (more than 25% built form).</p>	The gently cascading topography within DE4 does support a very high level of openness and low levels of development support a strong rural-character within the General Area. Green Belt within this General Area protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside.
	Total Score:		

Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width. 3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging 1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements	The General Area does not serve to protect any essential gaps between settlements <i>within</i> Barnsley. There is a substantial gap (over 1.5km) between DE4 and settlements of South Kirkby and South Elmsall in Wakefield, and a land gap of 1.2km between Thurnscoe and the Larger Defined Village of Clayton, in Doncaster. The Green Belt land within DE4 therefore has a role in protecting an essential gap between Thurnscoe and the village of Clayton in Doncaster, and the urban areas of South Elmsall and South Kirby in Wakefield. The score against this purpose reflects the relatively wide nature of this land gap.
	Total Score		4/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development 3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area 1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value	Land at DE4 does not protect any historically-valued views, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value There are no listed buildings within the General Area, however the Grade II Listed Low Grange house within the built form to the north of Thurnscoe.
	Total Score		2/ 5
Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict	The overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt encourages regeneration and re-use at the strategic	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be awarded a consistent baseline score for the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt. 2: Locations where there is significant new development	On the whole, this General Area has restricted development within the Green Belt and has supported a concentration of development within Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns

and other urban land	level, by channelling development activity into the urban area.	or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	
Total Score		3 / 5	
Total		16 / 25	

6.1.2 Functional relationship of DE4 to existing built form

Having attained a score of 16 out of 25 in the General Area Assessment Proforma, it is evident that the land in this location is strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

The current Green Belt boundary is only weakly defined by the irregular built form to the north of Thurnscoe. A weak boundary defined by Robert Ogden School, an area of safeguarded land and a weak boundary defined by recent housing delivery on a UDP allocated site results in Green Belt land having a relatively strong functional relationship with Thurnscoe. Release of land within the Green Belt General Area could constitute a natural-rounding of the built form of Thurnscoe which extends as far as the Borough Boundary in the east.

This General Area does however serve to protect an essential gap between Thurnscoe and settlements in Wakefield district (South Kirkby and South Elmsall). The gap between these settlements is large and removal of land from Green Belt would not significantly erode this essential gap between settlements. Removal of this land from the Green Belt would however reduce the essential gap of 1.2km between Thurnscoe and the village of Clayton in Wakefield to 0.7km

A gently cascading topography and low levels of development within the General Area does support a very high level of openness and a strong rural-character which does strongly assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. The General Area would only have limited function in preserving the setting and character of listed buildings or historic towns, as there are no heritage assets within DE4.

Clayton Lane in the west, the tree-lined Barnsley Boundary Walk to the north and Deighton Street or operational train line in the east could form a stronger boundary for the Green Belt which would endure beyond the plan period.

6.2 Conclusion for DE4

DE4 plays a fundamental role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and protecting a strategic gap between Thurnscoe and Clayton. There are no Resultant Parcels identified within the General Area which could be suitable for release from the Green Belt.

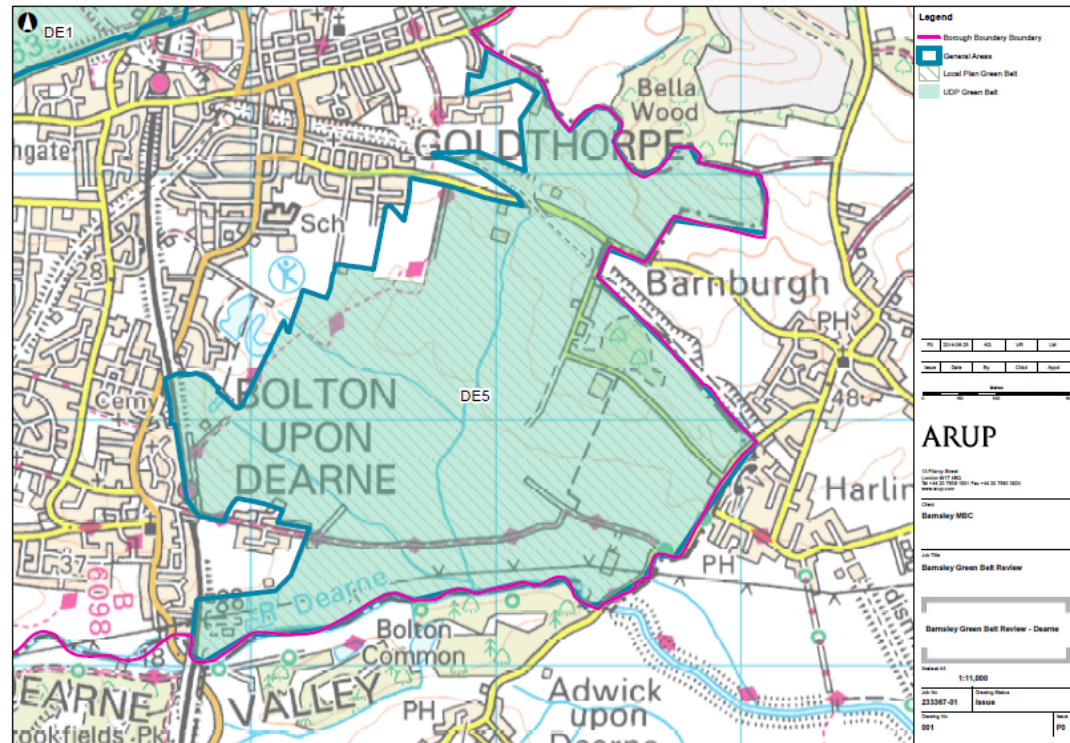
7 DE5 ‘General Area’

7.1 Stage 1: DE5 Green Belt Assessment Proforma

7.1.1 Introduction

DE5, which comprises an L-shaped area of Green Belt to the east of Thurnscoe, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the Site Assessment proforma. DE5 achieves a score of 15 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area is not moderately fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 7.1 DE5 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE5		
	Location	Land to the south east of Goldthorpe and east of Bolton upon Dearne.		
	Site Area (Ha)	311.4		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area' Low; sewage works, breaker's yard and a small farm holding.		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form Moderate; 'general area' adjoins built form to the east of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence.	The existing Green Belt boundary is formed by the irregular and intermittent built form to the east of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne. To the north, this boundary is defined by allotment gardens, an area of safeguarded land and the newly-developed Dearne ALC. Beyond Banburgh Lane in the north, the Green Belt boundary is defined by the angular residential development off Pickhills Avenue and industrial development off Beever Street. A park and area of green space, the Leeds Sheffield railway, previously developed land and residential development off Woodside View/Lowfield Meadows defines the western boundary. The boundary is therefore considered to be very weak and unlikely to check the unrestricted sprawl of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne. The proposed Green Belt boundaries could comprise Banburgh Lane in the north, the less-defensible West Moor Dike and Borough Boundary in the east and the River Dearne in the
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.	5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl .and provides a sense of permanence.	
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

			<p>south. Whilst the strength of the proposed boundaries varies, their durability is relatively stronger than the existing boundaries.</p> <p>Far Moor Dike and Lowfield Lane represent two strong internal features, which could form appropriate boundaries should the General Area be considered for sub-division.</p>
Level of Containment			
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect 'Green Arcs' or 'Green Swathes which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect 'open land' from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be 'open land'.</p>	Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).	<p>This General Area is contiguous to Goldthorpe urban area and Bolton upon Dearne, and therefore DE_5 does protect the openness of the landscape from urban sprawl.</p>
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: 'general area' which is fundamental to maintaining a 'strategic gap' of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: 'general area' which protects a 'strategic gap' which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: 'general area' which does not function to protect a 'strategic gap'.</p>	DE5 does not serve to protect a strategic between Urban Barnsley and Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns).	
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a</p>	As a whole, DE5 is only contained in part within the existing built form of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne.	<p>There are two areas which may be considered for small-scale consolidation within the General Area. To the north of Farr Moor Dike and west of West Moor Dike would allow for the consolidation of the irregular built form the east of the Dearne ALC, however strongly</p>

		<p>natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban form (approximately 50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .</p>	<p>defined, consistent and durable boundaries do not reflect this choice.</p> <p>The second comprises the area to the north of Lowfield Road and north west of Crane Well Lane which would possess a stronger functional relationship to the built form of Bolton upon Dearne. Northern boundaries would be formed by the less well-defined Crane Well Dike and Breaker's yard track. This General Area would consolidate the built form surrounding Bolton on Dearne station, however durable and defensible boundaries do not reflect this choice.</p>
	Total Score		3/ 5
Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.	<p>5: Supports four or more 'beneficial uses' of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>3: Supports two or three 'beneficial uses' which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	<p>This General Area contains allotments, a park and area of Green Space. Low levels of footpaths limit opportunities to access the countryside, however the park and allotments provide local opportunities for outdoor recreation.</p> <p>There is one farm (Lowfield Farm) which actively uses the general area for agricultural purposes.</p>
	Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.	<p>5 represents a 'general area' which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a 'general area' which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a 'general area' which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses</p>	<p>Low levels of built form and low levels of containment, a gently cascading topography and low levels of vegetation do help support the strong perception of openness and rural character of DE5.</p> <p>This General Area strongly assists in protecting the openness of the countryside from development.</p>

		large areas of previously developed land (more than 25% built form).	
	Total Score:		4/ 5
Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width. 3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging 1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements	DE5 maintains a land gap of 1.7km between Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne urban area and the Doncaster 'Larger Defined Villages' of Banburgh and Harlington. This could be considered to be an essential gap, however this is more than 1.5km wide
	Total Score		4/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development 3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area 1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value	There are no historic towns within Barnsley, and there are no historic features within DE_5. Land at DE5 does not protect any historically-valued views, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value.
	Total Score		1/ 5
Assist in urban regeneration, by	The overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt encourages regeneration and re-use	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be awarded a consistent baseline score for	On the whole, this General Area has restricted development within the Green Belt and has supported a

encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	at the strategic level, by channelling development activity into the urban area.	the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt. 2: Locations where there is significant new development or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	concentration of development within Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns
Total Score		3 / 5	
Total		15 / 25	

7.1.2 Functional relationship of DE5 to existing built form

DE5 achieved a score of 15 out of 25 within the General Area Green Belt Assessment Proforma. This score demonstrates the DE5 is fulfilling the five purposes of the Green Belt to a moderately strong degree.

The existing Green Belt boundary is weakly defined by the irregular and intermittent built form to the east of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne. The existing boundary is unlikely to check the unrestricted urban sprawl of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne, however development close to this existing boundary could have a strong functional relationship with the current built form.

Low levels of built form and low levels of containment, a gently cascading topography and low levels of vegetation do help support a perception of openness and the rural character of DE5. Whilst there are relatively low levels of Green Belt beneficial uses within the General Area, DE5 does have a fairly strong role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

This General Area only plays a moderate role in preventing neighbouring towns from merging. The villages of Barnburgh and Harlington, which are identified as larger defined villages within the Doncaster Core Strategy, exist approximately 1.7km to the east of Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. Development within this essential gap could reduce the distance between these two settlements to approximately 1.3km.

Far Moor Dike and Lowfield Lane are permanent features which could form a stronger boundary for the Green Belt and would endure beyond the Plan Period.

7.1 Stage 2: Technical Site Assessment

7.1.1 Overview

An overall score of 15 indicates that the Green Belt in DE5 is considered to be fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt to a weaker extent than other Green Belt areas within Barnsley.

To establish whether land within DE5 is suitable for development, the General Area was assessed against three technical site constraints which would limit opportunities for development.

The three technical site constraint criteria used to appraise Green Belt land align with the criteria developed by Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council as part of the Housing Sites Selection Methodology and Employment Sites Selection Methodology. This ensures that all sites (both within and outside of the Green Belt) are appraised in a consistent and robust manner.

Statutory Designations

This General Area contains the Barnsley Boundary Walk. There are no other statutory designations with DE5.

Flood Risk

The Barnsley SFRA (2008) reveals that the General Area is highly constrained by River Dearne which results in areas of Flood Risk Zone 2 and 3, areas of functional flood plain and surface water flooding.

DE5 is particularly constrained to the south of the General Area and east of Bolton upon Dearne. The majority of this land falls within Flood Risk Zone 3 and is largely allocated as functional floodplain: Flood Zone 3b.

The area to the north of Far Moor Dyke and West Moor Dyke is relatively unconstrained by Flood Risk.

Topography / Landscape / Visual

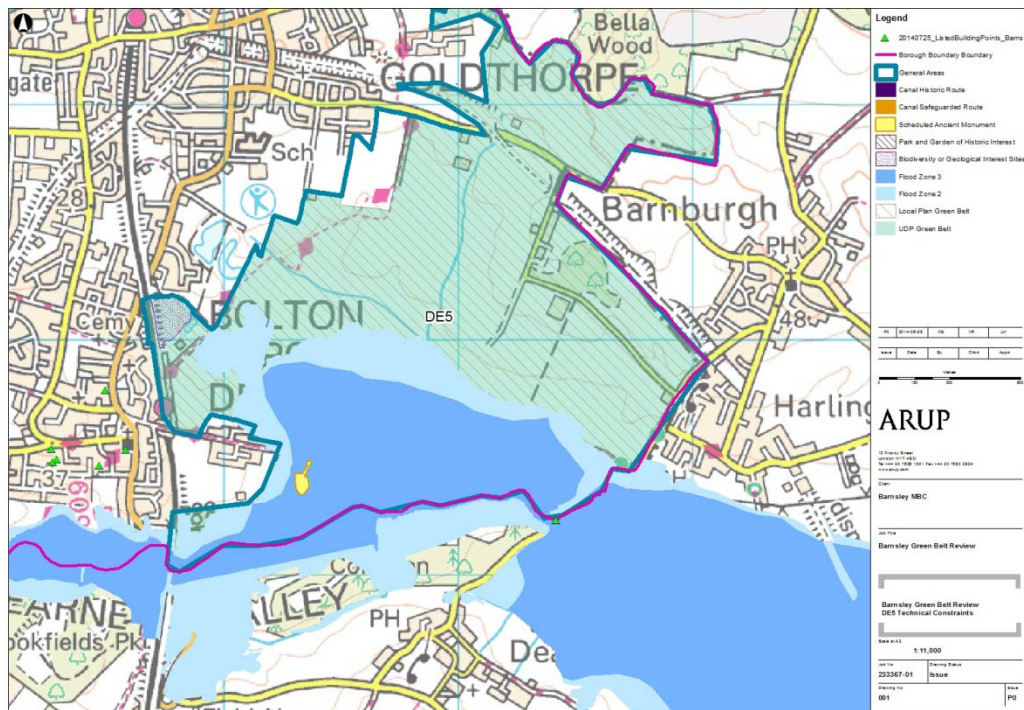
Green Belt land within DE5 falls within the Dearne Valley Green Heart Nature Improvement Area and Dearne Valley RSPB reserve.

The extent of the Dearne Valley RSPB National Nature Reserve results in a very limited developable area within DE5.

Historic Environment

There are no historic towns within Barnsley, and there are no historic features within DE5.

Figure 7.2 DE5 Technical Site Constraints Assessment



7.1.2 Conclusion

The extent of the areas of Flood Risk Zone 2 and 3 from the River Dearne in the south limits the developable area to the south of General Area DE5.

Although the area to the north of Far Moor Dyke and west of West Moor Dyke could represent an area with a relatively strong functional relationship with

Goldthorpe and a relatively strong proposed green belt boundary, the designation of land within the Dearne Valley RSPB Reserve and location of land within the Dearne Valley Heart improvement area limits the developable area of this General Area.

7.2 Conclusion for DE5

Given the extent of landscape and technical site constraints within the General Area, in particular the extent of the RSPB Dearne Valley Reserve, it is evident that DE5 does have a fundamental role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. Development within this General Area would therefore represent unacceptable and unrestricted encroachment into the countryside.

There are no Resultant Land Parcels identified within the General Area which could be suitable for release from the Green Belt.

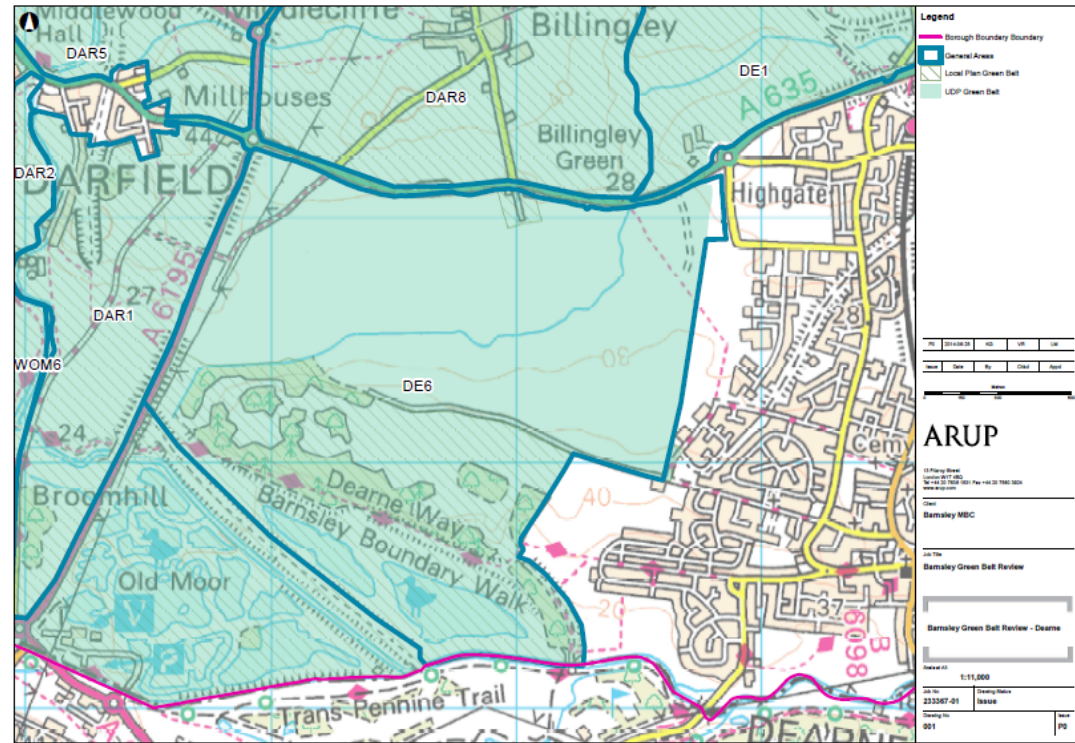
8 DE6 ‘General Area’

8.1 Stage 1: DE6 Green Belt Assessment Proforma

8.1.1 Introduction

DE6, which comprises a rectangular area of Green Belt to the west of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the Site Assessment proforma. DE6 achieves a score of 16 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area is considered to be strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 8.1: DE6 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE6		
	Location	Land to the west of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne		
	Site Area (Ha)	314.3		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area' Very Low; 'general area' contains Rose Valley Farm		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form Moderate; 'general area' adjoins built form to the west of Goldthorpe and Bolton Upon Dearne		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence. 5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl .and provides a sense of permanence.	The existing Green Belt boundary is defined by the irregular built form of Bolton upon Dearne, a large allocated area of safeguarded land and a large UDP employment land allocation to the to the west of Goldthorpe and the built out Alid distribution centre. Although the strength of the Green Belt boundary is complicated by land use allocations and the distribution centre, the strength of the boundary is considered to be relatively strong. The proposed Green Belt boundaries would comprise the A635 Barnsley Road in the north, the A6195 Rotherham Road in the west, the dismantled railway and River Dearne to the south. Carr Head Lane and Ingsfield Lane represent two strong internal features, which could form an appropriate boundaries should the General Area be considered for sub-division.
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.		
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

Level of Containment		
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect 'Green Arcs' or 'Green Swathes which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect 'open land' from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be 'open land'.</p>	<p>Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update).</p> <p>This General Area is contiguous to Goldthorpe urban area and does protect the exemplary openness of the landscape from urban sprawl.</p>
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: 'general area' which is fundamental to maintaining a 'strategic gap' of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: 'general area' which protects a 'strategic gap' which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: 'general area' which does not function to protect a 'strategic gap'.</p>	DE6 does not function to protect a strategic gap between Goldthorpe and Urban Barnsley.
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban</p>	<p>As a whole, DE6 is not well-contained within Goldthorpe or Bolton Upon Dearne, and development would be independent of existing built form.</p> <p>UDP allocations already cover natural areas of consolidation.</p>

		form (approximately 50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .	
Total Score			3/ 5
Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.	<p>5: Supports four or more ‘beneficial uses’ of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>3: Supports two or three ‘beneficial uses’ which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	<p>This General Area contains Bolton Ings Park and Carr Dike, the Barnsley Boundary Walk and the Dearne Way. Recreational access to DE6 is very good.</p> <p>The General Area therefore supports access to the countryside and presents an opportunity for outdoor recreation which is likely to be valued on a Borough-wide scale.</p> <p>The flatness and openness of the Green Belt is likely to support high visual amenity.</p>
	Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.	<p>5 represents a ‘general area’ which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses large areas of previously developed land</p>	<p>Low levels of built form and low levels of containment, a flat topography and low levels of vegetation do help support the strong perception of openness and rural character of DE6.</p> <p>This General Area very strongly assists in protecting the openness of the countryside from development.</p>

		(more than 25% built form).	
	Total Score:		5/ 5
Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	<p>5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width.</p> <p>3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging</p> <p>1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements</p>	<p>DE6 does function to protect an essential gap between Goldthorpe and Darfield (considered part of Wombwell Urban Area). Development within this General Area could reduce this essential gap from 2.7km to less than 1km.</p> <p>Development within DE6 could also reduce the land gap between Bolton upon Dearne and Wath upon Dearne in Rotherham to the south, which is identified as a Principal Settlement for Growth. Some coalescence has already occurred between Goldthorpe and Wath Upon Dearne.</p> <p>Therefore this General Area functions to protect two essential gaps; however the score reflects that one of essential gap is wide and the other essential gap has already largely coalesced.</p>
	Total Score		4/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	<p>5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development</p> <p>3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area</p> <p>1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value</p>	<p>There are no historic towns within Barnsley, and there are no historic features within DE6.</p> <p>Land at DE6 does not protect any views, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value.</p>
	Total Score		1/ 5
Assist in urban	The overall restrictive nature of the Green	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be	On the whole, this General Area has restricted

regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Belt encourages regeneration and re-use at the strategic level, by channelling development activity into the urban area.	awarded a consistent baseline score for the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt. 2: Locations where there is significant new development or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	development within the Green Belt and has supported a concentration of development within Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns
Total Score			3 / 5
Total			16 / 25

8.1.2 Functional relationship of DE6 to existing built form

Having attained a score of 16 out of 25, this General Area represents an area of Green Belt which is strongly fulfilling the purposes set out in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Whilst the existing Green Belt is complicated by land use allocations, the current Green Belt boundary is strengthened by the defined extent of the industrial built form. The strength of the Green Belt boundary is considered to be relatively strong and likely to check the unrestricted sprawl of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne. Development beyond this existing Green Belt boundary will have a limited functional relationship with the built form of Goldthorpe and Bolton upon Dearne.

Low levels of built form and low levels of containment, a gently cascading topography and low levels of vegetation do help support the strong perception of openness and rural character of DE6. This General Area is considered to have a fundamental role in safeguarding the countryside of Barnsley from encroachment.

DE6 functions to protect an essential gap between Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns and Darfield. Whilst the General Area does function to prevent these defined towns from merging, development within this General Area could reduce this essential gap from 3km to 1km. Development within DE6 would also reduce the land gap between Bolton upon Dearne and Wath upon Dearne in Wakefield, which is identified as a Principal Settlement for Growth.

This Green Belt General Area is therefore considered to be strongly assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and preventing neighbouring towns merging into one another.

8.2 Conclusion for DE6

DE6 plays a fundamental role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and protecting an essential gap between Goldthorpe and Darfield, and the Dearne Towns and Wath upon Dearne in Rotherham. There are no Resultant Parcels identified within the General Area which could be suitable for release from the Green Belt.

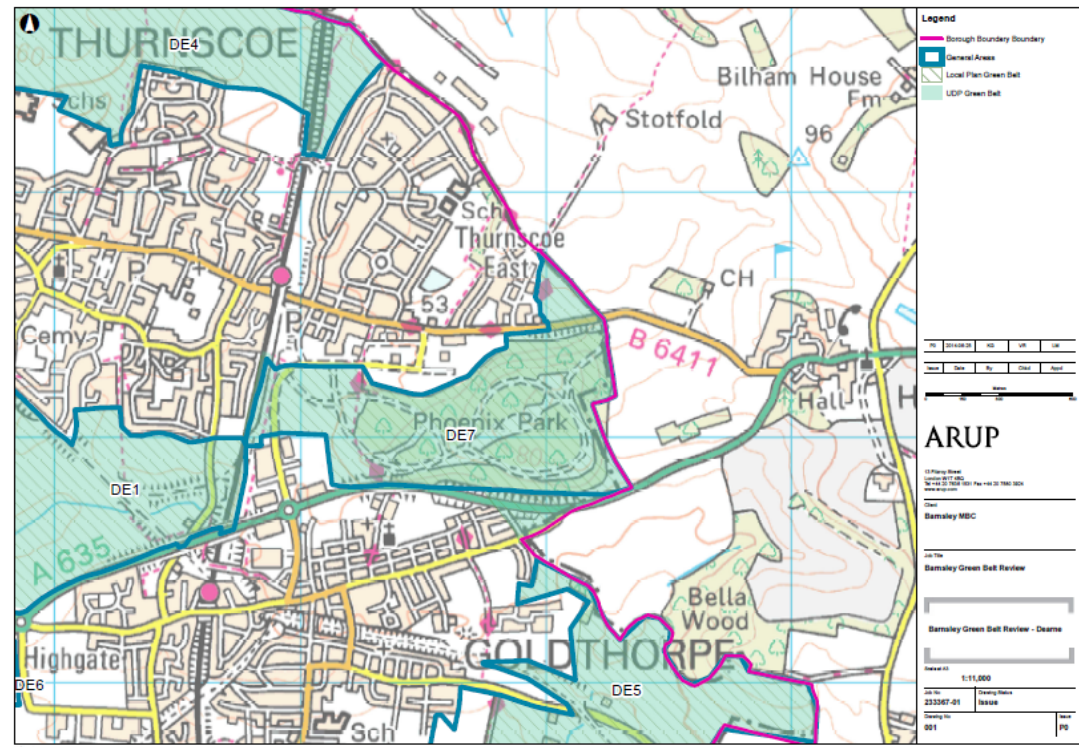
9 DE7 ‘General Area’

9.1 Stage 1: DE7 Green Belt Assessment Proforma

9.1.1 Introduction

DE7, which comprises an oblong area to the east of Thurnscoe, was visited and assessed against the five purposes of the Green Belt within the Site Assessment proforma. DE7 achieves a score of 16 out of 25; this means that as a whole, the General Area is considered to be strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt.

Figure 9.1 DE7 General Area



Site Details	Site Reference	DE7		
	Location	Land to the south east of Thurnscoe		
	Site Area (Ha)	73.9		
	Developed area	Percentage of development within the 'General Area' None		
	Land adjoining the existing urban area	Total length of the perimeter adjoining the urban form Moderate; 'general area' adjoins built form to the south of Thurnscoe and to the north of Goldthorpe		
Purpose	Fulfilment of the Purpose	Assessment	Qualitative Summary and Score	
Check unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	Boundary Definition			
	Durable/ 'Likely to be Permanent' Features	Infrastructure: Motorway; public and made roads; a railway line; river;	1: Existing Green Belt boundary at this location is weakly formed by features lacking durability or permanence. One or two boundary features may exist but these may be sparse or intermittent, or the existing built form boundary is very irregular, inconsistent or intermediate. This boundary would not restrict development from sprawling. 3: Existing Green Belt boundary which has two or more boundary features which are fairly prominent. Contains at least one boundary which is weak or lacking permanence. 5: would represent an existing Green Belt boundary which is bordered by prominent features in the landscape, 'hard' infrastructure or existing development, and the existing built form boundary is considered to be strongly established, regular or consistent. This boundary would adequately restrict urban sprawl .and provides a sense of permanence.	The existing Green Belt boundary is relatively well-defined by Thurnscoe Business Park in the north, the Leeds to Sheffield railway line in the west and the industrial buildings off Barrowfield Road. The proposed Green Belt boundaries would comprise the weakly defined Borough boundary in the north and east, and Doncaster Road in the south The B6411 and the A635 are two strong internal features, which could form appropriate boundaries should the General Area be considered for sub-division.
		Landform: Stream, canal or other watercourse; prominent physical features (e.g. ridgeline); protected woodland/hedge; existing development with strong established boundaries.		
	Features lacking in durability/ Soft boundaries	Infrastructure: private/ unmade roads; power lines; development with weak or intermediate boundaries.		
Natural: Field Boundary, Tree line				

Level of Containment		
Protect open land contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns)	<p>5: Contiguous to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would generally protect the Green Belt from urban sprawl. These Green Belt areas could protect 'Green Arcs' or 'Green Swathes which distinguish villages.</p> <p>3: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) and would protect 'open land' from urban sprawl.</p> <p>1: Connected to Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns), but which does not protect land considered to be 'open land'.</p>	Goldthorpe (Dearne Towns) (including Thurnscoe and Bolton on Dearne) are identified as a single Principal Town within the Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update). DE7 is contiguous to the built form of Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe, and functions to protect the openness of the landscape.
Protect the strategic gap between Barnsley town centre and the larger towns of Royston, Cudworth, Goldthorpe, Wombwell, Hoyland and Penistone.	<p>5: 'general area' which is fundamental to maintaining a 'strategic gap' of less than 1.5km between the Town Centre and neighbouring larger towns.</p> <p>3: 'general area' which protects a 'strategic gap' which is already more than 1.5km wide.</p> <p>1: 'general area' which does not function to protect a 'strategic gap'.</p>	DE7 does not protect a strategic gap between Barnsley and the Principal Towns.
Displays low levels of containment within the existing development patterns.	<p>5: Not contained within the existing urban form. Development in this Green Belt area would be largely independent of the existing development patterns.</p> <p>3: Partly contained (between 20% and 50% contained) within the existing form. Development within this green belt area would not constitute a natural rounding of the built form.</p> <p>1: Highly contained within the urban form (approximately 50% and above). Development within this green belt area would represent a natural rounding of the built form .</p>	As a whole, DE7 is very well-contained on three sides, within the built form of Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe.
Total Score		3/ 5
Assisting in safeguarding the countryside from	Positively enhances the beneficial use of the Green Belt, by providing access to the countryside, provide opportunities for	<p>5: Supports four or more 'beneficial uses' of the Green Belt which serve a Local, Borough and Regional audience.</p> <p>DE7 is formed by Phoenix Park, which provides access to the countryside for residents of Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe. The Park contains a</p>

encroachment	<p>outdoor sport and recreation, retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity or to improve damaged and derelict land.</p>	<p>3: Supports two or three ‘beneficial uses’ which may be less well promoted and be valued by a Local or Borough audience</p> <p>1: Supports one beneficial use of the Green Belt or less, which may be valued by a local or no audience.</p>	<p>climbing wall, caleyed farmyard animals, a maze and an art gallery designed by a local youth group.</p> <p>Phoenix Park is managed by the Forestry Commission and was developed as a result of the remediation of the Hickleton colliery slagheap. The General Area therefore provide opportunity for outdoor recreation, provides visual amenity and represents a</p>
	<p>Protects the openness of the countryside and is least covered by development.</p>	<p>5 represents a ‘general area’ which protects the intrinsic openness of the countryside. This may include general areas which are considered locally important to maintaining the openness of the Green Belt or which have a strong unspoilt rural character. These areas will contain less than 5% built form.</p> <p>3 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a largely rural, open character with a low level of built form (less than 25% built form).</p> <p>1 represents a ‘general area’ which possesses a semi-urban character and built form, or which possesses large areas of previously developed land (more than 25% built form).</p>	<p>Despite high levels of containment and a sharp increase in topography which restricts views, this General Area is relatively open in character. This General Area does not display a strongly rural character, however the perception is one of an open land.</p>
	<p>Total Score:</p>		<p>5/ 5</p>

Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Prevent development that would result in a merging of or a significant erosion of 'essential gaps' between these larger settlements or settlements outside the borough.	5: would represent an 'essential gap', where development would visually or physically reduce this to an unacceptable width. 3: would represent a 'largely essential gap' or a 'narrow gap' where there may be scope for some development, but were the overall openness and the scale of the gap is important to restrict settlements from merging 1: a 'wide gap' or an area of Green Belt which does protect a land gap between settlements	DE7 maintains a land gap of less than 200m between Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe to the east of the Railway Line. Whilst this is not a strategic gap, it is considered to be a largely essential gap which allows for definition of Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe
	Total Score		4/ 5
Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns	Make a positive contribution to the setting or protect key views to conservation area or historic assets	5: 'General area'. contains a number of Grade I listed features, conservation areas or SAMs within the Green Belt area and/ or land has a significant historic relationship with its countryside setting and would be highly sensitive to development 3: The 'General Area' contains two or more Grade II listed buildings within the Green Belt General Area and/or the Green Belt has some role in safeguarding the characteristic historic form, or scale, or setting of a Conservation Area 1: This 'General area' contains no listed buildings in or near the Green Belt area and/or land at this location has very little historic character recognised as being of conservation value	Land at DE7 does not protect any views, landscapes or areas of land with important historic environment value. There are no listed features within this Green Belt General Area, however the familiar shape of a slagheap does maintain the past uses of the area/
	Total Score		1/ 5
Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict	The overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt encourages regeneration and re-use at the strategic level, by channelling development activity into the urban area.	3: All Green Belt General Areas will be awarded a consistent baseline score for the overall restrictive nature of the Green Belt. 2: Locations where there is significant new	On the whole, this General Area has restricted development within the Green Belt and has supported a concentration of development within Goldthorpe and the Dearne Towns

and other urban land		development or large previously developed sites, Green Belt at this location is not considered to be strongly assisting in urban regeneration.	
Total Score		3 / 5	
Total		16 / 25	

9.1.2 Functional relationship of DE7 to existing built form

Having attained a score of 16 out of 25, Green Belt land within the General Area is considered to be strongly fulfilling the purposes of the Green Belt as defined within the National Planning Policy Framework.

The existing Green Belt boundary is relatively well-defined by Thurnscoe Business Park in the north, the Leeds to Sheffield railway line in the west and the industrial buildings off Barrowfield Road. Although the General Area is relatively well-contained within the existing built form of Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe, the currently strong Green Belt boundaries would reduce the functional relationship with built up areas.

9.2 Conclusion for DE7

DE7 has a fundamental role to play in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. This General Area is formed by Phoenix Park, which provides access to the countryside for residents of Thurnscoe and Goldthorpe. The Park contains a climbing wall, calved farmyard animals, a maze and an art gallery designed by a local youth group.

The General Area also plays a role in protecting a largely essential gap between Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. The Jacobs Barnsley Settlement Assessment (2007 update) identifies these areas as forming part of Goldthorpe urban area. Therefore whilst this is not a strategic gap, it is considered to be a largely essential gap which allows for definition of Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. This Green Belt General Area is therefore considered to be strongly assisting in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and preventing neighbouring towns merging into one another.

DE7 plays a fundamental role in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment and protecting a largely essential gap between Goldthorpe and Thurnscoe. There are no Resultant Parcels identified within the General Area which could be suitable for release from the Green Belt.

10 Summary

This report provides an analysis of the Green Belt surrounding Goldthorpe and the Dearne. It forms one section of the wider Green Belt Review Process undertaken for the extent of the South Yorkshire Green Belt which falls within Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's administrative local authority area.

This report sets out stage 1 and Stage 2 and 3, which provides an indication of whether the land should be removed from the Green Belt.

Stage 3 of the Green Belt Review is supplemented by a separate justification produced by BMBC officers, which was in progress during Spring/Summer 2014.

The findings of this report are summarised in Table 10.1.

Table 10.1: Green Belt Assessment of Goldthorpe and the Dearne

Reference	Proforma	Site Visit	Score	Indicative Resultant Land Parcel
DE1	Y	December 2013	15	Yes (DE1a)
DE2	Y	December 2013	16	No
DE3	Y	December 2013	17	No
DE4	Y	December 2013	16	No
DE5	Y	December 2013	15	No
DE6	Y	December 2013	16	No
DE7	Y	December 2013	16	No