



## Policy KS3

## Green Belt

Development in East Dorset District and Christchurch Borough will be contained by the South East Dorset Green Belt. The most important purposes of the Green Belt in the area are to:

- Protect the separate physical identity of individual settlements in the area by maintaining wedges and corridors of open land between them.
- To maintain an area of open land around the conurbation.

Limited changes to the existing boundaries are proposed to enable some new housing and employment to meet local needs and also to include areas in the Green Belt that are no longer capable of providing for these needs. The revised Green Belt boundaries will follow the edge of the new urban area. Significant open space and SANGs will be within the Green Belt, and will be shown on the Proposals Maps for each individual development proposal.

In accordance with the guidance contained within the National Planning Policy Framework, development proposals on sites considered as previously developed sites within the Green Belt shall be considered against sustainable development criteria, and prerequisites for development which include:

- Approval of a development brief by the Council,
- Agreement of a comprehensive travel plan, and
- A wildlife strategy to be agreed with the Council that ensures no harm to features of acknowledged biodiversity importance, as well as enhancing the biodiversity where possible through improving the condition of existing habitats or creation of new ones.