

Question 16

Policy 14 - Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt

1. This policy begins “Limited Infilling at Major Developed Sites in the Green Belt, as shown on the Proposals Map, will be permitted...”. However they are **not** shown on the Proposals Map.
2. A number of sites are listed in paragraph 4.189 and these appear on the Proposals Map as holes in the green wash that indicates the extent of the Green Belt. But other sites – for example the village of Plawsworth – also appear as holes and their status is unclear as there is no key (on the printed map) or tick-box (on the interactive map) to assist.
3. It is not clear whether the sites listed at paragraph 4.189 are examples or form a definitive list. The Trust has no objection to any of the sites listed but obviously cannot comment on other sites that might have been omitted.
4. The Plan needs certainty, and this means that the Council should bring to the next stage of the process a definitive list of sites in the text of the Plan. This should include the sewage treatment works, rather than saying “a number of”. Obviously they should also appear on the Proposals Map, but the purpose of the map should be to define the footprint of the sites, not be the only place where the sites are shown.
5. Paragraph 4.191 needs clarification, as the first reference to “previously developed sites” seems out of place. We could support this paragraph if it read

This Policy will be used when considering proposals relating to the defined Major Developed Sites. Proposals affecting other previously developed sites will be assessed against the overarching Green Belt Policy.
6. We object to the final part of paragraph 4.192: “excluding temporary/insubstantial buildings, peripheral car parking and peripheral housing development.” This gives too much leeway for creeping expansion, particularly peripheral housing. To include these would completely undermine the purposes of the Green Belt. It would in addition be contrary to the intentions and provisions of Section 9 of NPPF.