

Statement Regarding Matter 24

Submitted by:

Kirklees Community Action Network

Document Version

Version 1 – Final – November 2017

Q ref	Matter 24 – Green Belt and Open Space Policies
Issue	Does the plan set out positively prepared policies for protecting the Green Belt and open spaces which are justified, effective and consistent with national policy?
Response	<p>Our general reservations about Green Belt protection are set out in our consultation response. However it is important to note that policies PLP 54 to 63 of the Local Plan are, on their own, very specific and do not provide general protection from inappropriate development in the Green Belt.</p> <p>The consultation version of the Local Plan incorporated Policy DLP 55, which said:</p> <p><i>Development in the green belt</i></p> <p><i>The extent of the Kirklees green belt boundary is set out on the policies map.</i></p> <p><i>Inappropriate development in the green belt will not be approved except in very special circumstances in accordance with national policy.</i></p> <p><i>Proposals for development within the green belt should in all instances;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>a. retain its character and openness;</i><i>b. be designed to take into account and seek to enhance the landscape character of the area and</i><i>be of a high quality of design and materials appropriate to its green belt setting;</i><i>c. result in a good standard of amenity for new and existing users;</i><i>d. retain and where possible enhance visual amenity and biodiversity;</i><i>e. retain and where possible improve existing opportunities for outdoor recreation and access; and</i><i>f. where possible result in the improvement of damaged or derelict land.</i> <p>We are particularly concerned that this Policy has been deleted from the Publication version of the Local Plan and has not been replaced by a corresponding alternative.</p>