

Policy SD5: Green Belt

1. *To ensure the Green Belt continues to serve its key functions, it will be protected from harmful development. Within its boundaries, development will be restricted to those limited types of development which are deemed appropriate by the NPPF, unless very special circumstances can be demonstrated. That is: 'whether very special circumstances exist to outweigh the harm automatically caused to the Green Belt by virtue of the development being inappropriate and any other harm actually caused'*

2. *The boundaries of the reviewed Green Belt are identified on the Proposed Changes to the Green Belt Boundary map. Consideration will be given to a limited review of the Green Belt in other locations as necessary through the Borough Plans, where this is justified by exceptional circumstances*

3. *Gloucestershire Airport, Cheltenham Racecourse, existing waste management facilities in the Green Belt operating in accordance with extant planning permission, and the waste management sites allocated in the Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy, are designated as developed sites within the Green Belt that are acknowledged as having wider benefits where the co-location of facilities can be determined as essential to their use. Notwithstanding this, further development in any of these locations will need to meet the requirements of Green Belt policy in the NPPF and / or National Planning Policy for Waste, be in accordance with the Development Plan, and not compromise the openness of the Green Belt or increase the risk of urban sprawl*

4. Gloucestershire Airport

i. *Gloucestershire Airport is shown on Inset Map 1;*

ii. *In the Essential Operational Area of the airport, new structures, buildings or extensions to buildings will only be permitted if they are essential to the operation of the airport and require an airport location;*

iii. *Elsewhere within the airport, in the Non-Essential Operational Area, business uses which support the airport will be permitted.*

5. Cheltenham Racecourse

At Cheltenham Racecourse, as shown on Inset Map 2, development, including extensions, will only be permitted where:

i. *The development is principally related to the business of the racecourse;*

ii. *The development does not extend beyond the confines of the 'Racecourse Policy Area' (as shown on Inset Map 2).*

6. Waste Management Sites

The Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy allocates sites for waste recovery facilities, including within the Green Belt. Future waste development on allocated sites in the Green Belt should be in accordance with Development Plan, and be consistent with the NPPF and National Planning Policy for Waste.