

Pembury

Settlement Type:

Town





Settlement:	Pembury	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE1			
Size (ha)	30.5	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

Lying between the southern edge of Pembury and the A21 and crossed north-south by Cornford Lane and a track (Chalket Lane) providing access across the A21 to several isolated properties, this parcel is mostly pasture (largely horse-grazed) but also includes a cricket ground off Chalket Lane and the gravevard of St Peter's church. The western end of the parcel, between the Pembury Northern Bypass and Cornford Lane consists of the car park for the adjacent Tesco superstore and land allocated for a park and ride development (2016 Site Allocations Local Plan - policy AL/VRA2), and is within the defined Limits to Built Development. There is a nursing home, Cornford House, just to the east of Cornford Lane, the buildings of Hubble's Farm are just beyond the urban edge in the central part of the parcel, and residential development has been approved on 0.5ha of land within the Green Belt to the south of Penns Yard.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel is contained between Pembury and the A21, and bounded by the Pembury Northern Bypass to the west and Henwood Green Road to the east. There is open countryside to the south of the A21 and to the east of Henwood Green Road.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel can for the most part be considered open, but it is contained along its outer edges by strong boundary roads and so lacks a direct relationship with the wider countryside. Proximity to the urban edge combines with built elements within the parcel, and land uses that relate to the urban fringe (e.g. car parking) to give it a relatively strong relationship with Pembury. The parcel also plays a limited role in settlement separation with regard to views from the A21 and further south: open land in the western part of the parcel (which slopes down away from the settlement edge), and the absence of visible development in the eastern part (which slopes down towards the settlement edge), contributes to the perceived gap between Tunbridge Wells and Pembury, although the A21 is a strong separating feature. The parcel also forms a largely undeveloped skyline that contributes to the wider rural setting of Tunbridge W/ells

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area and relates more strongly to this than to the wider countryside	Relatively weak
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in a moderate narrowing of the perceived gap, but with the A21 preserving separation	Relatively weak
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates more strongly to the settlement than to the wider countryside	Relatively weak
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel forms a minor element in the setting of Tunbridge Wells	Relatively weak
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed
Green Belt boundary strength		



Settlement:	Pembury	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE2a]		
Size (ha)	24.3	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

Hedged farmland occupying the slopes east of Pembury to the north of the A21, including dwellings on the edges of the hamlets of Romford (along Kings Toll Road) and close to the edge of Henwood Green (on Woodside Close).

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the urban edge at Henwood Green, on the south-eastern corner of Pembury (houses on Sandhurst Avenue), to the south. Allotments and woodland to the west of Woodside Road form the western edge, separating the parcel from the main body of the urban area. Hedgerow field boundaries define the eastern edge and Kings Toll Road marks the northern boundary.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

Henwood Green frames the southern and western sides of a valley (see Pe3 assessment) which to the north of Romford Road becomes a deeper, wooded ghyll. Edged to the east by the tree-lined Woodside Road, this creates separation between the parcel and the main body of the urban area, with only the southern end of the settlement, on higher ground, abutting the defined urban edge. Housing on Woodside Close weakens the distinction between settlement and countryside, but away from this edge there is no significant distinction between the parcel and further pastures to the east. Settlement along Kings Toll Road does not represent an urbanising influence.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area and relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The A21 and Kings Toll Road are strong edges and the hedgerows to the east are no weaker than the existing Green Belt edge at the south-eastern tip of Henwood Green. Development in this parcel would increase containment of land to the west (assessed as Pe3), but the extent to which this would weaken the contribution of that land to Green Belt purposes is limited by the valley topography that creates a connection between Pe3 and countryside to the north.



Settlement:	Pembury	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE2b]		
Size (ha)	42.4	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

Hedged farmland occupying the slopes east of Pembury to the north of the A21, including dwellings on the edge of the hamlet of Kipping's Cross (at the junction of the A21 and the B2160 Maidstone Road).

Parcel boundaries

The parcel does not abut the urban edge. Land directly adjacent to Henwood Green (on the eastern edge of Pembury) is assessed as Pe2a and Pe3. Field boundary hedgerows define the western edge of the parcel, the ridge-top A21 forms the southern boundary, the B2160 Maidstone Road forms the eastern edge and Kings Toll Road marks the northern boundary. The Green Belt does not cover the whole parcel: its outer edge approximately follows the Pembury/Brenchley parish boundary, a little over 200m west of Maidstone Road, but does not align with any defined physical landscape elements.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

Henwood Green frames the southern and western sides of a valley (see Pe3 assessment) which to the north of Romford Road becomes a deeper, wooded ghyll. Pastures to the east of Woodside Road, assessed as parcel Pe2a, have some urban influence and this parcel represents the eastward continuation of that farmland, with only hedgerow boundaries to separate Pe2a and Pe2b. The A21 and Kings Toll Road form strong boundaries north and south. Maidstone Road is a distinct edge to the east, but land towards this edge slopes more steeply north-eastwards, forming part of the head of a valley which becomes more pronounced to the north, and so has a stronger relationship with countryside outside of the parcel. In isolation this parcel lacks relationship with the urban edge, so its contribution is assessed in combination with P2a, which it is assumed would also form part of any Green Belt release. However an alternative development direction **would be expansion of the small hamlet of Kipping's Cross, potentially involving an adjustment to the outer edge of the** Green Belt, so comments are also made on this below.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area but relates more strongly to the wider countryside. Limited expansion out from Kippings Cross would have less impact in this respect.	Relatively strong
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates more strongly to the wider countryside that the settlement and lacks urbanising development. The rating for development out from Kipping's Cross would be 'strong', due to its detachment from the urban edge (there are urbanising influences to the east of Maidstone Road in the vicinity of the A21, but these do not extend into the parcel).	Relatively strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The A21 and Kings Toll Road would constitute strong Green Belt edges, but the expansion of the Pembury settlement edge out to Maidstone Road would leave no Green Belt to contain this edge of the large built-up area. In this circumstance an eastward expansion of the Green Belt – e.g. to Cryals Road – **should be considered. Were Kipping's** Cross to be expanded, a more distinct physical Green Belt boundary, following hedgerows, would be beneficial, but any significant eastwards shift in the boundary would weaken containment of the large built-up area.



Settlement:	Pembury	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE3			
Size (ha)	18.4	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

Land in Pe3 forms the upper part of a steep-sided valley. A woodland block occupies much of the area, with small grazing fields set into its fringes and allotments towards the southern edge of the parcel.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the urban edge at Henwood Green to the south, on Henwood Green Road, and to the west at Heskett Park. There are also dwellings, outside of the defined urban area, along Romford Road to the north and along part of Woodside Road, to the east.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel is largely surrounded by development but its landform and largely wooded character give it strong distinction from the urban area and a strong relationship with the northward continuation of the valley, which to the north of Romford Road becomes a deeper, wooded ghyll. Development on Romford Road is dispersed and rural in character, and although the houses on Woodside Close have a more urban form the wooded character of the adjacent land within the parcel creates a distinction.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area but relates more strongly to the wider countryside.	Relatively strong
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates more strongly to the wider countryside that the settlement and lacks urbanising development.	Relatively strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Romford Road would form a relatively strong boundary. Woodside Road would be weaker as a boundary, as there is development to the east on Woodside Close, and on the current urban edge beyond Henwoods Mount.



Settlement:	Pembury	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE4			
Size (ha)	78.9	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

Parcel Pe4 consists of land to the east of Pembury. The area is mostly farmland under orchard cultivation, and has two farmsteads: Pippins towards the eastern side of the parcel and Stone Court close to the settlement edge. The Priory Farm farmhouse lies in the south-eastern corner of the parcel, whilst the associated farm buildings are just outside of it.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts most of the eastern edge of Pembury, part of the defined urban area, and is defined by wooded valleys to the north and east.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

e central and northern parts of Pembury occupy the crest and western slopes of a north-south ridge, so the undeveloped eastern slopes have a degree of distinction from the urban area. The steep, wooded valleys around the **parcel's outer edges also create some separation from the wider countryside, but this is a sizeable area of land lacking** in any significant influence from the urban area other than in close proximity to the settlement edge. The flatter, more contained fields adjacent to the settlement edge in the vicinity of Stone Court Farm have less relationship with the wider countryside, but are too small to be treated as a separate Green Belt parcel.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area but relates more strongly to the wider countryside.	Relatively strong
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates more strongly to the wider countryside that the settlement and lacks urbanising development.	Relatively strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The valley-floor parcel edges are for the most part ancient woodland, which makes them a strong boundary, but the existing ridge-top urban edge also constitutes a relatively strong boundary.



Settlement:	Pembury	Se	ettlement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE5			
Size (ha)	12.2	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

Orchards surrounding the Downingbury farmstead. The Hospice in the Weald lies within the Green Belt on the settlement edge.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the northern edge of Pembury on Maidstone Road, Elmhurst Avenue and Church Road. Maidstone Road forms the eastern edge, with further orchards beyond, the A228 forms the northern boundary and extensive woodlands lie to the west.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

There is no strong boundary to separate the settlement edge from the parcel, the landform is relatively flat and the parcel has strong containment from the wider countryside to the north and west. However it retains a rural character and relates strongly to the countryside to the east of Maidstone Road in terms of land use. The hospice is contained within the settlement form, its northern boundary aligning with the Green Belt edge to the west.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating			
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area and relates more strongly to this than to the wider countryside.	Relatively weak			
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution			
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate			
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution			
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed			
Green Belt boundary strength					
The A228 and Maidstone Road would constitute a strong Green Belt edge.					



Settlement:	Pembury	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PE6			
Size (ha)	19.2	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

This parcel includes a largely tree-covered area between the A21 and Tonbridge Road, with one isolated residential dwelling but also a large garden centre and associated parking. It also includes, to the north of Tonbridge Road, a hotel and several residential dwellings.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the urban edge of Pembury on the A264, adjacent to a Tesco superstore and car dealership. The A21 forms the western edge of the parcel, and extensive woodlands and the Tunbridge Wells Hospital at Pembury border the northern edge. Woodlands also occupy the narrowing gap between the A21 and Tonbridge Road to the north-west. To the east of the A21 an area of grassland with a strong element of tree cover forms a gap between the parcel and the edge of Tunbridge Wells at Sandown Park.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

There is significant development within the parcel, outside of the Limits to Built Development. Woodland containment means that there is still a distinction between this and the main urban area of Pembury to the east of the A264, but the garden centre and hotel are close enough to the settlement edge to constitute and urbanising influence and the main body of the parcel is also strongly contained by roads, limiting its physical connection with the wider countryside. The gap between Pembury and Tunbridge Wells is narrow, but the A21 and associated tree cover strengthen perceived separation

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Comments	Rating			
The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area and has a degree of separation from both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate			
Development of this parcel would result in significant narrowing of the physical gap, but the A21 and associated tree cover would preserve a sense of separation.	Moderate			
The parcel has a degree of separation from both the settlement and the wider countryside, but openness is compromised by urbanising development within it.	Relatively weak			
The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution			
Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed			
	The parcel is adjacent to the large built-up area and has a degree of separation from both the settlement and the wider countryside. Development of this parcel would result in significant narrowing of the physical gap, but the A21 and associated tree cover would preserve a sense of separation. The parcel has a degree of separation from both the settlement and the wider countryside, but openness is compromised by urbanising development within it. The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town. Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been			

Green Belt boundary strength

The A21 would form a strong edge to the west, and the narrowness of the gap between the A21 and Tonbridge Road limits the potential for encroachment beyond this edge. Woodland to the north of the hotel also constitutes a strong edge, although a new strong edge could be created in this extensive wooded area.



Town





Settlement:	Five Oak Green	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	FG1			
Size (ha)	14.5	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel consists of large, relatively flat arable fields divided by low hedgerow boundaries. Development comprises Capel Primary School in the south-west corner of the parcel and a number of buildings associated with Finches Farm in the north-east corner. The area in the north-east corner of the parcel lies within flood zone 3.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel is located to the west of Five Oak Green, adjacent to the settlement edge. The northern boundary is formed by the railway line and the southern boundary by the B2017. Beyond the western boundary of the parcel are further arable fields.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

Capel Primary School is associated with the small developed area at Tatlingbury. Finches Farm, although very close to the settlement edge does not compromise openness because of the agricultural nature of the development. However, owing to their proximity to the settlement and other development in Tatlingbury, they do have some urbanising influence on the parcel, despite the partly rural character of the developments. The simple and relatively flat landform and land cover create a visually open area so, although the land is well-related to the wider landscape it is also visually related to the settlement, meaning that loss of open land is more likely to represent a gradual encroachment than a step-change in impact. Terrain and land cover do not create strong separation in this lower-lying, mostly arable landscape.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Comments	Rating
The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
	Weak or no contribution
The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate
The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed
	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement. Tonbridge and Paddock Wood are over 6km apart and although Five Oak Green lies between the two towns and reduces the perceived openness of the gap, the distance is still such that development to the west of Five Oak Green would cause little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap. The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside. The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.

Green Belt boundary strength

The southern part of the existing Green Belt boundary consists of a low hedgerow alongside a lane/ public footpath. The northern part of the boundary changes to follow the property boundaries of back gardens. The boundary is relatively well defined although in the northern part some areas of back gardens are included in the Green Belt thereby reducing the clear distinction between town and country. The orientation of the properties at the settlement edge do not create a strong settlement edge, also reducing the distinction. The field boundary within the parcel and the western parcel boundary could form potentially strong Green Belt boundaries but they would require strengthening with additional tree planting to form a well-integrated settlement edge.



Settlement:	Five Oak Green	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	FG2			
Size (ha)	7.4	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel consists of an arable field and small open fields on flat topography to the western edge of Five Oak Green. It contains no development apart from some temporary structures in an area of storage/ hard standing in the east of the parcel

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the settlement edge of Five Oak Green and the existing Green Belt boundary at the eastern edge of the parcel is defined by hedgerows and garden fences to the backs of properties on Sychem Place. The northern boundary is formed by Five Oak Green Road and the southern boundary by a tree-lined field boundary beyond which are further open arable fields. The western boundary is formed by Church Lane, beyond which lies a cluster of buildings associated with the hamlet of Tatlingbury.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel contains no development apart from some temporary structures in an area of storage/ hard standing in the east of the parcel which do have a partly urbanising influence as they confuse the boundary between settlement and countryside. The simple and relatively flat landform and land cover create a visually open area so, although the land is well-related to the wider landscape it is also visually related to the settlement, meaning that loss of open land is more likely to represent a gradual encroachment than a step-change in impact. Terrain and land cover do not create strong separation in this lower-lying, mostly arable landscape.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Tonbridge and Paddock Wood are over 6km apart and although Five Oak Green lies between the two towns and reduces the perceived openness of the gap, the distance is still such that development to the west of Five Oak Green would cause little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates more strongly to the wider countryside than the settlement and lacks urbanising development.	Relatively strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

The existing Green Belt boundary is not particularly strong, being defined only by back gardens rather than a particular landscape feature. Church Lane, the western parcel boundary could potentially make a stronger Green Belt boundary but this would be weakened by development at Tatlingbury, beyond the boundary and the school north of the B2017, therefore a new strong boundary would need to be created with this in mind.



Settlement:	Five Oak Green	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	FG3			
Size (ha)	7.2	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel consists of two medium sized pastoral fields, two smaller open fields and back gardens on the southern edge of Five Oak Green. There no development in the parcel with the exception of a building extension and car park in the north-east of the parcel at Capel Gym.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the settlement edge of Five Oak Green at its northern boundary, formed by the boundary fences of back gardens. The western boundary also abuts the settlement edge along back gardens in the north-west of the parcel and along Sychem Lane in the south-west. The southern boundary follows a lane and track, and the western boundary follows a tree-lined field boundary beyond which lies wider countryside to the east and south.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel abuts the settlement edge on its northern boundary and some of the adjacent back gardens and car parking area here are quite strongly related to the settlement. The pastoral fields in the south of the parcel however, give the parcel a countryside character and a relationship with the wider countryside to the south and east. The simple and relatively flat landform and land cover create a visually open area so, although the land is well-related to the wider landscape it is also visually related to the settlement, meaning that loss of open land is more likely to represent a gradual encroachment than a step-change in impact. Terrain and land cover do not create strong separation in this lower-lying, mostly arable landscape.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Tonbridge and Paddock Wood are over 6km apart and although Five Oak Green lies between the two towns and reduces the perceived openness of the gap, the distance is still such that development within the parcel would cause little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The existing Green Belt boundary is not strong, defined by back gardens and boundary fences. The tree-lined hedgerow separating the smaller fields/ back gardens in the northern half of the parcel from the southern part would create an alternative, stronger boundary as potential development could be well-contained within a strong landscape structure.



Settlement:	Five Oak Green	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	FG4			
Size (ha)	10.1	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

There is a pavilion, hall, car park and recreation ground in the west of the parcel adjacent to allotments. A church is located by the side of the B2017. An arable field forms the eastern part of the parcel.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the eastern edge of Five Oak Green along its western boundary which is formed partly by Falmouth Place and partly by the backs of gardens. The northern boundary is formed by the railway line and the southern boundary is formed by the B2017. The eastern boundary is defined by a tree-lined field boundary, beyond which lie some properties along the B2017 and a warehouse development adjoining open arable fields.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel is situated adjacent to the eastern edge of Five Oak Green and the recreation ground, hall, pavilion and parking creates some relationship with the settlement. As a result of the flat and visually open nature of the landscape, the developed areas, hard standing and suburban boundary treatments create some urbanising influence where they become visually related to the settlement edges beyond, meaning that loss of open land is more likely to represent a gradual encroachment than a step-change in impact.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	The gap between Five Oak Green and Paddock Wood (approximately 1.3km) represents a fairly small proportion of the overall gap between the towns of Paddock Wood and Tonbridge. Although coalescence or near-coalescence of these separate settlements would affect the gap between towns, development within the parcel would not result in coalescence or near- coalescence.	Relatively weak
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The existing Green Belt boundary is quite clearly defined as it follows Falmouth Place but becomes less clear as it follows the car park and back garden boundaries. The eastern parcel boundary could potentially form an alternative boundary, however, houses east of this, particularly along the B2017 would weaken the boundary as they extend along the road. Extending the boundary further to the east, north of the Business Centre as far as the A228 may create a clearer alternative boundary providing the boundary north of the Business Centre was strengthened and clearly defined.





Settlement:	Paddock Wood	Sett	ement Type:	Town
Parcel	PW1			
Size (ha)	35.3	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel consists of arable fields to the west of Paddock Wood. Development within the parcel consists of Holmewood Farm and Badsell Cottage in the south-western part of the parcel. Badsell Road crosses through the southern part of the parcel; south of the road are open fields and allotments – part of which lie outside of the existing Green Belt designation (which follows the Capel/ Paddock Wood parish boundary). South-east of the parcel is an Allocated Site. A large area of the parcel falls within the floodplain constraint.

Parcel boundaries

The eastern parcel boundary abuts the settlement edge, and is defined by a tree-lined field boundary. The northern parcel boundary has been drawn to exclude the area of continuous flood constraint north of the parcel and follows a hedgerow field boundary. The southern parcel boundary is defined by Foal Hurst Wood and adjacent field boundaries. The Green Belt designation covers all of the parcel except for a strip along the southern edge which lies to the south of the Paddock Wood/Capel Parish Boundary

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The farms in the south-western corner of the parcel do not compromise openness and the lack of built development in the rest of the parcel gives it a countryside character. However, the flat landscape means that as well as intervisibility with the wider countryside there is also intervisibility with settlement in Paddock Wood and along the B2017 which creates some urbanising influence. Therefore loss of open land is more likely to represent a gradual encroachment than a step-change in impact.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating		
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution		
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Tonbridge and Paddock Wood are over 6km apart. The gap between Five Oak Green and Paddock Wood represents a fairly small proportion of the overall gap between towns, but coalescence or near-coalescence of these separate settlements would have a disproportionate impact due to the open and flat nature of the landscape, being more likely to be perceived as sprawl. Development within the parcel would therefore result in some narrowing of the gap between towns but a significant gap would remain.	Relatively weak		
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates to both the settlement and the wider countryside.	Moderate		
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution		
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed		

Green Belt boundary strength

The tree line along the western edge of the parcel follows Tudeley Brook, and also is mostly in floodplain, which strengthens its as a boundary feature. Ensuring any development avoids merging with the existing farmsteads (Holmewood Farm, Badsell Cottage and Badsell Manor) would enhance the strength of any new Green Belt boundary created, maintaining a rural character to the farmsteads and the countryside beyond. There is currently no Green Belt to the south of the parcel, and the current edge, which follows the Paddock Wood/Capel parish boundary, does not have any clear definition on the ground. Foal Hurst Wood along the southern edge of the parcel would constitute a strong boundary were the Green Belt to be extended, or Badsell Road could also provide an alternative boundary. The recent extension of the Limits to Built Development to include land to the east of Foal Hurst Wood is a consideration that will influence any alteration of the Green Belt in this area (see BA5 assessment).



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Settlement:	Paddock Wood	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PW2			
Size (ha)	28.0	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel consists of orchard fields divided by hedgerows, as well as Mascalls Pound Farm and a number of detached residential properties spread along the B2160 road. The parcel lies outside of the Green Belt.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel does not adjoin the existing settlement edge although the area to the north is designated as an allocated site (policy AL/PW4: Land at Mascalls Farm) and therefore the parcel will join the future developed site to the north. To the east the parcel boundary is formed by the B2140 and to the south by woodland at Brick Kiln wood and dense tree cover surrounding a number of lakes.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

Overall the parcel has a rural character, which increases with the undulating topography further to the south. The farm and isolated properties do not have an urbanising influence and are well integrated with woodland planting. There is a visual relationship with the school and associated parking in the adjacent parcel to the east which has some urbanising influence on the northern part of the parcel. The rising and undulating agricultural landscape in the south-west of the parcel is more strongly related to the countryside, as part of the lower slopes of the High Weald which extends further south.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	The parcel lies between the towns of Paddock Wood and Tunbridge Wells, where the gap is approximately 6km, although the village of Pembury also lies within this gap; the gap between Paddock Wood and Pembury is just over 4km. The gap is large enough for development within the parcel not to compromise it significantly. The wooded hills and valleys north of Pembury represent a significant physical and visual separator between Pembury and Paddock Wood.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	There are few urbanising influences on the parcel and therefore it relates more strongly to the wider countryside.	Relatively strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The parcel is not currently within the Green Belt and does not adjoin any other areas of Green Belt. The fact that it does not make any significant contribution to Green Belt purposes associated with settlement separation and relationship with large built-up areas or historic towns suggests that there is not a strong case for extension of the Green Belt to include this area.



Settlement:	Paddock Wood	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PW3			
Size (ha)	5.6	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel contains recreation grounds and facilities associated with the adjacent Putlands Leisure Centre including an athletics track. The parcel is within the Limits to Built Development and does not adjoin the Green Belt.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel is adjacent to the settlement edge to the north, east and west, with the B2160 Maidstone Road providing separation from the latter. Mascalls Court Road forms the southern boundary, beyond which are the Mascalls School playing fields which are in turn contained to the south by the large complex of school buildings.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

Although it retains a settlement edge character – helped by intervisibility with higher, open countryside to the south – the parcel sits within the settlement form. Badsell Road to the west and Green Lane to the east align with Mascalls Court Road to form the current settlement edge, and forthcoming development will see the development edge move further south both to the east and west (site allocation policies AL/PW3B: Land at Mascalls Court Road, and AL/PW4: Land at Mascalls Farm). The presence of the school to the south also weakens the parcel's relationship with the wider countryside.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	The parcel does not form part of a gap between towns. Development of the parcel would not result in any perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel contains recreational uses consistent with development in the surrounding area and is contained by development on three sides. It is therefore related more to the settlement than the countryside and it is therefore considered to perform weakly in relation to this Purpose.	Weak or no contribution
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

This parcel is not considered to be suitable for adding to the existing Green Belt. Given the recent alterations to the Limits to Built Development both to the west and east, any extension of the Green Belt into this area would create an overly extended and weak edge, with the school (assessed as PW4) as well as this parcel contained on three sides by the urban area.



Paddock Wood

PW4a

Parcel





Settlement:	Paddock Wood	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PW4a			
Size (ha)	10.2	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel contains a number of buildings at Mascalls School and associated playing fields, sports pitches and car parking. The parcel is not within the Green Belt.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the settlement edge to the north at Mascall's Court Road, beyond which is the Putlands Leisure Centre and residential development at Linnet Avenue/ Green Lane. To the east the parcel adjoins an allocated development site (Policy AL/PW3B: Land at Mascalls Court Road). The southern edge of the group of school buildings, and an adjacent woodland block, form the southern edge of the parcel. The parcel does not adjoin any areas of Green Belt.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel slopes down towards the settlement of Paddock Wood. The school and recreational land use create a strong relationship with the settlement, and the new Limit to Built Development to the east, and to a lesser extent that to the west, further strengthens this relationship. Although there is no physical separation between the school buildings and fields to the south, the slope of the land means that the latter occupy higher ground which has a stronger relationship with the countryside to the south, with the woodland adjacent to the school adding to the separation. Houses along **Chantler's Hill are too few and too dispersed in form to constitute a significant urbanising influence.**

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	The parcel does not form part of a gap between towns. Development of the parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel contains some development, comprising Mascalls School and associated recreational and sports facilities, and the Limits to Built Development to the east and west create a degree of containment.	Relatively weak
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The parcel is not currently within the Green Belt and does not adjoin any other areas of Green Belt. The fact that it does not make any significant contribution to Green Belt purposes associated with settlement separation and relationship with large built-up areas or historic towns suggests that there is not a strong case for extension of the Green Belt to include this area.





Settlement:	Paddock Wood	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PW4b			
Size (ha)	10.8	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel comprises land to the south of the buildings of Mascalls School: one school sports pitch (most of the playing fields are to the north of the school buildings), several farmed fields and a block of woodland. The parcel is not within the Green Belt.

Parcel boundaries

The Limits to Built Development follow Mascalls Court Road, so the parcel doesn't directly abut the existing settlement edge, which lies to the north of the school playing fields, but does abut the future settlement edge to the east, where land has recently been allocated for development (Policy AL/PW3B: Land at Mascalls Court Road). The B2160 Maidstone **Road forms the western edge and there are a number of dwellings along the southern side of Chantler's Hill, which** forms the southern edge. The parcel does not adjoin any areas of Green Belt.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The school and recreational land use to the north have a relatively strong relationship with the settlement, but topography creates some distinction between this and the parcel which, occupying sloping higher ground at the northern end of a ridge, has a stronger relationship with the countryside to the south and west. The woodland block adjacent to the school creates some separation from the allocated land to the east of Mascalls Court Road. The houses along Chantler's Hill are too few and too dispersed in form to constitute more than a minor urbanising influence.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	The parcel does not form part of a gap between towns. Development of the parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel has a distinctive landform and woodland which relate more strongly to the wider countryside than the settlement.	Relatively strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The parcel is not currently within the Green Belt and does not adjoin any other areas of Green Belt. The fact that it does not make any significant contribution to Green Belt purposes associated with settlement separation and relationship with large built-up areas or historic towns suggests that there is not a strong case for extension of the Green Belt to include this area.



Parcel

PW5



Settlement:	Paddock Wood	Sett	lement Type:	Town
Parcel	PW5			
Size (ha)	62.2	Parcel type	Green Belt Parcel	

The parcel contains individual detached houses and a farm at Mascall's Court in the south-west of the parcel, a vehicle service centre and occasional dispersed detached houses and farmsteads and a pub associated with Church Road and Queen Street. The majority of the land use in the parcel is arable fields and orchards.

Parcel boundaries

The parcel abuts the Limits to Built Development on its eastern boundary, beyond which are two allocated sites (Policy AL/PW3A: Land at Church Farm, and AL/PW3B: Land at Mascalls Court Road). The parcel does not adjoin any other areas of Green Belt.

Relationship between settlement and countryside

The parcel has a strong relationship with the wider countryside with little development and very few urbanising influences. The flat topography allows distant views to the wider landscape.

Contribution to Green Belt purposes

Purpose	Comments	Rating
1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas	The parcel is not adjacent to the large built-up area and development here would be associated with a different settlement.	Weak or no contribution
2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another	Development of this parcel would result in little or no perception of the narrowing of the gap between towns.	Weak or no contribution
3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment	The parcel relates strongly to the wider countryside, has a sense of separation from the settlement and lacks urbanising development – development would represent encroachment into the countryside.	Strong
4 - To preserve the special character of historic towns	The parcel does not form part of the setting of an historic town.	Weak or no contribution
5 - Assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land	Individual parcels are considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose and so have not been assessed.	Not assessed

Green Belt boundary strength

The parcel is not currently within the Green Belt and does not adjoin any other areas of Green Belt. The fact that it does not make any significant contribution to Green Belt purposes associated with settlement separation and relationship with large built-up areas or historic towns suggests that there is not a strong case for extension of the Green Belt to include this area.