

POLICY ST35: Landscape Character

1. Proposals that contribute to the nature and quality of Bassetlaw's landscapes will be supported where it can be demonstrated that:
 - a) it protects and where possible enhances the distinctive qualities of the relevant landscape character policy zone, as identified in the Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment 2009⁶ by conserving, restoring, reinforcing or creating relevant landscape forms and features; and
 - b) in the case of the Local Plan site allocations, also promotes the development opportunities identified within the Site Allocations: Landscape Study 2019⁷ and the Landscape Assessment Addendums 2020⁸, 2021⁹ and 2022¹⁰.
2. Proposals in an edge of settlement location will be expected to create a positive interface between the urban and rural environments. This should be demonstrated through compliance with Part 1 of this Policy, and by giving appropriate consideration to layout, density, scale, massing and form of development in accordance with Policy ST33.



8.4 Green Gaps

- 8.4.1 In parts of the District, the Main Towns and Large and Small Rural Settlements are located close to one another, particularly in the west of the District. There is a risk that through further development, the separate identity of settlements which positively contribute to their distinctive landscape and historic character, could be lost through physical or visual coalescence.
- 8.4.2 At a local level, some made Neighbourhood Plans have identified the importance of landscapes through Green Gaps, Green Buffers or Settlement Breaks as a localised tool to help positively manage design and development quality and prevent settlement coalescence. For example, in places such as Carlton in Lindrick, landscape characterises the village character as a distinct and separate settlement from the nearby suburban areas of Worksop and Langold.
- 8.4.3 Policy ST36 seeks to provide a clear and consistent District-wide approach by providing a strategic policy framework. The use of Green Gaps will provide greater clarity for communities, developers and landowners to appropriately manage development between settlements in the future.
- 8.4.4 Green Gaps refer to land between settlements that have been identified by the Bassetlaw Green Gaps Report 2019¹¹ and the Green Gap Addendum reports^{12, 13} as important in helping to define the character of settlements and in shaping the settlement pattern of the district, by providing a clear visual and physical break in the built environment. The Bassetlaw Landscape Character Assessment 2009⁶ has classified the District into a number of Policy Zones. It identifies the distinctive