

POLICY EN12

PLANNING PERMISSION WILL NOT NORMALLY BE GRANTED FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD ENCROACH UPON GREEN LINKS, AS IDENTIFIED ON THE PROPOSALS MAP (DAVENTRY INSET AND DAVENTRY TOWN CENTRE INSET). WHERE THE DISTRICT COUNCIL CONSIDERS IT APPROPRIATE TO ALLOW DEVELOPMENT OR THE EXTENSION OR WIDENING OF EXISTING BUILDINGS OR HIGHWAYS IN GREEN LINKS, PLANNING PERMISSION WILL NORMALLY ONLY BE GRANTED WHERE THE GREEN AND OPEN CHARACTER OF GREEN LINKS CONTINUES TO DOMINATE.

- 3.36 It is considered important to promote a continuous thread of greenery through and around the largest urban area so that the impact of countryside or parkland is penetrating and continuous, the "softening" qualities of trees and shrubbery are able to counter the "hardness" of built development as frequently as possible and the distinct identities of divided areas are sustained. These threads should act as "green links" between green wedges and public open space wherever possible to achieve the continuity. Development within green links should not be permitted unless there are overriding and exceptional reasons of strategic importance. As well as protection, there is much potential for enhancement in Daventry where wide highway verges are often green but bland expanses of grass; with extensive planting, these would more obviously thread greenery from countryside and parks into the heart of the town. The Secretary of State for Transport is the Highway Authority for the A45(T) and the Highway Agency is the responsible body for any improvements within the trunk road boundary east of Daventry's orbital road.
- 3.37 Green links are defined on the Proposals Map (Daventry Inset and Daventry Town Centre Inset).
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