Appendix B Detailed Stage 1 Contribution Assessments: Three Legged Cross - Part 2

Three Legged Cross



- Local Authority boundary
 - Inset area
 - Green Belt
- Three Legged Cross parcel
- Neighbouring parcel

Absolute constraints

- Special Area of Conservation
- Special Protection Area
- Ramsar
- Site of Special Scientific Interest
- National Nature Reserve
- Ancient Woodland Inventory
- Scheduled monument
- CROW Registered Common Land



Potential constraints

- Flood zone 3
- Flood zone 2
- 400m Heathland Area

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Components of contribution assessment

The analysis of contribution to the Green Belt purposes considers:

- the relevance of each Green Belt purpose, given the parcel's location relative to large built-up areas, towns, countryside and historic towns;
- the extent to which the land can be considered open in Green Belt terms;
- for Purpose 1-3, the degree of distinction between the parcel and urban area(s) - that is, the extent to which land is associated with the urban area or with the wider countryside. A stronger distinction from the urban area increases contribution to these purposes, where relevant.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 8.54ha

The parcel is located on the eastern edge of Moorsbridge Industrial Estate. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open, comprising of several agricultural fields, a residential building in the north of the parcel and a commercial building in the centre of the parcel. However, this development is not large enough in scale to impact openness. Agricultural buildings are located in the south of the parcel, however, these are 'appropriate development' in the Green Belt and therefore do not impact openness.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The parcel is in close proximity to Woolsbridge Industrial Estate. However, land is not contained by urban development, and Ringwood Road and tree lines form a moderate boundary feature creating separation from the settlement. In addition, the parcel is dominated by views of open countryside. Overall there is moderate distinction between the parcel and the urban area. It is noted however that most of the inset area immediately adjacent to the parcel is currently undeveloped, so future development in this area could potentially weaken the level of distinction by increasing urbanising visual influence.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between St Leonards and St Ives and West Moors, north of the Castleman Trailway. Urbanising development at Woolsbridge Industrial Park and Minster Park reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

- Purpose 3 Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Relatively strong
 Land is open countryside. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 3.16ha

The parcel is located on the southern edge of Moorsbridge Industrial Estate. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open, comprising of agricultural land and sparse tree cover.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The parcel is in close proximity to Woolsbridge Industrial Estate. However, land is not contained by urban development, Views are dominated by open countryside, and the tree line to the north of the parcel is a strong boundary feature creating separation from the inset area. Overall there is strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area. Most of the inset area immediately adjacent to the parcel is currently undeveloped, but the strong boundary means that development in this area would be unlikely to weaken the currently strong distinction.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Relatively strong

Land is open but there is a wide gap between St Leonards and St Ives and West Moors, north of the Castleman Trailway. Urbanising development at Woolsbridge Industrial Park and Minster Park reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. There is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a relatively strong contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 2.65ha

The parcel is located on the southern edge of Moorsbridge Industrial Estate. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open, comprising of agricultural fields separated by hedgerows.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

Land is in close proximity to Moorsbridge Industrial Estate, and the hedgerow on the northern edge of the parcel is only a weak boundary feature, creating little separation from the inset area (the southern end of which is currently undeveloped). However, the parcel is not contained by urban development and views are dominated by open countryside. Overall there is moderate distinction between the parcel and the urban area, but it is noted that future development within the industrial estate could potentially have sufficient visual impact to weaken this distinction.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

• Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between St Leonards and St Ives and West Moors, north of the Castleman Trailway. Urbanising development at Woolsbridge Industrial Park and Minster Park reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

- Purpose 3 Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Relatively strong
 Land is open countryside. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 37.64ha

The parcel is located to the south of Three Legged Cross, and to the southwest of Moorsbridge Industrial Estate. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town. Holt and West Moors Heaths SSSI and Dorset Heaths SAC surround the parcel.

The parcel forms part of the MOD's West Moors fuel depot and is considered to be relatively developed. There are many structures and areas of hardstanding/roads on the site, but the density of buildings is relatively low in comparison to the nearby inset commercial developments, so a degree of visual openness through to adjacent heathland areas of the MOD site is retained.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The parcel has some degree of containment by urban development and as the parcel is connected to further MoD development to the west, there is little separation between the parcel and the inset area further west. However, the parcel extends a significant distance from the inset area of the industrial estate to the west and West Moors to the southwest. Overall there is moderate distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is relatively developed and has a significant amount of urbanising development within it. There is a wide gap between St Leonards and St Ives and West Moors, north of the Castleman Trailway. Urbanising development at Woolsbridge Industrial Park and Minster Park reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a weak/no contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

- Purpose 3 Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Relatively weak
 Land is relatively developed and has a significant amount of urbanising development within it. This is washed over development in the countryside, but The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively weak contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.







Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 6.16ha

The parcel is located to the south of Three Legged Cross and to the northeast of West Moors. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town. Holt and West Moors Heaths SSSI and Dorset Heaths SAC surround the parcel.

Land is open, comprising of sparse tree cover and shrub.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

Although the tree cover provides within the parcel provides some screening from views of the urban area, the parcel is largely contained by urban development. The road on the northern boundary of parcel provides little separation from the MoD site which lies adjacent to the inset industrial estate to the northwest. The Dorset Heaths SSSI to the southwest provides a strong degree of separation from West Moors. The parcel is located a significant distance from the inset area of both the industrial estate to the northwest and West Moors to the southwest, and the wooded land cover is very prominent, compared to the inset areas. Overall there is moderate distinction between the parcel and the inset area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between St Leonards and St Ives and West Moors, north of the Castleman Trailway. Urbanising development at Woolsbridge Industrial Park and Minster Park reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

- Purpose 3 Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Relatively strong
 Land is open countryside. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 12.47ha

The parcel is located on the north western edge of West Moors. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is relatively developed and has a significant amount of urbanising development within it.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The relatively developed nature of the parcel means that urban development dominates views. However, the parcel is not contained by urban development. In addition, West Moors Road and the adjacent tree line in the north east corner of the parcel create a moderate boundary feature providing some separation from the inset area. Overall there is moderate distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is relatively developed and has a significant amount of urbanising development within it. There is a wide gap between St Leonards and St Ives and West Moors, north of the Castleman Trailway. Urbanising development at Woolsbridge Industrial Park and Minster Park reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a weak/no contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

- Purpose 3 Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Relatively weak
 Land is relatively developed and has a significant amount of urbanising development within it. This is washed over development in the countryside, but The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively weak contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 8.29ha

The parcel is located to the south of Three Legged Cross on the western edge of Gundrymoor Trading Estate. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open and is dominated by agricultural fields and separating hedgerows. There are several residential buildings within the parcel, however, this development is not large enough in scale to impact openness.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The tree line to the east of the parcel is a moderate boundary feature creating separation and intervening land and field boundaries create separation from West Moors to the southwest. The parcel is not contained by urban development, with views dominated by open countryside. Overall there is strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

• Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors, and although urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel is also peripheral to the gap between West Moors and St Ives and St Leonards. Although the settlement gap is robust, there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 7.34ha

The parcel is located on the northern edge of the southern area of Three Legged Cross. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town. Holt and West Moors Heaths SSSI and Dorset Heaths SAC are located to the east of the parcel.

Land is open and is dominated by plantation.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

Land cover is very prominent within the parcel, making it significantly different from the inset area. In addition, the tree cover within the parcel is a strong boundary feature creating separation from the inset area. The parcel is dominated by views of open countryside, with no containment by urban development. Overall there is very strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

• Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors, and although urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel is also peripheral to the gap between West Moors and St Ives and St Leonards. Although the settlement gap is robust, there is very strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is very strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 9.02ha

The parcel is located between the northern and southern areas of Three Legged Cross. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open, comprising of a plantation.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The sloping landform and land cover within the parcel provide some distinction from the inset area, and the tree line to the north of the parcel is a moderate boundary feature creating separation from Three Legged Cross. The parcel is not contained by urban development, with views dominated by open countryside. Overall there is strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors. Urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. Although the settlement gap is robust, there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No
 The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal
 All Groop Bolt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 19.4ha

The parcel is located on the south western edge of the northern area of Three Legged Cross. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open, comprising of agricultural fields and separating hedgerows. There is a commercial building located in the north of the parcel and in the centre, however, this development is not large enough in scale to impact openness. The caravan and camping site noted on the OS map has closed down.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

West Moors Road and the associated tree line is a moderate boundary feature creating separation from the inset area. Land is not contained by urban development and is dominated by views of open countryside. Overall there is strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

• Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors. Urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. Although the settlement gap is robust, there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No
 The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal
 All Groop Bolt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.







Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 7.69ha

The parcel is located on the western edge of the northern area of Three Legged Cross. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open and is dominated by agricultural fields separated by hedgerows. There is a commercial building located in the north of the parcel, however, this development is not large enough in scale to impact openness.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The garden boundaries on the eastern edge of the parcel are only a weak boundary feature, creating little separation from Three Legged Cross. However, land is not contained by urban development, with views dominated by open countryside. Overall there is moderate distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Relatively weak

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors. Urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively weak contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

- Purpose 3 Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Relatively strong
 Land is open countryside. The parcel has some relationship with the inset area, but also a degree of distinction from it. Overall the area makes a relatively strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.
- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No
 The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.









Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 3.32ha

The parcel is located on the western edge of Three Legged Cross. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open, comprising of woodland.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

Tree cover within the parcel is very prominent, making it significantly different from Three Legged Cross, and forms a strong boundary feature creating separation from the settlement. Land extends a significant distance from the inset area and is not contained by urban development, with open countryside dominating the views. Overall there is very strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

 Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors. Urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. Although the settlement gap is robust, there is very strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is very strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal
 All Groop Bolt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.







km 0 0.15 0.3 0.6

Parcel location and openness

Parcel size: 23.72ha

The parcel is located on the western edge of the northern area of Three Legged Cross. Three Legged Cross does not constitute a large built-up area, a town or a historic town.

Land is open and is dominated by agricultural land and separating hedgerows. A small horticulture nursery, located in the centre of the parcel, does not impact on Green Belt openness. A building is located in the south of the parcel; however, this development is not large enough in scale to impact openness.

Distinction between parcel and inset area

The tree line to the east of the parcel is a moderate boundary feature creating separation from the inset area. In addition, the parcel is not contained by urban development, and open countryside dominates the views. Overall there is strong distinction between the parcel and the urban area.

Contribution to the Green Belt purposes

 Purpose 1 - Check the unrestricted sprawl of large built-up areas: Contribution: Weak/No

Land is not close enough to the large built-up area to be associated with it. Therefore development would not be perceived as sprawl of the large built-up area.

• Purpose 2 - Prevent neighbouring towns merging into one another: Contribution: Moderate

Land is open and there is a wide gap between Verwood and West Moors. Urbanising development at Three Legged Cross reduces gaps but there are some significant separating features, including Dorset Heaths and the Moors River System. Although the settlement gap is robust, there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as narrowing the gap. Overall the area makes a moderate contribution to preventing the merging of neighbouring towns.

• Purpose 3 - Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment: Contribution: Strong

Land is open countryside and there is strong distinction between the parcel and the inset area, which increases the extent to which development would be perceived as encroachment on the countryside. Overall the area makes a strong contribution to safeguarding the countryside from encroachment.

- Purpose 4 Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns: Contribution: Weak/No
 The parcel does not contribute to the setting or special character of any historic towns.
- Purpose 5 Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land: Contribution: Equal
 All Groop Bolt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this

All Green Belt land is considered to make an equal contribution to this purpose.