4 Findings

- 4.1 The main aim of the study was to provide a robust, transparent and clear understanding of how the land in the Cannock Chase Green Belt performs against the purposes of the Green Belt. A total of 65 parcels and five broad areas were identified in the study area. **Figure 4.2** illustrates the overall results of the assessment for the broad areas and smaller parcels.
- 4.2 **Appendix 1** contains all the assessment sheets for all 65 parcels and the five broad areas. The assessment sheets contain the detailed judgements behind each score for each criterion against each Green Belt purpose.
- 4.3 **Appendix 2** contains a table ranking all the smaller parcels assessed in order of their combined score (highest to lowest) across all the purposes. As noted earlier, while the aggregation of scores across all the purposes is a practical way of understanding the overall and relative contribution of the Green Belt across the study area, the NPPF does not require all the purposes of Green Belt to be met simultaneously.
- 4.4 **Appendix 3** contains maps illustrating parcels' relative contribution to each Green Belt purpose to illustrate the considerable contribution that certain parcels are making to individual Green Belt purposes, contributions which can be lost when scores against all five purposes are aggregated ¹⁴.
- 4.5 A summary of the assessment findings, drawing attention to the spatial pattern of the performance of the parcels against the Green Belt purposes is provided below. Again, further detail can be found in **Appendices 1 and 2**. References in the detailed assessments to variations of performance within a parcel/ broad area are informative rather than rigorous. No methodology was defined for dealing with such variation and more detailed analysis will be required if the Council intends to remove areas of land from the Green Belt. Parcel scores reflect the contribution of the majority of a parcel to the Green Belt purposes.

Minor boundary adjustments

4.6 **Figure 4.1** illustrates the location of several minor Green Belt boundary adjustments. The recommended adjustments ensure that the boundaries of the District's Green Belt designation follow the most appropriate readily recognisable boundaries and are consistent across the District. **Appendix 4** contains individual maps of the minor adjustments. Each map is accompanied by a short justification.

 $^{^{\}rm 14}$ All parcels score 4 for purpose 5. Therefore, no maps have been prepared for purpose 5.

