

# Comments for Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104

## Application Summary

Application Number: TP/ED/26/0104

Address: Whitegates Park Middlemuir Road Lenzie East Dunbartonshire

Proposal: Erection of a secondary school including road access, landscaping, car parking, sports pitches, recreational areas and associated development.

Case Officer: Fraser McNair

## Customer Details

Name [REDACTED]

Address [REDACTED]

## Comment Details

Commenter Type: Member of Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I'm objecting to the proposed development at Whitegates Park due to profound environmental,

climate, biodiversity, and social equity concerns. Whitegates Park is designated open space forming part of the established Green Network and protected under Policy 17 of the LDP2, and the Open Space Strategy.

Change of use

If this application seeks to reclassify Whitegates Park from protected open space, it is procedurally unsound. The LDP2 designation remains in force, and any change of use must be made through a formal amendment process, subject to consultation and examination. Attempting to bypass this process via a planning application would conflict with the planned system required under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 and NPF4.

The development would permanently remove nearly all existing, mature green space, habitat, and trees from the site. These established natural features provide far greater ecological value and cannot be realistically recreated within the restricted footprint of a school campus.

The proposal would remove a large area of public parkland in a town that already has a deficit of public park provision, directly conflicting with NPF4 Policy 20, which requires development not to exacerbate deficiencies in green infrastructure.

The Council has resolved to make a Tree Preservation Order for Whitegates Park. Determination of this application should not pre-empt or undermine the statutory TPO process now underway.

The removal of the current sports pitch will negatively affect local sporting and recreational use.

My primary objection concerns the proposed biodiversity mitigation. The creation of a new park at the vacated school site is not an acceptable "like for like" compensation for the loss of Whitegates Park. It fails to compensate for the established, mature biodiversity and the well-used, mature green space that will be destroyed.

Myrtle park is not a substitute or equal. For all the above reasons I object