

Planning

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 11 March 2026 17:30
To: Planning
Subject: TP/ED/26/0104

To whom it may concern,

I write opposing the planned conversion of Whitegates Park to a new Lenzie Academy.

1. Loss of public parkland

Whitegates Park is approximately 68,000 square metres of public green space currently used for recreation by the local community. Building the school there would permanently remove this parkland.

2. Environmental mitigation cost

Project documentation associated with the proposal identifies £7.76 million in mitigation measures required due to the loss of green space and impacts on the local nature network if development takes place at Whitegates Park.

3. Contaminated land remediation

Project planning includes £4.8 million allocated for the removal of hazardous waste materials from the Whitegates Park site prior to construction due to contaminants identified in earlier ground investigations.

4. Total estimated project cost

Council documents estimate the total project cost for the new Lenzie Academy development at approximately £138,069,227.79.

5. Existing school campus already available

The current Lenzie Academy campus at Myrtle Avenue already has established school infrastructure including road access, drainage, utilities and transport links. Rebuilding schools on their existing campuses in phases while the school remains operational is a common approach used across the UK.

6. Community consultation responses

Previous consultation responses recorded significant concern from residents about building the school on Whitegates Park and the permanent loss of a large area of public green space.

7. National Planning Framework 4 policy

Scotland's National Planning Framework 4 (Policy 21 – Play, Recreation and Sport) states that development which results in the loss of public open space such as parks should only be approved if the planning authority can demonstrate that the space is no longer required or that an equivalent or better replacement will be provided.

8. Risk of losing two community assets

If the school is built at Whitegates Park, the community risks losing both the public park and the current Myrtle Avenue school site if that land is later sold or redeveloped.

Based on these facts, a logical alternative would be to rebuild Lenzie Academy on its existing Myrtle Avenue campus rather than permanently removing Whitegates Park from public use.

Kind regards

