

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

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Neighbour

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I wish to object to the proposed development of the new Lenzie Academy at Whitegates Park,

Lenzie. My objection is based on material planning considerations including

- a flawed consultation process
- policy conflict and loss of protected space
- biodiversity impacts
- unjustified projected need
- transport issues
- environmental risk - flooding and contamination

1. Inadequate & Flawed Consultation Process:

The consultation has been insufficient and has excluded key stakeholders. Many residents and other stakeholders were not consulted in good time and were not properly engaged - complete lack of transparency in the site selection process. No compelling, publicly available evidence to justify why this protected site was chosen over alternative, brownfield, or non-designated locations, as required by NPPF4. This failure undermines the entire application.

The Council's Education consultation did not show support for building on Whitegates Park. People only asked if they wanted a new school in principle, not if they agreed with the location. The Report itself admits many "Yes" answers were conditional (eg "not at Whitegates Park") and that many objections focused on the site, but these were excluded from the analysis. The outcome therefore cannot be used to claim community backing or to override protections for designated open space. Full planning scrutiny needed to assess suitability of Whitegates Park.

2. Policy Conflict & Loss of Protected Open Space:

Inadequate justification for building on protected designated open public space

Whitegates Park is designated public open space within LDP - no sufficient planning justification to override policies protecting such land under NPF4 and LDP2.

Proposal removes valued community greenspace contrary to policy, which protects this space.

3. Biodiversity impact: development would result in the loss of almost all habitat, tree cover and wildlife connectivity on the site.

4. Transport and road safety are major concerns.