

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: Member of Public

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: I am writing to lodge a formal objection to the proposed development of the proposed new Lenzie Academy at Whitegates Park. My objection is based on several material planning grounds, including environmental risk, contaminated land, traffic impact, loss of green space, and the site's unsuitability for any educational facility.

1. Contaminated Land - Former Landfill and Industrial Use

Whitegates Park is known to have been used historically as:

- A landfill site
- An industrial site
- A location with documented ground contamination risks

This is not speculative. The site's contamination issues were significant enough that planning permission for an ASN school was refused in 2018, with contaminated land cited as a major constraint.

The current proposal does not overcome the fundamental problem that:

- The ground contains unknown and potentially hazardous materials
- Disturbing the land risks releasing contaminants
- Remediation would be complex, costly, and uncertain
- The site is not suitable for children, staff, or the wider community

Placing an educational facility on a former landfill contradicts national planning guidance on contaminated land and public health.

2. Loss of Protected Green Space

Whitegates Park is one of the few remaining accessible green spaces in the area. The development would result in:

- Permanent loss of public open space
- Reduction in biodiversity and wildlife habitat
- Loss of recreational land used by families, dog walkers, and local groups

This contradicts local and national policies on protecting green infrastructure.

3. Traffic, Road Safety, and Congestion

The surrounding road network is already under strain. The development would:

- Increase traffic volumes on narrow residential streets
- Heighten risks for pedestrians, particularly children
- Create parking overspill into neighbouring streets
- Exacerbate congestion at peak times

No credible mitigation plan has been presented.

For the reasons outlined above-including contaminated land, previous planning refusal, environmental risk, loss of green space, and traffic impact-I respectfully request that East Dunbartonshire Council refuse this planning application.

Whitegates Park is a vital community asset and an unsuitable location for any educational development. The Council has already recognised this in 2018, and the same logic applies today.