

3. Impact on Mental Health and Wellbeing

National planning policy (NPF4) explicitly recognises the link between access to quality green space and public mental health.

- **Objection:** Whitegates Park is a “tranquillity zone” that provides a respite from urban noise and traffic. The destruction of this specific landscape — which many residents have relied on for decades — will have a measurable **negative impact on community mental health**. The council has failed to conduct a proper Health Impact Assessment (HIA) regarding the psychological loss of this specific natural heritage.

4. Destruction of an Established Ecosystem (NPF4 policy 3)

White gates is not just “empty land”, it is a thriving ecosystem. **NPF4 policy 3** requires development to facilitate “Biodiversity Enhancement”.

- **Objection:** Building a massive school complex on this site represents a **net loss to nature**. You cannot “mitigate” the loss of a 4.8m deep peat bog and mature wildlife corridors by planting a few trees elsewhere. The environmental value of Whitegates is intrinsic to it's location and cannot be moved.

CONCLUSION

Whitegates Park is an irreplaceable asset for residents in Lenzie, Kirkintilloch and other areas, it is crucial for our health, heritage and biodiversity. The proposed mitigation is insufficient and the community loss is too great. I object and urge the Planning Authority to **REFUSE** this application of a School at Whitegates Park.

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

26/04/2026.

PERSONAL P.S. (please describe how the loss of this specific park would affect your daily life or mental health):

3 generations of our family who all live in close proximity to Whitegates Park utilise the green space multiple times per week for ourselves and for walking our dogs. We benefit from the exercise and enjoy the peaceful tranquility of the park and the animals that inhabit it which significantly improves the mental health for all of us. The eldest generation of our family and our elderly dog would not be able to walk the additional 1.2km to another Park resulting in less exercise and impacting mental health or thus would require a car journey to attend. It also seems unfair to us and others in our neighbourhood that the westerly part of Lenzie which already has a number of accessible quiet and tranquil green spaces should benefit from yet another proposed green space at the expense of the easterly part of Lenzie from where there would be no more green space and having already lost green space during the construction of the houses at Woodilee.
Do not kill our Green space and wildlife!