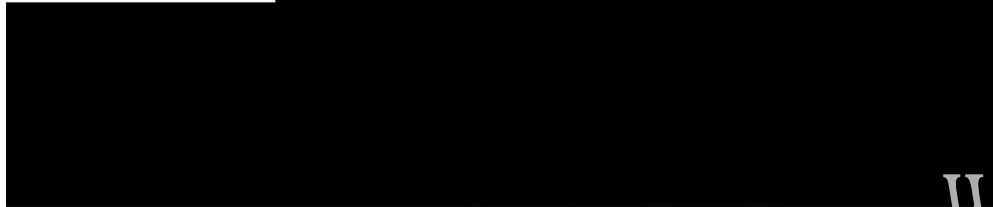


# FORMAL OBJECTION - Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104

Loss of Commlllity Amenity, Health and Natural Heritage Whitegates Park,  
Middlemoir Road, Lenzie



DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

22/04/2020  
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## OBJECTION STATEMENT

I am writing to formally OBJECT to Planning Application TP/ED/26/0104. My objection is based on the following development plan policies and other material planning considerations.

## DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

### 1. NPF4 Policy 9 -Open Space (Loss of Protected Green Space)

Whitegates Park is a designated Protected Open Space. Under NPF4 Policy 9, loss of such space is only acceptable where a superior replacement *is* provided.

**Objection:** Myrtle Avenue is smaller, less-accessible, and cannot-replicate the established wetland and mature habitat network at Whitegates. It does not meet the policy test

### 2A. NPF4 Policy 3 - Biodiversity (Nature Positive Requirement)

NPF4 requires development to deliver biodiversity enhancement.

**Objection:** Whitegates Park is a functioning ecosystem with valuable mature trees, wildlife corridors and protected species. Replacing this with buildings and artificial surfaces results in a net loss of biodiversity.

### 2B. LDP2 Policy 4.CF - Community Facilities & Open Space

Whitegates Park is specifically protected in the Local Development Plan.

**Objection:** The proposal conflicts with LDP2 Policy 4.CF" which requires safeguarding of valued open spaces unless a demonstrably superior alternative is provided. Myrtle Avenue does not meet this requirement.

### 3. NPF4 Policy 11 - Flood Risk & Water Environment

Whitegates Park is a wetland with shallow ground and deep peat that acts as a natural flood-mitigation sponge.

**Objection:** Excavating peat and replacing it with hard surfaces will increase surface water runoff and risk of flooding in the area. The application does not demonstrate that these risks can be safely mitigated.

### OTHER MATERIAL PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

#### 4. Accessibility and Community Equity

Whitegates Park is centrally located and provides safe, accessible green space for all generations.

**Objection:** Community relies on this green space for recreation and improved mobility. Whitegates is the **only** accessible green space within a short distance of relocating open space to Myrtle Avenue. Reducing access to this space disproportionately impacts those who rely on it for daily walking.

#### 5. Mental Health and Wellbeing

NPF4 recognises the importance of high-quality green space for mental health.

**Objection:** **Park** is a vital asset that has supported community wellbeing for decades. The Council has not carried out a Health Impact Assessment to evaluate the psychological and social impact of losing this specific natural landscape.

#### 6. Loss of Established Ecosystem and Natural Heritage

Whitegates is a mature, functioning ecosystem.

**Objection:** The intrinsic value of the site is intrinsic to it. A wetland, peatland, or wildlife refuge cannot be relocated or recreated elsewhere.

## PERSONAL STATEMENT (optional):

Whitegates Park is an irreplaceable asset for residents in Lenzie, Kirkintilloch and beyond. **The proposed application** is 100% in line with the development constraints with key planning policies.

I urge the Planning Authority to REFUSE this application.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_

