

## Planning

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**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12 March 2026 06:34  
**To:** Planning  
**Subject:** TP/ED/26/0104 Lenzie Academy

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 conflict with National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) and the East Dunbartonshire Local Development Plan (LDP2), as well as concerns regarding consultation, biodiversity, transport, environmental risk and loss of protected open space.

Whitegates Park is also a valued part of our community. I regularly use this green space with my dog and my two young children, and it provides important accessible outdoor space for local families. The loss of this park would significantly reduce local recreational and wellbeing opportunities.

### 1. Inadequate Consultation and Lack of Transparency

The consultation process has not adequately engaged local residents or key stakeholders, and there has been a lack of transparency regarding site selection. No clear publicly available evidence has been provided to demonstrate why this protected open space was chosen over alternative brownfield or non-designated sites.

The Council's education consultation asked whether people supported a new school in principle but did not properly test support for this specific location. The consultation report acknowledges that many responses supporting a new school were conditional and specifically objected to the Whitegates Park site. These concerns were not reflected in the headline conclusions.

As a result, the consultation cannot reasonably be relied upon as evidence of community support for developing this protected open space.

### 2. Conflict with Planning Policy and Loss of Protected Open Space

Whitegates Park is designated public open space within the Local Development Plan and forms part of the established Green Network protected under LDP2 Policy 17.

The proposal would result in the loss of this valued greenspace and therefore conflicts with NPF4 Policy 20 (Blue and Green Infrastructure), which requires existing open space and green networks to be protected and enhanced.

NPF4 also promotes brownfield-first development and the reuse of previously developed land where possible. The application does not provide sufficient evidence that alternative sites have been fully and transparently assessed before proposing development on protected open space.

Any attempt to effectively reclassify this site through a planning application would undermine the plan-led system established under the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997.

### 3. Biodiversity and Tree Loss

The development would result in significant loss of trees, habitat and wildlife connectivity. This appears inconsistent with NPF4 Policy 3 (Biodiversity), which requires development to protect biodiversity and contribute to nature restoration.

Given the constrained nature of the site, it is unclear how a genuine nature-positive outcome could be achieved.

The Council has also resolved to pursue a Tree Preservation Order for Whitegates Park, and this process should not be undermined by determination of the current application.

#### 4. Traffic and Road Safety

The surrounding road network already experiences congestion and parking pressure during peak times. The Transport Assessment appears to underestimate the likely traffic impact of a large secondary school at this location.

This raises concerns regarding road safety and accessibility, particularly for pedestrians and cyclists.

#### 5. Environmental and Flood Risk

Whitegates Park is known locally to experience drainage issues and standing water. The site drains to the Luggie Water and the River Kelvin catchment, and further investigation of ground conditions, drainage and potential contamination is required.

The developer's flood screening conclusions appear inconsistent with known local conditions and SEPA flood mapping, raising concerns regarding the environmental suitability of the site.

#### 6. Impact on Local Amenity

The scale and massing of the proposed buildings would fundamentally alter the character of this open green space.

The proposal would also result in the loss of existing recreational facilities, including the current grass football pitch, reducing community sports provision.

The Noise Impact Assessment indicates that sports pitch activity may increase noise levels by up to 10 dB above evening background levels, which Sport Scotland guidance recognises as potentially creating a substantial adverse impact on nearby residential amenity.

For the reasons outlined above including conflict with NPF4 policies on biodiversity, green infrastructure and sustainable land use, the loss of protected open space, traffic concerns and environmental risks, I respectfully request that this planning application be refused.

Many thanks



