

EXTRACT FROM THE SITE ASSESSMENT

- Loss of open space -identified in the open space strategy 2015 as very good quality and includes 3 grass pitches and changing facilities. The pitches provide an essential buffer around the sensitive peat bog, and ecological surveys indicate that development would have a negative effect on this.
- The green belt land at this location provides a clear buffer and boundary to the settlement edge which would be highly sensitive to any built development. Development would extend the settlement pattern of Lenzie to the south and west and reduce the separation of the settlement from the small holdings and Bishopbriggs. There are significant views from Lenzie Moss onto the proposal site and the site provides a countryside setting for the settlement with links to Lenzie Moss Local Nature Reserve to the east.
- The south eastern part of the site includes an active lowland raised peat bog which forms part of the Local Nature Reserve and Local Nature Conservation Site, and is of European importance. The site contains carbon rich soils and is being actively managed for peat protection. Development would damage the carbon sink and would have an adverse impact on the hydrology of the bog, which is crucial to the habitat areas associated with the LNR. This is unlikely to be compensated by alternative hydrology solutions.
- The bog acts as a reservoir and additional habitat for many species of flora and fauna. The Dunbartonshire Biodiversity Action Plan lists species that could be affected: Skylark; Meadow Pipit; Reed Bunting; Kestrel; Dragonfly; Common Shrew; Round leafed sundew; Devil's-bit Scabious; amphibians; and water vole. The nationally rare Bog Rosemary is present in one colony to the south west of the peat bog.