



# House of Commons

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House of Commons  
London SW1A 0AA

Alex Neil MSP  
Cabinet Secretary for Social Justice, Communities & Pensioners' Rights  
The Scottish Government, St Andrew's House  
Edinburgh, EH1 3DG

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015

Dear Alex

I have recently been contacted by constituents who are representatives of the Save North Kelvin Meadow and Children's Wood initiatives, regarding the future of the site at Kelbourne Street/Sanda Street/Clouston Street in Glasgow. I understand that a planning application (12/00924/DC) for development at the site is under consideration by Glasgow City Council, and that the Children's Wood initiative is in the process of submitting its own proposal for development at the site.

Having visited the site on a number of occasions, and seeing it well used by constituents and the wider public, it seems clear to me that the North Kelvin Meadow is a valuable asset to the local community and the wider Glasgow North area. I believe it is important that the City Council does all that it can to protect important green spaces in the city. There is a clear feeling among the community that too much land is being given over to development when local residents, especially children and young people, need and want to spend more time outdoors for recreation and exercise. I believe the Council must consider this when deciding on the applications that exist for the site, and prioritise plans that preserve green and wild space for the use of the whole community.

It would be helpful if you could clarify the following points for my constituents:

- what, if any, discussions the Scottish Government has had with Glasgow City Council with regard to this site, and the development of 'stalled spaces' in the city more generally
- under what circumstances the Scottish Government would be in a position or prepared to call-in any planning decision made by Glasgow City Council on the development of the site
- what advice the Scottish Government provides to local authorities with regard to the use of green- and brownfield sites by local communities; on the development of 'risky play' opportunities for children and young people; and on consultation with local communities before the development of green- or brown-field sites in residential areas.

With thanks for your attention to these matters

Yours sincerely

Patrick Grady  
SNP MP for Glasgow North