## Representation on the Sheffield Plan Publication (Pre-Submission) Draft

## Respondent details

**Comment ID number:** PDSP.394.001

**What is your Name:** Sue57

**If you are making this representation as a member of an organisation, what is the name of your organisation:**

N/A

**If you or your organisation are making a representation on behalf of another person, organisation or group, please tell us who it is and its role:**

N/A

## Document

**Which document to you wish to make a representation on:**

Policies Map

**Which section of the document is your representation on:**

N/A

**Which paragraph/site/map layer of the document is representation on:**

Local Nature Reserve

## Representation

**Do you consider the Local Plan is legally compliant:** Yes

**Do you consider the Local Plan is sound:** No

**Do you consider the Local Plan complies with the duty to co-operate:** Yes

**Please give details of why you consider the Local Plan is not legally compliant or is unsound or fails to comply with the duty to co-operate:**

There is consideration paid to flooding issues in the plan but I can find nothing considering the fire risk of moorland areas such as Wadsley common. Historic flooding of the Upper Don Catchment Area is considered but there appears to be no concern for the fire risk to Wadsley and Loxley Common if pluvial water flow is reduced by drainage.
Wadsley Common is a Local Nature Reserve, very intensely visited and enjoyed by hundreds of people and also an internationally rare example of lowland/mid level heath. Intense fires are not the same as historic heather fires as they burn deeply and destroy it completely. Only bracken survives.

There is also a risk to nearby houses. On 3rd May 2013 many households, including mine, were instructed by the police to prepare to evacuate due to the intense fire raging and threatening our homes. It was a terrifying ordeal. There was no drought at the time. This risk will increase with climate change but additional drainage measures to alleviate flooding at other times of the year would increase the fire risk. There is frequent pluvial flooding on Worrall Road, and attempts have been made to alleviate this by improving drainage, which would surely increase problems downhill, to an area of dense housing already prone to flooding as well as draining the heathland.

An example of this is where a large property installed drainage to their lawn (around 0.5 ha), which had previously been an effective soakaway but totally impossible to walk on in winter. The section of Worrall Road below this area then began to flood frequently after rain (in addition to an area further along which was already prone to flooding) and it became a sheet of ice in freezing conditions. The householder complained and improvements were made to road drainage.

There is nothing to prevent all of the remaining areas of naturally occurring SUDS drainage around Wadsley Common from being lost particularly as people become less tolerant of seasonal flooding as the area has become more urbanised.

The Peak Park have schemes to hold back the flow of water to both reduce drying of the peat and mitigate flooding downstream. Wadsley and Loxley Commons are not peatland but they have similar fire and flood issues.

I am concerned that there is no provision in the local plan to preserve water levels on higher and ecologically valuable areas within the Sheffield boundary but outside the Peak District. This is needed to reduce fire risk to nearby homes and hold back flood water

**Please set out the modification(s) you consider necessary to make the Local Plan legally compliant and sound, in respect of any legal compliance or soundness matters you have identified above:**

The plan considers flood risk in the Upper Don Catchment Area but not fire risk which will be exacerbated by Climate Change.

**If your representation is seeking a modification to the plan, do you consider it necessary to participate in examination hearing session(s):**

No, I do not wish to participate in hearing session(s)

**If you wish to participate in the hearing session(s), please outline why you consider this to be necessary:**

N/A