


**From:**   
**To:** [SheffieldPlan](#)  
**Subject:** Draft Sheffield Plan: Our City, Our Future  
**Date:** 20 February 2023 12:52:38

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Dear Councillors

I write this as a more general letter as will become clear below.

As a resident of Sheffield I would like to take part in the vision and shaping of the city over the next 15 years. I have taken an interest in various planning consultations in other places I've lived in over the years. I'm saddened however by the fact that I seem no longer to be able to have an input into the plan. I must have missed the original consultation before the pandemic. I have also not been able to make the dates for the local consultations you had nearest to where I live nor the session you had in The Moor. Given the importance of the (Draft) Local Plan I would have thought you would have had at least three or four sessions at The Moor - being central to the city - and on different days of the week. Similarly, although 6 weeks is the statutory amount of time to respond my understanding this is a minimum and could have been longer. By the time I read about it happening I had already missed 2-3 weeks.

From the Foreward: '...this is a plan for the people of Sheffield. It will have implications for how all of us live our lives.' It goes on talk about key priorities around delivering secure, connected, respected neighbourhoods...' There was not enough time to be able to read all those plans, maps and to comment.

I'm also confused as you now seem to be asking for a narrow field of response to do with the soundness of the legality of the plan. That rules me out as I'm not familiar with these matters. I had hoped after any initial consultations there would have been an opportunity for people to give further feedback once printed in draft form. I was also not able to receive a copy and it's not always been easy to find time when the central library is open to get there. In one consultation in Aotearoa/New Zealand they even produced a model of what the proposals would like.

My sense having lived in and near Sheffield for some years is that the city is getting less and less attractive to go into whether as a resident wanting somewhere to shop, access information, meet friends, relax over coffee/food or go to the theatre or cinema. Sheffield is blessed with a few gems like the Crucible/Lyceum theatres, the Showroom independent cinema and the Light cinemas, many cafes and restaurants as well as some things less well known, but it also lacks other amenities and attractions to get people into the centre. I've noticed that there are more tall and quite tall buildings going up - and some mention of another Very Tall Building - that overwhelm me and do not attract me to want to come in. One example are the buildings going up for Hallam university in Howard Street making the walk from the station or bus station less attractive and feeling hemmed in. It could have been a wonderful opportunity to make the approach to the city centre from key train, coach and bus links more attractive and inviting.

Is there any plan/suggestion for a group of people interested in these issues to be more involved as new developments take place?

Yours faithfully  
Stephan Ball

 Thank  
you.