Local Government and Communities Committee

Consideration of the Council Tax (Substitution of Proportion) (Scotland) Order 2016

Submission from A and J Harvie

Living in Band E property.

1. Overall, do you support the principles of the Government's plans to reform Council Tax?

   We support the proposals to raise the costs paid.

2. To what extent will the Government's proposed reforms make the system of Council Tax fairer?

   They will make it fairer as house prices are now so very much more expensive for bands E – H than they were when the tax was introduced, therefore if you can afford to purchase the house, you can afford the associated costs.

3. To what extent will the changes be straightforward for local authorities to implement?

   It should not be difficult at all.

4. Do you support the Government's planned changes to Council Tax reductions?

   We support the planned Reduction as you perhaps have inherited the property etc, but there should be a limited number of years for that family to claim the reduction. If you can’t afford to live in a property, you have to sell.

5. Please add any other comments on any aspect of the proposed reforms.

   A change to the amount raised by council tax has been too long in coming. Public Sector jobs and amenities have suffered for far too long. You can’t have your cake and eat it and everything has to be paid for in this world.

   S and J Harvie