Response

Sir

As a tax payer my firm belief that any opportunity to reduce the tax burden is to be welcomed. We have an opportunity also to attract talent to Scotland by allowing workers to benefit more from the product of their labour by allowing them to keep more of their income.

By proposing a 0% - 1% adjustment the Scottish Government will show it is on the side of the worker, on the side of business and on the side of economic growth.

Given that in the last cycle we have data for the Scottish Government spent £20m on Gaelic road signs in areas that have never spoken the language, £1.25m on a propaganda document for the Referendum and then returned £444m to central government as underspend on the existing settlement there is clearly room for savings to be made. In the long run, offering a competitive tax rate to individuals will then grow the tax base so that over the course of 10 to 20 years this will result in more tax revenue being available, particularly if those staff can be recruited from abroad in line with the current Scottish Government’s attitude to migration of workers.

Ron Kane