

THE, Government at Westminster, intraduced a new piece of legislation in to law on Dec 2012 stopping the payment of cash, for the purchase of scrap metal, However this piece of legislation; was ill thought out it was rushed through parliament not to reduce theft, but to find a way to apply a new tax.

Every one is entitled to be paid cash, cheques, or cards have no legal standing; whereas A Bank note is legal tender!

THE END RESULT WAS A COMPLETE HASH.

There was great stories going about that hundreds of millions of pound of stolen metal both ferrous /nonferrous being sold to Scrap merchants, if the Police and that includes transport police new of this flagellant breach of the law why was none of these scrap merchants brought to book, I honestly thought that Grimes brothers/Hans Christian Anderson, had risen from the grave, Lord Oliver Henley endorsed the Police statement of the amount that was stolen; why did he not ask the question, why was this material not recovered, and what happened to the convictions, now the new rules allow scrap merchants to dispose of the scrap metal immediately , they have removed the part where all metal that where bought must be tagged and remain for fourteen days before they could be disposed of .

The Scottish governments, questionnaire on should the Scrap metal merchants, pay cash for the materials they have purchased, or should payment be made by cheque, or debit card.

Unfortunately this was not thought out properly, Cheques and debit cards are only good if you have cash in the account, people who have to receive payment can demand cash, that is their right, but if the government wish to dispense with cash as a means of payment, they will require to pass a law in parliament, to dispense with the coin off the realm.

If the government is determined to implement this legislation, to reduce and curb the theft of metal; or is it a means to collect more tax, remember tax has already been paid when said material was first purchased; that is the real question.

To reduce the theft, one must control the way scrap metal is disposed off. You must separate the waste management licence, from the scrap metal brokers licence; since the inception of the waste management licence, theft of metal has increased, any one can apply for a waste carriers licence, or a recycling licence, there is no control, unlike the Brokers licence, there is a curtail on your trading hours Monday to Saturday 7am 5pm Sat 7am 12noon. All mater is logged with the type, weight, name of seller, car registration, time and what was paid, and they must sign, for the cash payment, the material must be retained in the brokers care for fourteen days, this is how its always been, the police come in and sign the book, if material has been stolen, the police can ask for a copy of the tape from the cctv.

What is required is a league table, in three divisions

Small, 0/ 5,00000 pounds turnover

Medium, 5,00000, 3,000000 pounds turnover

Large, 10,000000 +, pounds, excluding V A T

Those in the 10million pound bracket would have the most to lose,

Those in the 10million bracket, who pass the criteria, under the new set-up would be nominated would be afford the position of recommended Government preferred buyer of scrap metal from local authorities, former nationalised industries and government contractors.

The holders of waste carriers, and recycling licences issued by S E P A, D E F R A. Would be excluded from the purchase of buying scrap material. They would be curtailed to recycling and the carriage, of waste, they would be under the control of S E P A

New rules and conditions would need to be introduced, including severe fines and jail time, any convictions, would result of losing their licence to trade in the purchasing of scrap and the confiscation of their yards and machinery. This may sound harsh but needs must.

The regions, for purchasing scrap metal would be divided into areas like Lothian's, Border, Strathclyde, Central, ECT,

All this can be discussed to set the rules cost of new licences the people who would determine, the new conditions and cost would be invited to take part, and PHS it would also discourage the money laundering, from rogue traders

This proposal would curtail the transfer of stolen materials; in fact it would reduce the stolen metal by 90%, this is only part of the proposal we can discuss this in greater detail later.

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