SUBMISSION FROM EB SCOTLAND

Having studied the proposed amendments to the Bill and having previously responded to a call for evidence in January 2011, we think it relevant given the nature of our organisation, to respond to Key Question 5, Point Three and in so doing, we wish to remind the Committee of our views as previously expressed.

We understand that Landfill Tax will be devolved from 1st April 2015 or thereafter and urgently petition the Committee to consider the inclusion of a Landfill Communities Fund for Scotland within any legislation passed. The LCF in the UK and Scotland in particular has been demonstrably successful in the last thirteen years. By engaging these private funds, it has allowed additional public funds to be accessed by communities all over the country. In the UK to date over £1B of landfill tax money has been awarded, allowing communities to devise and deliver community assets they want in their particular area. This empowerment has achieved significant benefits highlighted below and we hope you will give consideration to this very important matter.

We are aware and fully support Scotland’s Zero Waste Strategy, however, we believe that in the foreseeable future landfill will continue in some capacity. Notwithstanding that, we see no reason why such a successful scheme cannot be tailored according to prevailing circumstances and mechanisms. We would welcome the opportunity to engage in any consideration of these ideas if required. EB Scotland Limited t/a Score Environment (EBS) has been involved in the LCF since 1997. In that time we have awarded over £20M to over 600 projects throughout Scotland. The key elements of the LCF have been;

- Ease of Access
- Leverage of Other Funds
- Community Engagement (Design and Delivery)
- Extensive Volunteering
- Sustainable Projects
- Value for Money

We respectively request that the Committee give due consideration to this matter.

William E Beattie
Managing Director
EB Scotland
6 September 2011