

PE1638/G

Petitioner submission of 27 August 2017

As the petitioner I have read all the responses to the petition thus far and it is clear as daylight that bedroom tax 2 is part of the neo liberal agenda of the conservative government at Westminster to advance the cause of the rich and powerful corporate interests to pay little or no taxation to enrich those interests to the detriment of working class people throughout the UK by the further impoverishment of said working class people.

This neo liberal agenda of the conservative government at Westminster of which the forced imposition of bedroom tax 2 is part is designed to destroy the welfare state to make the UK a tax haven for the world's rich and powerful which is well on the way to becoming.

As a socialist and Scottish nationalist I am stating that the Scottish government has failed thus far to be robust in its response staying on the sidelines saying it shares the concerns of the campaigners and housing providers but wants to wait for more details before giving its position. The responses given so far should be good enough for them to oppose bedroom tax 2

- there will be a massive rent gap or shortfall for under 35s of £23.6 million meaning their housing benefits will fall in Glasgow by an average of 25 percent and the same throughout most of Scotland
- the future provision for single homeless will be badly affected
- that the future house building programme will not be fulfilled because of a downward pressure on house provider income streams
- that senior citizens will be impoverished by this measure
- that those dependent on supported accommodation will be impoverished by this Tory tax as despite assurances to the contrary their previous record on the first bedroom tax that discretionary payments would ease the transition proved to be an absolute falsehood
- that this Tory bedroom tax 2 will drive thousands of our Scots on to the streets as homeless is in no doubt.

I appeal to all those on the petitions committee to take this petition further and to recommend an open debate in the chamber of the Scottish Parliament so that civic Scotland can say no to this dreadful punitive tax on working class people.