I would like to express my support for this Bill is to make the European Charter of Local Self-Government directly enforceable in Scots law.

1. The main aim of the Bill is to make the European Charter of Local Self-Government directly enforceable in Scots law and to require the Scottish Government to act in a way that agrees with the Charter [section 1 and 2]. Do you agree with this? **Yes, I do.**

   I believe strong and healthy local government will build a stronger and more democratic Scotland.

2. Section 3 of the Bill puts a general duty on the Scottish Government to support local government. The Scottish Government must also report to the Scottish Parliament about what it has done to support local government at least once every 5 years. Do you support section 3? **Yes, I do.**

3. Section 4 of the Bill says all legislation must be interpreted in line with the Charter whenever possible. Section 5 allows a court to make a “declaration of incompatibility”. This is a statement that a provision in a piece of legislation is not in line with the Charter. Where this declaration has been made, section 6 gives the Scottish Government power to take action to fix this provision so that it is line with the Charter (section 6). Do you agree with these sections? **Yes, I do.**

4. Section 7 allows a court to limit the consequences of a ruling that the Scottish Government has not complied with a duty set out elsewhere in the Bill. For instance, the court could provide that the effects of the ruling don’t reach back in time. It can also give the Scottish Government some time to take corrective action to address the ruling. Do you agree with section 7? **I am less sure I understand the reach and impacts of this section.**

5. Do you have thoughts on anything else about the Bill, for example:
   • how quickly it should become law after it’s passed (section 10 says this should happen almost immediately)
   • what financial impact it will have if it becomes law
   • if it will have any positive or negative impact on equality or human rights.

   **I believe it will have a positive impact on equality and human rights by aiding, though not by itself achieving, a stronger sense of agency in our nation and our democracy.**