LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

CALL FOR VIEWS ON THE NON-DOMESTIC RATES (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM GILLIAN TOWNSEND

I am writing to provide evidence of how St Mary’s Prep School contributes to the local community and wider area of the Scottish Borders.

Within our sector we are involved with lots of amenities which include many of the local parks, shops and services. We visit them and provide them with business to keep them open. We also visit local Emergency Service providers and they visit us.

As with the School, here in Kindergarten we hold annual charity events to raise funds for local charities. These have previously included Diabetes, Border Pet and Rescue, Donkey Sanctuary, Guide Dogs for the Blind and Down Syndrome Scotland. All local charities or benefit someone local to us.

Local businesses also benefit from events our school provide such as Bang Goes The Borders and Farr Out Challenge. These are carried out by staff who volunteer their time to give something back to our community.

If this Bill is passed it will affect the numbers here in Kindergarten which will then affect my job.

I feel that the above information does have a strong case for the non-domestic rates (Scotland) Bill to be overturned.