LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM ABBIE BURKE

I am writing to you to provide you evidence on how the school I work in; St Mary’s Kindergarten/ School contributes locally to my community and to a wider area in the Scottish Borders.

We demonstrate strong relationships with local community as follows:

- Weekly trips to Wooplaw woods near Langlee.
- A baby and Toddler group on a Tuesday morning providing tea, coffee and cake and a space to hold their meeting.
- Trips regularly to local emergency services in the fire, ambulance and police.
- Visits to monuments and recognised buildings such as Thirlestone castle.

Each year we also involve a charity voted by our families and children in and around school, raising money in various ways in and outside school grounds.

- Border Pet Rescue
- Diabetes Ward at the Borders General Hospital
- Cash for Kids with Radio Borders
- Guide dogs for the blind
- Down syndrome Scotland

I believe the points above show a very strong case for non-domestic rates (Scotland) bill to be overturned and for St Mary’s to continue as we are.

Thank you for your time and consideration and I hope to hear back from you.

Kind regards

Abbie Burke