LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM: RICHARD MARSH

2. How the Government has responded to the Barclay review, in particular on those recommendations it has rejected in full or part.

One of the most significant Barclay Review recommendations, rejected by the Scottish Government, was the proposed out-of-town supplement. Limited information was provided about why the recommendation was rejected but this recommendation remains under review.

It would be helpful to set out the duration of the review and its criteria.

There has been extensive commentary on local authorities’ limited use of newly devolved powers to reduce non-domestic rates. But local authorities effectively have to resource the reduction themselves.

It is difficult to envisage many local authorities having much appetite to reduce rates without the capacity to balance any shortfall in finances by raising them elsewhere, particularly in the current environment.

Richard Marsh
Director
4-consulting