LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM GRANT RAWLINSON

Principles and motives aside, the reality of what is proposed is that more children will leave the private school system or indeed not enter it in the first place. Those children will need to be accommodated by a state system already overcrowded and short of funding. In economic terms, basic arithmetic confirms that this creates a net cost to the government, not a saving. In performance terms this will create even more pressure on an already under-performing service.

This is an easy vote winner for the government but the numbers don’t make sense. The private school system is worthy of support not persecution given the relief it provides to an over-burdened and under-funded state school system. To see it as anything else is churlish and motivated by misguided ideology rather logical thought.