LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM ANONYMOUS

1. I feel extremely strongly that the school of our choice for my child is being penalised for the inadequacy of the law under which it was granted charitable foundation as this new bill will imply that the independent school do not contribute to the economy as a whole including the excellent education, sport and music facilities the school provides which adds to the cultural diversity of Scotland.

2. The important aspects of the bill which needs to be looked at are the supposed monitory gains to the public sector schools compared to the value of the monies which the independent schools generate for the local economy.

3. It also has to be considered that public schools will be inundated with applications for placements in an already stretched system and parents will be asked to double contribute to taxes which are already paid at source of their income.

4. If parity is required on the Non-Domestic rates the government should consider giving independent schools the same amount of monies that are provided to the public schools on a per pupil basis to allow for choice to parents as is done in Sweden.

5. As stated previously I already pay my taxes and so it would be very counterproductive to have to contribute even more due to this Bill in such a short time and implementation without due regard to the difficulties parents will face, who work extremely hard to provide for their child to go to an Independent School.

6. From reading the briefing document it appears that the savings will only be extremely small and is only applicable for 50 of the charities and so why the difference between the other 24,000 charities a blatant discrimination.

7. I would further add why the difference between Independent Schools and Faith based schools who will still qualify for not paying Non-domestic rates as these are charitable institutions.