LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE
CALL FOR VIEWS ON THE NON-DOMESTIC RATES (SCOTLAND) BILL

SUBMISSION FROM ANONYMOUS

My 3 children attended comprehensive primary and secondary schools where the standard of discipline within the schools was detrimental to their education.

The teachers within the schools were exemplary however due to the lack of support from parents and indeed parents continually supporting their children’s behaviour irrespective of the teachers view, led to schools not being able to provide a solid learning environment for my children’s education.

I am a self-employed fire engineer and my wife a university lecturer therefore we do not have significant funding available for private education however we decided to self-sacrifice in order to provide a better environment for our children to continue their education.

We haven’t been on a family holiday for 4 years; our cars are over 10 years old and we do not have funds to purchase the extra’s in life.

We are constantly in overdraft with our bank accounts however seeing our children renew their self confidence and self esteem by attending private schooling has been worth it.

The proposal to remove non-domestic business rates relief for private schools and the significant increase in school fees would tip us over the edge and force us to return our children to the school environment that squashed their self-esteem.

Many people perceive private schools and a bunch of rich kids with rich parents who can afford any increase in fees. This is an ignorant misconception which I would hope the committee has the ability and will to sufficiently research and come to an educated decision rather that populist misconception and dare I say politically motivated decision.

I urge the committee to rethink this decision and reflect on the impact of the thousands of children like mine who would be forced back into state education and indeed how the education system would cope with all these children.