LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM ANONYMOUS

I am writing as a concerned parent with a son at an independent school. I am a single parent with a low paid job. My son is a bright boy with a learning difficulty. He struggled at primary school, simultaneously failing to achieve or be stimulated. It was our great good fortune that he was awarded a full bursary to SMC. Since then his life has changed and his progress has been tremendous.

I have watched the progress of this bill with trepidation, fearing that my son’s bursary will be terminated. Presumably, this bill has been put forward to hit the wealthy and privileged. It won’t. Independent schools will need to pass on these additional costs to the customer and bursaries will be reduced or eliminated altogether. The Scottish Government wishes to close the Attainment Gap between rich and poor and the Independent school bursary system is a brilliant way of doing so. They should think again.