LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE

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

SUBMISSION FROM ANONYMOUS

This is a purely political policy to try to increase the burden of education on parents of children in Independent Schools. Assuming a rates bill of £500k for ESMS this would require an increase in fees which many parents are already struggling to pay. This is not to find parity with State Schools as they are publicly funded so any rates payable are returned back to the public sector to be paid by the same body who set the rates. It is a completely circular argument.

The follow on issue that if parents cannot pay fees then the Children will need to attend a non-fee paying school with the financial liability falling onto the public purse. To be par with the proposed increase in revenues there would only need to be c1,000 children falling out of fee paying schools into the State School System.

This is a classic SNP policy of throwing symbolic red meat to their support bases (see LBTT failures) when in effect you actually place more long term stress on the Government budget.