

6th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION

MINUTE

Held in St. Andrews House, Regent road, Edinburgh at 10 am on Tuesday 12 May 2015

Present

Councillor David O'Neill (Co-Chair)

Margo Biagi (Co-Chair)

Don Peebles

Isobel d'Inverno

Andy Wightman

Councillor Catriona Bhatia

Angela O'Hagan

Mary Kinninmonth

Jim McCormick

Councillor Angus Campbell **via** conference call

Apologies received from Councillor Rhondda Geekie, Councillor Susan Aitken and Alex Rowley MSP

In attendance;

Emma Close, Neil Ferguson, Robin Haynes, Adam Stewart, Ruth Wilson (secretariat)

Developing Expertise

1. Helen McPhee, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors delivered a presentation to the Commission on property taxes covering valuation issues including the role of RICS in Land & Property.
2. Joan Hewton, Lothian Valuation Joint Board also spoke to Commissioners and provided an overview of Council Tax covering its background, how it works and what its perceived benefits are.
3. Robin Haynes delivered a presentation covering Local Income Tax which explained the background, what happens internationally and what the perceived benefits/negativities are. This was then followed by Doug Stoneham, HMRC who explained that Local Income Taxes are a fundamental part of many countries' tax systems, contributing revenues and providing local accountability. He then covered the types of administrative issues which may surround Local Income Tax including collection and how to identify Scottish Taxpayers.

Minutes of the 5th Meeting (5 May 2015)

4. The draft minute was agreed and will be placed on the Commission website.

Oral Evidence Sessions

5. Commissioners were reminded that 2 oral evidence sessions have been arranged for w/b 18 May. Dates of future sessions were circulated and Commissioners were asked to note these and advise the secretariat of the availability for all events.

AOB

6. The Commission endorsed the idea of issuing a news release this weekend to highlight the commencement of the evidence gathering phase of work.

Future Meetings

7. The Commission noted the date of the next meeting which will be held in COSLA.
 - Tuesday 9th June 10:00-13:00 – presentation of findings from literature review.

Commission Secretariat, May 2015