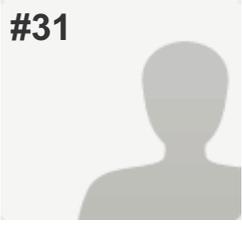


Call for Written Evidence

#31



PAGE 2: RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Q1: Please tell us a little about yourself

Forename

Q2: Would you be happy to be approached by the Commission for further discussion about your submission?

Yes

Q3: Do you consider yourself or your organisation as from or representing?

an urban area

Q4: I am responding as an:

An individual

PAGE 3

Q5: You have indicated that you are responding as an individual. Do you agree to your response being made available to the public on the Commission's web site?

Yes

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Q6: If you have agreed to your response being made available to the public, please tell us if we may also make your name and address available.

Yes, make my response available, but not my name and address

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Q7: You have indicated that you are responding on behalf of an organisation. The name and address of your organisation will be made public on the Commission's web site. Are you content for your response to also be made available?

Respondent skipped this question

Q8: Which of the following best describes your organisation?

Respondent skipped this question

Q9: Please provide a short description of the main purpose of your organisation.

Respondent skipped this question

PAGE 6: TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

Q10: CURRENT SYSTEM OF COUNCIL TAX: To what extent does the current system of council tax deliver a fair and effective system of local taxation in Scotland? Are there any features of the current system that you wish to see retained or changed? Please illustrate your answer with any examples from your own experience.

I do not believe the current system is at all fair and the fact that there hasn't been a revaluation since the current system was introduced means there is a huge imbalance between peoples incomes, property values and ability to pay. The current banding system is anything but fit for purpose. In my own area there are band E properties like my own valued around 50 - 70k less than properties across the street which are band D. This is simply unjustifiable.

Q11: REFORM OF LOCAL TAXATION: Are there alternatives to the current system of council tax that you think would help to reform local taxation in Scotland? What are the main features of these, and why do you think they would deliver improvement? Do you have any examples of why this is the case?

I am personally more in favour of a tax based on an individuals income. Any new system however could be based on two separate components. These are of course the income earned and the value of the property of which the individual(s) live.

I also feel that students who live in local communities (non university accommodation) should contribute a small amount of council tax each month. A charge of around £25 per student / per month should be considered as part of the reform. Students living in residential accommodation enjoy a higher degree of amenity and should contribute a small amount of money to reflect this.

Q12: LOCAL PRIORITIES: How well do you think that communities' local priorities are accounted for in the way that local taxation operates at the moment? If there is room for improvement, how should things change? Do you have any ideas or examples about how this could improve people's lives?

I'm not sure. All I would like is for my own council to be more responsive when it is contacted about a specific issue.

Call for Written Evidence

Q13: FURTHER INFORMATION:We would like to keep the conversation going. Please tell us about any events, networks or other ways in which we could help achieve this.

N/A