

Call for Written Evidence

PAGE 2: RESPONDENT INFORMATION

Q1: Please tell us a little about yourself	
Forename	Ian
Surname	Campbell
Title (e.g. Mr/Ms/Mrs/Miss/Dr)	Mr
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Q2: Would you be happy to be approached by the Commission for further discussion about your submission?	Yes
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Q3: Do you consider yourself or your organisation as from or representing?	an area with both urban and rural parts
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Q4: I am responding as an:	An individual

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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 and name available, but not my 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?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q8: Which of the following best describes your organisation?	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>
Q9: Please provide a short description of the main purpose of your organisation.	<i>Respondent skipped this question</i>

<p>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.</p> <p>The current council tax system has benefits in that it is related to house value but does not really take into account ability to pay. (Property rich/cash poor) There are benefits that can be claimed but not all do so. Council tax is also not related really to the benefits that various communities have. For example in rural areas one could live in an expensive house but receive far fewer 'services' than someone in a lower value property in an urban area. eg. street lighting/reduced waste collection services/public transport subsidies</p> <p>The 'freezing' of council tax also inhibits the desire of local people to increase local taxation to meet local need.</p> <p>There should be a 'baseline' tax that all are required to pay in order to highlight the value of public services.</p>
<p>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?</p> <p>In Scotland with the variation in population between rural and urban anything truly 'local' will always cause inequalities of one form or another. unless there is weighting between rural/urban areas.</p> <p>A 'weighted' flat tax based on geography is a possibility. i.e. those in Edinburgh are weighted more heavily than in Kinloch Rannoch with tax credits given based on income</p>
<p>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?</p> <p>There should always be an element of local funding for local priorities with this shown separately on any local tax demand so that people know sum 'x' is raised locally.</p>

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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.

Respondent skipped this question

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