**COMMISSION ON LOCAL TAX REFORM**

**MEETING 9, 19 August 2015**

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**8th MEETING OF THE COMMISSION**

**MINUTE**

Held in Verity House, 19 Haymarket Yards, Edinburgh at 10 am on 19 August 2015

**Present**

Councillor David O’Neill (Co-Chair) Isobel d’Inverno

Don Peebles Councillor Rhondda Geekie

Jim McCormick Angela O’Hagan

Councillor Angus Campbell **by V/C**

Apologies received from Margo Biagi (Co-Chair), Councillor Catriona Bhatia, Mary Kinninmonth, Councillor Susan Aitken, Andy Wightman and Jackie Baillie MSP

**In attendance**;

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

**Analysis of Reponses to the Call for Written Evidence**

1. Katy MacMillan accompanied by Tara McGregor, from ODS, delivered a presentation to the Commission which provided an overview of their analysis of the response to the call for Written Evidence.
2. More than two-thirds of respondents think that the current system of Council Tax is unfair, for a number of reasons, but opinion is split on the best way of achieving reform.
3. The full report was published on 21 August.

**Energy Saving Trust**

4**.** Elaine Waterson, Energy Saving Trust (EST) talked to the Commission regarding the potential of linking energy efficiency to Tax which could be used to encourage people to make their households become more efficient. The EST advised that such provisions need not be introduced to immediately accompany and new system but that it should allow for links to be more easily made in the future.

5. Elaine also advised the Group that consideration for this type of policy could not be undertaken in isolation. It needs to sit within a wider analysis of the range of policies – from both UK and Scottish Government to meet climate change targets.

**Minutes of the 8th Meeting (7 August 2015)**

6. The draft minute was agreed with one amendment to the attendee list and will be placed on the Commission website.

**Quantitative Analysis**

7. Emma Close provided an update to the Commissioners regarding progress and next steps for the Quantitative Analysis work.

**AOB**

8. None

**Future Meetings (updated)**

9. The Commission noted the date of the next meeting which will be held in Verity House, Haymarket.

• Tuesday 15 September: 10:00-13:00

**Commission Secretariat, August 2015**