

PE2019/F: Withdraw rates relief under the Small Business Bonus Scheme from Holiday Let Accommodation

Petitioner written submission, 27 January 2025

To further support my petition, I should like to draw the Committee's attention to the Association of Scotland's Self-Caterers (ASSC) and BiGGAR Economics report published on 12th December 2024. The ASSC press release states that "A new independent analysis from respected Scottish consultancy, BiGGAR Economics, reveals the substantial positive economic impact of Scotland's self-catering industry which was also shown to have a negligible effect on housing."

Key findings by BiGGAR include:

- i. Short-term lets (STLs) contribute £864 million in Gross Value Added (GVA) annually to the Scottish economy and support 29,324 jobs.
- ii. Each STL generates on average £32,400 additional GVA per property compared to residential use.

I would like to propose to the Committee that my petition makes sound fiscal sense given the relatively low cost of having to pay business rates compared to the GVA earned per property.

I once again commend my petition to the Committee; first and foremost because the existing regime is market distorting where there is no market failure.