

24th June 2008-06-24

Re: Consultation of Rates Charges

To whom it may concern

I wish to register my support for the proposal to cap the capital value at which rates are applied to £400,000 in line with the situation in England and Wales.

I believe the current proposals are unfair and unjustly penalise anyone whose property has gone up in value due to the recent house price inflation – something I have had no control over, having purchased a home in which to raise my family almost 20 years ago.

As a self employed person I have worked hard not just to provide for my family but to underpin my future security and without burden to either the state or my relatives. The proposed costs which I would have to meet, place at risk my ability to do this as the significant extra household costs would have to be found at a time when the economy is in recession and business revenues depressed.

It seems to me a totally counterintuitive to the Government's strategy of promoting economic growth and incentivising business development and enterprise by seemingly fining people for investing in their independence from the state.

Any MLA who supports the existing proposals is out of touch with householders, the economy and the business community and unfit for future election.

Yours sincerely