

PE1535/E

Petitioner Letter of 16 February 2015

Consideration of Responses to PE1535

I thank all the organisations asked to consider my petition by the committee for their detailed responses to my proposals. On the issue of plastic bags I understand the position that the Scottish Government have taken considering that they have only just introduced a fee for plastic bags. I understand that they would like to see the impact of the charge before going for the next steps. However I still hold the belief that eventually we should look at a complete ban as many other countries have. As well as this I would add that if we are already looking at a 90% reduction in usage, why shouldn't we push for 100%?

In response to my proposals on the teaching of the environment, I am glad to hear that the head teachers union recognises that this is an issue and that it is an issue they should teach. However, I still have concerns over the fact that there is nothing concrete that teachers must teach as was pointed out in the response from the head teachers union as all there is is "guidance". I would like to ensure that schools do teach the environment and the only way I can see that happening is by making it mandatory. However, I respect the governments thoughts in this as they pointed out that Scottish education tradition is that specific curriculums are left to local areas.

Yours sincerely,

Alexander Fraser