Written evidence submitted by Claire Bullock (RUT0297)

May I suggest agricultural property relief is extended to holiday lets and accommodation provided on working farms, and that business rates should no longer apply.

This would encourage additional places to stay as well as help supplement traditional farming income as subsidies decline. There is of course a wider socio-economic impact on rural areas e.g. employment for local people and more visitors means greater use of rural shops, pubs and services like petrol stations and post offices etc.

Certain stipulations could be placed on exemptions such as the property must be advertised to rent, evidence guests are using local businesses, information is provided to the guests about the local wildlife, public access and there’s an opportunity to see local attractions including farming!

December 2016