Note: (DT) signifies a decision taken at Decision Time.

The meeting opened at 11.40 am.

1. General Questions: Questions were answered by Cabinet Secretaries and Ministers.

2. First Minister’s Questions: Questions were answered by the First Minister (Nicola Sturgeon).

3. Volunteering and Self-management: The Parliament debated S4M-13894 in the name of Joan McAlpine—That the Parliament acknowledges the contribution of volunteers across Scotland in raising awareness of self-management; believes that both volunteering and community involvement play a significant role in supporting people with managing long-term conditions and in raising awareness of how self-management can inspire others; understands that third sector organisations, such as New Horizons Borders in the Scottish Borders and Healthy ‘n’ Happy in South Lanarkshire, support many formal and informal volunteering opportunities for people with long-term conditions and that this has resulted in social benefits, including social connectedness and improved employment prospects; welcomes the continued investment through the £2 million per year Self Management Impact Fund, which is run by the Health and Social Care Alliance Scotland (the Alliance), and congratulates the Alliance on establishing its Self-management Network for Scotland, which aims to help people with long-term conditions or who work in health and social care to share their experiences, learn and hear about best practice and to change lives through self-management.

5. Education (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning (Angela Constance) moved S4M-14614—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Education (Scotland) Bill.

After debate, the motion was agreed to (DT).

6. Education (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy (John Swinney) moved S4M-13938—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Education (Scotland) Bill, agrees to any expenditure of a kind referred to in Rule 9.12.3(b) of the Parliament’s Standing Orders arising in consequence of the Act.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Designation of Lead Committee: Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-14632—That the Parliament agrees that the Infrastructure and Capital Investment Committee be designated as the lead committee in consideration of the Private Housing (Tenancies) (Scotland) Bill at stage 1.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

8. Suspension of Standing Orders: Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-14650—That the Parliament agrees that, for the purpose of allowing the Justice Committee to complete its consideration of the International Organisations (Immunities and Privileges) (Scotland) Amendment Order 2015 [draft], the second sentence of Rule 10.6.4 of Standing Orders be suspended.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

9. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 5, 6, 7, and 8 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 5.01 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
29 October 2015
Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

New Bills introduced on 29 October 2015

Lobbying (Scotland) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to make provision about lobbying, including provision for establishing and maintaining a lobbying register and the publication of a code of conduct. (SP Bill 82) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: John Swinney

Explanatory Notes (and other accompanying documents) (SP Bill 82-EN) and a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 82-PM) were printed to accompany the Bill.

Subordinate Legislation

Negative instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 29 October 2015 and is subject to the negative procedure—

European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (Grants) (Scotland) Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/359)
  laid under paragraph 2(2) of Schedule 2 to the European Communities Act 1972

Laid only instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 29 October 2015 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Community Empowerment (Scotland) Act 2015 (Commencement No. 2) Order 2015 (SSI 2015/358 (C.44))
  laid under section 30(2) of the Interpretation and Legislative Reform (Scotland) Act 2010

Other Documents

The following documents were laid before the Parliament on the 29 October 2015 and are not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

  laid under Section 18(2) of the Mental Health (Care and Treatment) (Scotland) Act 2003

HM Fire Service Inspectorate: Preparedness of the Scottish Fire and Rescue Service for a serious flooding event (SG/2015/160)
  laid under Section 43C(5) of the Fire (Scotland) Act 2005
laid under Section 26(5) of the National Parks (Scotland) Act 2000

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Annual Accounts 2014-2015 (SG/2015/218)
laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

Committee Reports

The following reports are being published on 30 October 2015—

Rural Affairs, Climate Change and Environment Committee, 9th Report, 2015 (Session 4): Subordinate Legislation (SP Paper 823)

Economy, Energy and Tourism Committee, 9th report 2015 (Session 4): The Renewables Obligation (Scotland) Amendment Order 2015 [draft] (SP Paper 822)