1. **Time for Reflection:** Very Reverned Monsignor Allan T. Chambers, St David’s Catholic Church, Dalkeith led Time for Reflection.

2. **Business Motion:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-15592—That the Parliament agrees to the following revisions to the programme of business—

(a) Tuesday 9 February 2016

    after

    *followed by* Public Audit Committee Debate: Overview of Scotland’s Colleges 2015; 2012-13 Audit of North Glasgow College and 2013-14 Audit of Coatbridge College

    insert

    *followed by* Legislative Consent Motion: Enterprise Bill – UK Legislation

(b) Thursday 11 February 2016

    after

    *followed by* Scottish Government Debate: Scottish Rate Resolution
insert

followed by  Financial Resolution: Burial and Cremation (Scotland) Bill

delete

5.30 pm Decision Time

and insert

6.30 pm Decision Time

The motion was agreed to

3. Topical Questions: Questions were answered by a Cabinet Secretary and a Minister.

4. Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) (Scotland) Bill: Anne McTaggart moved S4M-15128—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) (Scotland) Bill.

The Minister for Public Health (Maureen Watt) moved amendment S4M-15128.1 to motion S4M-15128—

Leave out from “agrees” to end and insert—

“does not agree to the general principles of the Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) (Scotland) Bill because it has serious concerns about the practical impact of the specific details in the bill that relate to organ donation rates and transplants; agrees the merits of developing a workable soft opt-out system for Scotland, and calls on the Scottish Government to commence work in preparation for a detailed consultation on further methods to increase organ donations and transplants in Scotland, including soft opt-out, as an early priority in the next parliamentary session, learning from the experiences in Wales, which is currently implementing its own opt-out legislation, and to consider bringing forward legislation as appropriate.”

After debate, the amendment was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 59, Against 56, Abstentions 0).

The motion, as amended, was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 65, Against 48, Abstentions 2).

Accordingly, the Parliament resolved—That the Parliament does not agree to the general principles of the Transplantation (Authorisation of Removal of Organs etc.) (Scotland) Bill because it has serious concerns about the practical impact of the specific details in the bill that relate to organ donation rates and transplants; agrees the merits of developing a workable soft opt-out system for Scotland, and calls on the Scottish Government to commence work in preparation for a detailed consultation on further methods to increase organ donations and transplants in
Scotland, including soft opt-out, as an early priority in the next parliamentary session, learning from the experiences in Wales, which is currently implementing its own opt-out legislation, and to consider bringing forward legislation as appropriate.


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

6. Enterprise Bill - UK Legislation: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and Economy (John Swinney) moved S4M-15577—That the Parliament agrees that the relevant provisions of the Enterprise Bill, introduced in the House of Lords on 16 September 2015, relating to measures on the creation of a Small Business Commissioner and capping public sector exit payments, so far as these matters fall within the legislative competence of the Scottish Parliament or alter the executive competence of the Scottish Ministers, should be considered by the UK Parliament.

The motion was agreed to (DT).

7. Decision Time: The Parliament took decisions on items 4, 5 and 6 as noted above.

8. Broadband and Mobile Phone Coverage in Rural and Island Communities: The Parliament debated S4M-15404 in the name of Tavish Scott—That the Parliament considers that reliable and affordable broadband and mobile phone coverage is essential for businesses and households looking to access a range of services; understands that the current Digital Scotland Superfast Broadband programme has vast regional variations, with only 75% of premises in Orkney and 77% of premises in Shetland being reached by the end of 2016 compared with the 95% target across Scotland as a whole by March 2018; further understands that “not-spots” in mobile phone coverage, including 2G and 3G, are far more common in rural and island communities; considers that the full implementation of superfast broadband and universal mobile phone coverage can counter falling population in outlying areas while bringing significant economic benefits; believes that plugging the remaining gaps in coverage is likely to require a range of different technologies, and notes calls for the Scottish Government to work with partners to find solutions for households and businesses in harder-to-reach communities and prioritise investment in those places that fall below the average or have no access to broadband and mobile phone coverage.

9. Motion without Notice: Tavish Scott moved without notice that, under Rule 8.14.3, the debate be extended by up to 30 minutes. The motion was agreed to.
The meeting closed at 6.34 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
9 February 2016
Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 8 February 2016 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Homeowner Housing Panel Annual Report 2014 (SG/2016/8)
laid under section 27(3) of the Property Factors (Scotland) Act 2011

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 9 February 2016 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Marine Scotland: Report to the Scottish Parliament on Orders Regulating the Management of Shellfisheries under the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 (SG/2016/8)
laid under Section 6 of the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 5 February 2016—

Welfare Reform Committee, 1st Report, 2016 (Session 4): Subordinate Legislation (SP Paper 906)

The following reports were published on 8 February 2016—

Local Government and Regeneration Committee, 4th Report, 2016 (Session 4): Report on Footway Parking and Double Parking (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 907)

Education and Culture Committee, 3rd report 2016 (Session 4): Report on the renewal of the BBC charter (SP Paper 909)

The following report was published on 9 February 2016—

Justice Committee, 3rd Report, 2016 (Session 4): Stage 1 Report on the Criminal Verdicts (Scotland) Bill (SP Paper 910)

The following report was published on 10 February 2016—

Justice Committee, 4th Report, 2016 (Session 4): Subordinate Legislation (SP Paper 912)