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 (Alex Salmond).

3. **Oncology at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary:** The Parliament debated S4M-08606 in the name of Tavish Scott—That the Parliament understands that there is a continuing shortage of specialist clinical oncologists at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary to provide radiotherapy treatment and that patients across the north of Scotland including Orkney and Shetland who would normally be treated at Aberdeen Royal Infirmary have had to be transferred to other parts of Scotland; recognises that, during what can be an extremely turbulent and distressing time for patients and their families, high quality care is preferable as close to home as possible; considers that patients undertaking radiotherapy treatment from Orkney and Shetland have benefited greatly from the comfort, convenience and support of being able to stay at Aberdeen CLAN Haven but that patients are deprived of this service if they are transferred to other parts of the country, and recognises the need for NHS Grampian to have both the support and staff necessary to provide the people of the north of Scotland with high quality care.

4. **Business Motion:** Joe FitzPatrick, on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S4M-08768—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule
9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limit indicated, that time limit being calculated from when the stage begins and excluding any periods when other business is under consideration or when a meeting of the Parliament is suspended (other than a suspension following the first division in the stage being called) or otherwise not in progress:

Groups 1 to 3: 35 minutes
Groups 4 to 6: 50 minutes.

The motion was agreed to.

5. Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Bill was considered at Stage 3.

The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

15 (For 26, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
16 (For 28, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
17 (For 28, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
18 (For 28, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
1  (For 12, Against 87, Abstentions 0)
20 (For 28, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
21 (For 28, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
10 (For 39, Against 60, Abstentions 0)
11 (For 27, Against 72, Abstentions 0)
12 (For 26, Against 72, Abstentions 0)
13 (For 27, Against 71, Abstentions 0)
14 (For 27, Against 71, Abstentions 0).

The following amendments were not moved: 19 and 22.

The Deputy Presiding Officer extended the time-limits under Rule 9.8.4A(c).

6. Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill - Stage 3: The Minister for Environment and Climate Change (Paul Wheelhouse) moved S4M-08745—That the Parliament agrees that the Regulatory Reform (Scotland) Bill be passed.

After debate, the motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 93, Against 2, Abstentions 1).

7. Town Centre Action Plan: The Minister for Local Government and Planning (Derek Mackay) moved S4M-08769—That the Parliament supports the range of actions identified in the Town Centre Action Plan and welcomes the work of the National Town Centre Review External Advisory Group; recognises the importance of town centres as a base for improving local economies and for local business and employment; acknowledges that successful town centres provide communities with a range of accessible services and are attractive areas in which to socialise; agrees
that local decision making and delivery is important to reflect the specific and diverse needs of Scotland’s town centres; recognises the benefits of having the most competitive business rates package in the UK through measures such as the Small Business Bonus Scheme, Fresh Start rates relief and by capping the 2014-15 poundage rate, and calls on elected representatives at all levels, local communities and wider public and private sector partners to continue to work together to revitalise Scotland's town centres.

Sarah Boyack moved amendment S4M-08769.2 to motion S4M-08769—

Insert at end—

“; recognises the importance of investment in housing to help regenerate Scotland’s town centres, and acknowledges that to properly implement the Town Centre Action Plan and reinvigorate town centres there must be significantly more investment than the £2.75 million currently set aside in the Town Centre Housing Fund.”

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 22, Against 74, Abstentions 0).

Gavin Brown moved amendment S4M-08769.3 to motion S4M-08769—

Leave out from “supports” to end and insert—

“welcomes the work of the National Town Centre Review External Advisory Group and notes the Scottish Government response in the Town Centre Action Plan; recognises that town centres play a vital role across Scotland in terms of communities, jobs and businesses; questions the Scottish Government’s commitment to a town centre first principle and is disappointed by the lack of action on the Business Rates Incentivisation Scheme, and calls on the Scottish Government to give serious consideration to a fresh Town Centre Regeneration Fund and to implementing a relief scheme for retail properties with a rateable value of up to £50,000."

After debate, the amendment was disagreed to ((DT) by division: For 10, Against 86, Abstentions 0).

The motion was then agreed to ((DT) by division: For 79, Against 15, Abstentions 0).

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

The meeting closed at 5.06 pm.

P E Grice
Clerk of the Parliament
16 January 2014
Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Subordinate Legislation

Negative instruments

The following instrument was laid before the Parliament on 16 January 2014 and is subject to the negative procedure—

Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2014 (SSI 2014/12)
laid under section 48(1) of the Food Safety Act 1990

Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 16 January 2014 and are not subject to Parliamentary procedure—

The Scottish Police Authority Governance and Accountability Framework Document (SG/2014/06)
laid at the request of a member of the Scottish Government and not under any laying power

Committee Reports

The following report was published on 16 January 2014—

Health and Sport Committee, 1st report 2014 (Session 4): Legislative Consent Motion on the Children and Families Bill (SP Paper 455)