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. Congratulating Greenock Morton Community Trust: The Parliament debated S4M-12203 in the name of Stuart McMillan—That the Parliament congratulates Greenock Morton Community Trust (GMCT) on receiving £106,029 from the Scottish Government’s Climate Challenge Fund; understands that the group will use the grant to promote lower carbon lifestyle choices in Inverclyde, including a sports kit and footwear recycling initiative; notes GMCT’s role in educating school children and providing them with equipment to participate in sport; considers that football clubs across Scotland have an important role in their local communities, and praises all involved at GMCT and Greenock Morton Football Club for the growing community work that they do in Inverclyde.

4. Prisoners (Control of Release) (Scotland) Bill: The Cabinet Secretary for Justice (Michael Matheson) moved S4M-12878—That the Parliament agrees to the general principles of the Prisoners (Control of Release) (Scotland) Bill.

After debate, the motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 70, Against 0, Abstentions 10).
5. Prisoners (Control of Release) (Scotland) Bill: Financial Resolution: The Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Constitution and the Economy (John Swinney) moved S4M-11827—That the Parliament, for the purposes of any Act of the Scottish Parliament resulting from the Prisoners (Control of Release) (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).

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

The meeting closed at 5.03 pm.

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

New Bills introduced on 2 April 2015

Scottish Elections (Reduction of Voting Age) Bill—A Bill for an Act of the Scottish Parliament to reduce the voting age to 16 at elections for membership of the Scottish Parliament and local government elections; and for connected purposes. (SP Bill 66) (Government Bill)

Introduced by: John Swinney

Explanatory Notes (and other accompanying documents) (SP Bill 66-EN) and a Policy Memorandum (SP Bill 66-PM) were printed to accompany the Bill.

Subordinate Legislation

Negative instruments

The following instruments were laid before the Parliament on 2 April 2015 and are subject to the negative procedure—

National Health Service (Free Prescriptions and Charges for Drugs and Appliances) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/160)
laied under section 105(2) of the National Health Service (Scotland) Act 1978

Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (Authorisation of Cremation – Death Outwith Scotland) Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/162)
laied under section 29 of the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011

Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (Application for Review) Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/163)
laied under section 29 of the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011

Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (Consequential Provisions) Order 2015 (SSI 2015/164)
laied under section 29 of the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011

Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011 (Post-Mortem Examinations – Death Outwith United Kingdom) Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/165)
laied under section 29 of the Certification of Death (Scotland) Act 2011

Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965 (Prohibition on Disposal of a Body without Authorisation) Regulations 2015 (SSI 2015/166)
laied under section 27A of the Registration of Births, Deaths and Marriages (Scotland) Act 1965
Other Documents

The following document was laid before the Parliament on 2 April 2015 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Scottish Courts and Tribunals Service – Framework Document (SCTS/2015/01)
laid under section 60 and schedule 3 of the Judiciary and Courts (Scotland) Act 2008