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. **Referendums (Scotland) Bill:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved S5M-20250—That the Parliament agrees that, during stage 3 of the Referendums (Scotland) Bill, debate on groups of amendments shall, subject to Rule 9.8.4A, be brought to a conclusion by the time limits indicated, those time limits 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 4: 1 hour
   Groups 5 to 7: 1 hour 35 minutes
   Groups 8 to 11: 2 hours 15 minutes.

   The motion was agreed to.

4. **Referendums (Scotland) Bill – Stage 3:** The Bill was considered at Stage 3.
The following amendments were agreed to (without division): 21, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 22, 4, 11, 12, 5, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 24 and 25.

The following amendments were disagreed to (by division)—

1  (For 54, Against 67, Abstentions 0)
2  (For 55, Against 66, Abstentions 0)
3  (For 54, Against 67, Abstentions 0)
13  (For 56, Against 68, Abstentions 0)
17A  (For 32, Against 61, Abstentions 30).

Amendment 23 was moved and, no member having objected, withdrawn.

The following amendments were not moved: 14 and 15.

5.  **Referendums (Scotland) Bill – Stage 3:** The Cabinet Secretary for Government Business and Constitutional Relations (Michael Russell) moved S5M-20237—That the Parliament agrees that the Referendums (Scotland) Bill be passed.

The motion was agreed to ((DT) by division: For 68, Against 54, Abstentions 2).

6.  **Motion Without Notice:** The Minister for Parliamentary Business and Veterans (Graeme Dey), on behalf of the Parliamentary Bureau, moved without notice that, under Rule 11.2.4, Decision Time be brought forward to 4.34 pm.

The motion was agreed to.

7.  **Decision Time:** The Parliament took a decision on item 5 as noted above.

The meeting closed at 4.36 pm.

David McGill
Clerk of the Parliament
19 December 2019
Appendix
(Note: this Appendix does not form part of the Minutes)

Committee Reports

The following report will be published on 28 December 2019—


New Subordinate Legislation

Negative Instruments

The following instruments were laid on 19 December 2019 and are subject to the negative procedure—

Conservation of Salmon (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 (SSI 2019/426)
Laid under section 38(1) and (6)(b) and (c) of the Salmon and Freshwater Fisheries (Consolidation) (Scotland) Act 2003

Electricity Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Scotland) Amendment Regulations 2019 (SSI 2019/427)
Laid under schedule 2 of the European Communities Act 1972

Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Scotland) Amendment (No. 2) Regulations 2019 (SSI 2019/425)
Laid Under section 56(4) of the Finance Act 1973

Laid Only Instruments

The following instrument was laid on 19 December 2019 and is not subject to any parliamentary procedure—

Transport (Scotland) Act 2019 (Commencement No. 1) Regulations 2019 SSI 2019/428 (C.25)
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 19 December 2019 and are not subject to parliamentary procedure—

Disclosure Scotland Annual Report and Accounts 2018-19 SG/2019/225 laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000

The 2018/19 audit of Disclosure Scotland SG/2019/252 laid under Section 22(5) of the Public Finance and Accountability (Scotland) Act 2000