

FOI - 202300355045

Request to provide

- I am asking for copies of the email correspondence (including attachments) that Transport Scotland has had with CMAL and CalMac Ferries regarding the time charter of the MV Alfred from Pentland Ferries, and any such correspondence between Transport Scotland and Pentland Ferries on the same matter, within the timeframe 1 Jan 2023 – 23 March 2023.

Annex A - Pentland Ferries Draft news release

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 March 2023 11:19  
**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Pentland Ferries Draft news release

Hi {redacted},

Here is the draft release that PF have just shared with us, which you'll want to look at.

{redacted}

Pentland Ferries Draft news release

## [PENTLAND FERRIES](#)

### [DRAFT NEWS RELEASE](#)

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#### [MV PENTALINA RETURNS TO PENTLAND FIRTH](#)

[Pentland Ferries has announced that the MV Pentalina will return to serve the Pentland Firth route for a nine-month period commencing 18 April 2023, while the MV Alfred is on charter to CalMac Ferries. Pentland Ferries will operate and deliver services with the MV Alfred on behalf of CalMac Ferries on the Clyde and Hebrides Network, subject to successful berthing trials.](#)

[Managing director of Pentland Ferries, Helen Inkster, said:](#)

["I can confirm that we have signed an agreement with CalMac Ferries for the charter of MV Alfred. During the charter period the MV Pentalina will operate on the Pentland Firth route. This move ensures we continue to provide a reliable service to Orkney, while assisting CalMac to offer resilience over their West Coast services.](#)

["We look forward to welcoming the Pentalina back to service as the Alfred departs for the West Coast where she will complete berthing trials to assess her suitability for CalMac services. On completion of successful trials, the MV Alfred will be based in Campbeltown until deployed by CalMac Ferries.](#)

["We remain entirely committed to serving the community of Orkney, {redacted}, operating the MV Pentalina is, we believe, a prudent move, allowing us to protect, develop and invest in the future of the Orkney service.](#)

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[“We look forward to working with CalMac on the next stage of the charter and see both vessels in operation providing reliable, dynamic and efficient services to island communities on the North and West of Scotland.”](#)

**{redacted}**

Director of Communications  
CalMac Ferries Ltd  
Ferry Terminal  
Gourock  
PA19 1QP

Mob: {redacted}  
Email: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk

**Annex B – MV Alfred (16 February to 23 March)**

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 23 March 2023 17:53  
**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy Macdonald  
Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot  
**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hello again,

{redacted}

I have captured a lessons learned that CalMac need to include unions in future lease and new deployment discussions, appreciate in this instance that we were bound by commercial sensitivities, however we will look to improve in the future should this situation arise again.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

**{redacted}**

Project Manager | Strategy & Change

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 23 March 2023 14:50

**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Afternoon all,

By way of an update and to make you aware following the announcement the unions have raised some concerns, as expected these are in relation to the time charter arrangement specifically the T&C's for the PF employed crew.

Robbie is meeting with them later on this afternoon to respond to questions and concerns regarding the charter, however, as widely highlighted terms and conditions under which the owners' Crew are employed are a matter for the owner and not something CalMac can comment on.

I will provide an update following the output of the meeting.

Please get in touch if there are any points I have not covered or require any further clarification

Thanks,  
{redacted}

**{redacted}**

Project Manager | Strategy & Change

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 20 March 2023 13:41

**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}

<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot

<Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

Cc: {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}

<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Thanks {redacted} and {redacted},

I can confirm TS/CFL/PF are all working towards the below timeline for today's press releases.

Activity	Date	Action By	Status
TS share minister's comms	10/03/2023 - 1700hrs	TS	Complete
PF share comms plan	16/03/2023	{redacted}	Complete
Finalised comms plan to TS	09/03/2023 - 1200hrs	{redacted}	Complete
Comms plan signed off by TS	10/03/2023 - 1200hrs	TS	Complete
CFL finalise comms	14/03/2023 - 1500hrs	{redacted}	Complete
Finalised comms plan to PF	14/03/2023 - 1700hrs	{redacted}	Complete
Comms plan signed off by PF	17/03/2023 - 1030hrs	{redacted}	Complete
Comms plan and timings agreement	20/03/2023 - 1300hrs	TS/PF	Complete
PF staff consultation	20/03/2023 - 1500hrs	{redacted}	
Ministers Press release issued	20/03/2023 - 1600hrs	TS	
Pentland Ferries Press release issued	20/03/2023 - 1600hrs	{redacted}	
CalMac Ferries press release issued	20/03/2023 - 1605hrs	{redacted} / {redacted}	

Pentland have not advised as of yet what the press release will cover, I am hopeful they will heed advice given on maintaining a positive relationship.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 20 March 2023 11:35

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>;  
{redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

No issues with the timing and agree with {redacted} that it's ultimately up to Pentland Ferries what they put out.

The Minister has cleared the release and we'll be ready for 1600. Just waiting for a picture of the MV Alfred from PF so we can update our planned social content.

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 20 March 2023 09:55

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

{redacted},

Ultimately this wording is for Pentland Ferries to agree and be able to stand behind. {redacted}

{redacted} The positive relationships built up around this work are something we would want to maintain.

PF are a commercial company who know their customers well. {redacted}

{redacted} – Any thoughts on this and the timing of any announcement?

{redacted}

**{redacted}**

**Head Of Ferries Branch**

{redacted}

{redacted}

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 20 March 2023 09:36

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Macdonald R (Roddy)  
<Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Morning everyone,

Following up from my email on Friday, can you please advise if there are lines to be suggested to Pentland or if TS would like a call set up?

Conscious that Pentland will be engaging with staff this afternoon, which leaves little opportunity to influence Pentland's press release prior to scheduled release.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 17 March 2023 17:13

**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot  
<Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hello again,

Pentland are content with the changes made to the transport minister's announcement.

{redacted}

{redacted}

This item is the only outstanding item to bring the comms plan to the finalised version before issuing on Monday afternoon, which we understand ministers are keen to announce and prior to the word getting out following PF crew consultation.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

**{redacted}**

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 17 March 2023 13:02

**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hello everyone,

I am pleased to announce that the Charterparty has been signed and binding in accordance with the terms of the charter.

I will provide a further update this afternoon on the key activities overall, if TS can please let me know thoughts on the comms timeline proposal I can focus on getting this agreed and in place for Monday 20 March 2023.

The proposal is for comms to be released by all parties at the same time on Monday 20 March 2023 at 1600hrs following Pentland ferry staff engagement at 1500hrs.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 16 March 2023 21:46

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

{redacted},

We've changed the wording of the section that PF raised concerns about – it now fully details the SG investment as below:

“The MV Alfred will join the CalMac fleet on a nine month time charter after an agreement was reached with Pentland Ferries. Scottish Government investment of around £9m will cover berthing dues, fuel, commercial charter rate and other costs.”

The release is sitting with the Minister, but I can't imagine it will change much (if at all) as it's almost exactly the same as the previous draft for the Pentalina.

Timing is fine for me, if it's okay with Roddy, {redacted} and team. There is a risk of it leaking over the weekend, but I understand the importance of briefing staff ahead of time.

I'm off tomorrow, but back in the office on Monday.

Thanks,

{redacted}

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 16 March 2023 17:23

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot> @transport.gov.scot



**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hi everyone,  
To update, all arrangements are in place for signing tomorrow at 10.30am.

The proposal is for comms to be released by all parties at the same time on Monday 20 March 2023 at 1600hrs following Pentland ferry staff engagement at 1500hrs.

{redacted}  
{redacted} have you shared any feedback with {redacted} on the concerns Pentland had on the charter amount in the ministers draft press release?

Can you please let me know if Transport Scotland agree with the proposed timings for the comms?

Once we have updated press releases from all, I will share the final agreed comms messaging with all parties.

Please get in touch if there are any points I have not covered or require any further clarification.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

**{redacted}**

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

---

**From**{redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 14 March 2023 14:58

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hi {redacted},

We are awaiting an update from Pentland to confirm timeline for signing and therefore comms dates to work towards, previous timelines suggest that as long as signing is achieved by Friday this week, comms would be able to be released by mid, next week at the latest.

Completely agree, it feels like we are so closing to reaching this long-awaited milestone and await in anticipation to update all concerned. To respond to your point, the charterparty signing would not be impacted by the communications plan approval.

I will keep everyone posted as things progress, In the meantime if there are any points I have not covered or require any further clarification please let me know.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 14 March 2023 11:20

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** : {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Thanks {redacted}.

Can I check where we are collectively on the likely date for an announcement? Would Calmac sign while we are still unsighted on the PF comms? Table suggests not which feels right. Has the PF Bank now signed things off?

It feels like we are inching closer to this and would be good to get the comms lined up for an announcement early next week – even noting the later date it will provide coms assurance to communities that a relief vessel has been secured. Let us know if a call would be helpful

{redacted}

**{redacted}**  
**Head Of Ferries Branch**  
{redacted}  
{redacted}

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 13 March 2023 17:34

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
Macdonald R (Roddy) <Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hi {redacted},

The terms were agreed today, not within the 12 noon deadline. We are awaiting confirmation from Pentland, however we expect charter signing will now be Thursday based on previous timelines.

Pentland have advised that the on hire date will be 18 April 2023. They did not specifically say the Pentalina dry dock uncertainty was the reason for this later date, we plan to ask if this can or could be brought forward once signing date is confirmed, focus and priority today has been on agreeing the terms.

We have the draft ministerial news release and have updated our comms following comments from TS review, we will get sign off internally then share with Pentland and continue to press for the comms from them, this will be shared as soon as possible.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

**{redacted}**

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

---

**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
{redacted}@transport.gov.scot

**Sent:** 13 March 2023 16:38

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot  
<Roddy.Macdonald@transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Hi {redacted}

Good to hear about the positive progress. Did the terms get agreed today?

Is there any scope to press further on the hire date? I note there is still some uncertainty on Pentalina drydock, is there a scenario where it completes early enough for the Alfred hire to start earlier so we could benefit from the vessel over the Easter holiday period?

I understand {redacted} went back to {redacted} on Friday on the comms plan and supplied the Ministerial press release.

Thanks, {redacted}

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{redacted}

#### **TS – Ferries Directorate**

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 10 March 2023 17:09

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hello again,  
Some positive progress to update :

- Agreement
  - Final version has been received for final review, working towards terms agreed by Monday 12 noon.
- Timelines
  - Working towards Charterparty signing Wednesday 15 March at 2pm
  - PF advised that Pentalina dry dock completion to confirm charter commencement, original docking date is not going to be met, this would cause issues for PF swapping the vessel over the Easter holidays, resulting in on hire date of 18 April 2023

- Comms
  - Comms timeline, all going well with terms being agreed, CP signing, PF staff engagement, early week commencing 20 March 2023

I've updated the high-level timeline of key activities for visibility.

Activity	Date	Action By	Status
TS funding approval for charter	24/02/2023	{redacted}	Complete
TS issue contract notice	28/02/2023	{redacted}	Complete
Provide briefing of CP to Robbie	01/03/2023	{redacted}	Complete
Harbour Authority berth availability	03/03/2023	{redacted} / {redacted}	Complete
Finalise charterparty	13/03/2023	{redacted}/{redacted}	Ongoing
Comms approved by TS	13/03/2023	{redacted}/TS	Ongoing
CalMac and PF sign Charterparty	15/03/2023 – time 1400	{redacted}/{redacted}	Not started
Comms approved by PF	15/03/2023	{redacted}/{redacted}	Not started
Comms issued	20/03/2023	{redacted}/{redacted}	Not started
CalMac staff vessel inspection	20/03/2023 (TBC)	{redacted}/{redacted}	Not started
Chartered Vessel Instructions	18/04/2023	{redacted} / {redacted}/ {redacted} / {redacted} / {redacted}	Ongoing
Insurance in place	18/04/2023 - at 0001	{redacted}	Ongoing
On hire survey	18/04/2023 – commence 0900	{redacted}	Not started
Charter Commences	18/04/2023 - at TBC		Not started
Berthing trials	20/04/2023 – 21/04/2023	{redacted}/{redacted}/{redacted}	Not started
Service commences	22/04/2023		Not started

I will provide an update on Monday to advise of terms agreed progress. If TS can please review the comms plan that would be greatly appreciated.

Have a great weekend everyone 😊

Thanks ,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 10 March 2023 09:39

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot  
<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}  
<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hello everyone.

Thank you for reviewing the service model paper.

Some further updates from this week.

- Agreement
  - Terms of charter near agreed. Notice of assignment has been received and reviewed. Final version expected anytime now for final review.
- Timelines
  - Pending bank approval of final version, charter signing would not be before Wednesday 15 March (PF bank require 48hours for approval review)
  - Awaiting update from PF on Pentalina dry dock completion availability to confirm charter commencement, PF advised to manage our expectations, if original docking date is not met, this would cause issues for PF swapping the vessel over the Easter holidays, resulting in on hire date of 17/18 April 2023.
- Comms

- {redacted} shared the comms plan yesterday, if TS could please review as soon as possible we can share with PF.
- We are awaiting PF comms plan for visibility.
- Can TS please share the minsters draft press release.
- PF suggested around 3 days for engagement/consultation with staff and crew after contract signing prior to any public announcement.

I will provide a further update when charterparty signing date has been set to allow comms announcement timeline to be confirmed and agreed by all.

In the meantime if there are any points I have not covered or require any further clarification please get in touch.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

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**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 06 March 2023 15:25

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Evening All,

Just to follow on from {redacted}'s email, some further updates from today.

- Agreement
  - Terms of charter broadly agreed, final version shared with PF bank for final approval, expected Wednesday
- Grounding concerns
  - Meeting held with PF and nominated CalMac staff to gain visibility around the incident and the steps taken to prevent a similar situation from occurring. We are

now content that appropriate steps have been taken to prevent a similar situation from occurring and as such we are content to progress with charter of vessel

- Timelines
  - Pending bank approval, sign off of charter planned for Wednesday/Thursday, with charter commencing 1 April.
  - Any delay to sign off by bank could delay commencement of charter. However, the delay is only expected to be a matter of days.
  - The latest date PF could provide the vessel before we have an option to cancel the charter is 30 April.
- Comms
  - {redacted} sent a note on this earlier.

I'm be on leave from end of today until 14 March, {redacted} will be leading Alfred in the mean time. Please get in touch if you have any questions.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP  
E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 06 March 2023 13:42

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>;  
{redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted}<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred

Hello {redacted},

On the comms side of things, we have asked PF to advise timeline for when they think it will be possible to release comms, as they need to engage/consult with staff and crew. We've advised them of your ambitions to issue comms early next week.

Are you able to share the ministers draft press release so I can incorporate this into the overall comms plan? CalMac are aiming to share the comms plan with TS by tomorrow lunchtime for review then aim to share with Pentland on 8 March 2023. Does that sound feasible from your perspective? PF also to share their comms plan as soon as it's available.

I've pulled together a comms action plan / timeline that we are working towards for visibility.



Activity	Date	Action By	Status
TS share minister's comms	06/03/2023 - 1700hrs	TS	
PF share comms plan	TBC		
CFL finalise comms	07/03/2023 - 1200hrs	{redacted} / {redacted}	Ongoing
Finalised comms plan to TS	07/03/2023 - 1200hrs	{redacted}	
Comms plan signed off by TS	08/03/2023 - 1200hrs	TS	
Finalised comms plan to PF	08/03/2023 - 1200hrs	{redacted}	
Comms plan signed off by PF	10/03/2023 - 1200hrs	{redacted}	
Issue comms to media under embargo	10/03/2023 - 1500hrs	TS/{redacted} / {redacted}	
Embargoed period ends	13/03/2023 - 0001hrs		
Ministers Press release issued	13/03/2023 - 0900hrs	TS	
CalMac Press release issued	13/03/2023 - 0905hrs	{redacted} / {redacted}	
Pentland Ferries press release issued	13/03/2023 - 0905hrs	{redacted}	

Have TS had a chance to review the deployment plan that I shared on Friday ? I have attached again to allow confirmation of the service model to allow the comms plan to be finalised, your timely review on this would be greatly appreciated.

If there are any items or queries that you would like to discuss, please let me know and I'll set up a call.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

---

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 06 March 2023 09:22

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Thanks {redacted}, we'll work towards comms on that basis and keep you informed as things progress.

Just for info, we received an updated final version of the charter party and are just doing final checks but all seems to be in order so the remaining hurdle is the grounding and hopefully we can resolve that through a meeting.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 06 March 2023 09:09

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Thanks for the update {redacted}. So can we aim for an announcement by the end of the week? Possibly something embargoed to Sunday?

Good to hear about the Pentalina works – lets hope she is ready for the start of the charter, but if not I think we will need to be pragmatic about the options.

Fingers crossed we can close this off later this week!

{redacted}

**{redacted}**

**Head Of Ferries Branch**

{redacted}

{redacted}

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 03 March 2023 17:30

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Evening All,

See below update following our discussion with PF this afternoon.

- Agreement
  - All terms of charter broadly agreed, awaiting final version of the agreement to be shared for final review

- Timelines
  - Working towards sign off of charter by Tuesday/Wednesday – pending bank approval and concerns about grounding being addressed
  - The timeline for charter commencing is at risk if the charter isn't signed by middle of next week. This is due time available for staff consultation. However, any delay is only expected to be a matter of days.
  - PF advised that Penta works are progressing well and she wasn't concerned there would be any delay. There is a potential issue with dock at Belfast but not expected to delay anything. If this was to materialise PF would seek to delay start of charter but as discussed earlier, this would need written approval of both parties if after the charter signed.
- Comms
  - Highlighted the need to align comms between all parties, PF agreed and content, will share comms asap (immediate focus on terms of charter)

#### Grounding concerns

- In positive news, PF have agreed to have a discussion with nominated CalMac staff to provide visibility around the incident and the steps taken to prevent a similar situation from occurring.
- Hopeful this meeting can happen on Monday, PF struggling to accommodate – however we have highlighted the impacts and that this will delay signing of charter party.
- Outcome of this meeting will be either; we are content and can progress or we need to assess the risk of progressing. Hopefully the former.

We will keep you updated as this progresses. Hope you all have a nice weekend.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M: {redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@calmac.co.uk

**Sent:** 28 February 2023 12:31

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** FW: MV Alfred

Morning All,

Latest update following call with PF this morning.

We're working towards the charter being signed on Friday, pending approval from their bank. Their bank attended our call today and said this is feasible so long as a finalise charter is available by tomorrow.

{redacted} – Could you send through a contract notice for MV Alfred time charter?

In terms of other updates, we're working on the comms that supports this but we do have time for that. We're also working on revised deployment plan and will share that tomorrow or Thursday.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@calmac.co.uk

**Sent:** 23 February 2023 10:40

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot;

{redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** FW: MV Alfred

Morning All,

Just to update you on latest following call with PF this morning.

Unlikely that the charter will be agreed by Tuesday, we only received a copy of the updated charter late yesterday, we'll review this and get it back to PF today. From then, they need to review and get a final draft to issue to bank and for approval. Being realistic Tuesday doesn't seem feasible but {redacted} has a meeting with her bank this afternoon and will confirm if this changes the position.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@calmac.co.uk

**Sent:** 21 February 2023 14:34

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@gov.scot

<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}

<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk> **Subject:** FW: MV Alfred

Afternoon All,

Just a quick update following our call with Pentland Ferries this morning.

- PF are content with 38 week charter (1 April – 22 December 2023)

- {redacted} PF will share proposed comms with us before anything issued.
- Shared your offer {redacted}, that you were happy to engage with PF and she welcomed that and had said she was planning to reach out to you
- MV Alfred crew – on the call yesterday we discussed the point around crew coming with MV Alfred. {redacted} confirmed that crew on Alfred would be a blend of Alfred and new recruits for Pentalina. For info, this is similar to how we would approach it to have a balance of experienced and new crew.
- In terms of the charterparty, only minor amends are needed to reflect the change in vessels. PF are hoping to share an updated version by COB today for CalMac to review. They are also progressing discussions with their bank and expect approval from them within the next few days. As such, it's possible we could finalise the charter party within the next week. Which would then allow a comms to be issued. Does that work from a TS/Ministers perspective? We would obviously check in before signing off charter.

We also discussed some of the benefits chartering MV Alfred, rather than MV Pentalina might bring. See summary below:

- Uplift in capacity
  - MV Alfred is expected to carry 98 PCUs, whereas MV Pentalina was only expected to carry 56 PCUs. As such, compared to MV Pentalina, MV Alfred provides an uplift in capacity of 75%.
- Greater reliability
  - MV Alfred is only 4 years old, compared to MV Pentalina who is 15 years old. Additionally, MV Alfred has been regularly deployed and maintained, compared to MV Pentalina who has been laid up for extended periods of time and only deployed when there was an issue with MV Alfred. As such, MV Alfred is expected to be more reliable vessel than MV Pentalina.
- More opportunity to cascade vessels
  - While, MV Alfred has limited deployment options, her increased capacity (comparable with MV Clansman/Hebrides/Cale Isles), means there is more opportunity to deploy MV Alfred, releasing another vessel to support network resilience. This wouldn't have been possible with MV Pentalina due to her relatively low carrying capacity meaning, she would be unable to manage demand on routes to free up another vessel.
- Better passenger experience
  - As MV Alfred is newer than MV Pentalina, the standard of finish in passenger areas is much more modern, resulting in an enhanced customer experience.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@calmac.co.uk

**Sent:** 20 February 2023 10:56

**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot' <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;

{redacted}@transport.gov.scot' <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}

<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>;  
{redacted}<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Morning All,

Following on from my update on Friday we have been reviewing the costs to charter MV Alfred.

{redacted} If this charter commenced on 1 April 2023, that would see the vessel be on charter until 22 December 2023. As noted in previous updated, this wont cover the full duration of winter but would cover the second Uig closure.

I've provided an update on costs and broken these down by financial year (all now in next financial year) and by contract year as requested previously.

PF are happy to proceed on the basis of a 38 week charter, start date 1 April 2023 and are seeking to progress discussions. Can you advise if you are content for us to proceed on this basis or if you would like a call to discuss today?

We have still been asked to treat this with upmost confidentiality as PF staff, crew and customers are unaware of this proposal, so would suggest this isn't discussed in the open NSG forum tomorrow.

Many thanks,

{redacted}  
**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP  
E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted} @calmac.co.uk  
**Sent:** 17 February 2023 13:02  
**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Afternoon All,

We have just had a catch up with Pentland Ferries and have reached the following position:

- Desktop berth fit assessment demonstrated same deployment options as MV Pentalina, although berth trials required to validate
- We will progress with discussions on charterparty for MV Alfred with view to agreeing terms and signing contract. Charter will include clause pending successful berthing trials on key routes (Arran and Islay)
- Charter fee, {redacted}
- Start date of charter to be discussed and agreed – {redacted} PF have advised start date needs to be 1 April 2023 due to cost of crew and vessel certification. CalMac view is that still

beneficial to progress with charter start date, accepting full winter cover wont be provided (charter provisional end date mid December 2023)

We'll advise Pentland Ferries on this basis, {redacted}, could share an updated contract notice.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@calmac.co.uk

**Sent:** 16 February 2023 10:23

**To:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}

{redacted}@transport.gov.scot

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Thanks {redacted}, all understood. We'll do a review of costs and preferred timing for charter, as soon as. We had focused on getting the berth fit assessments completed.

Will keep in touch.

Many thanks,

{redacted}

**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP

E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 16 February 2023 10:11

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot; {redacted}

<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred

Morning {redacted}

In the absence of colleagues on annual leave I would agree in principal with your approach, but caveated that {redacted} and {redacted} may have additional requests. It would be good to know as discussed earlier in the week what we can be realistically looking at in terms of the length of charter {redacted} and what period of time is the most appropriate for the charter. And has this proposal been suggested yet to Pentland Ferries.

Thanks

**{redacted}**  
Contract Management  
Ferries Unit  
T: {redacted}  
BlackBerry: {redacted}  
{redacted}@gov.scot

Transport Scotland, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 16 February 2023 09:10  
**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
**Subject:** MV Alfred

Evening All,

As discussed we have been working through the berth fit assessments of MV Alfred.

Our desktop assessment suggests that MV Alfred will have same deployment options as MV Pentalina:

- Ardrossan (IB) –Brodick/Campbeltown
- Troon – Brodick/Campbeltown
- Troon/Campbeltown – Port Askaig
- Ullapool – Stornoway
- Ullapool – Tarbert

It should be noted, as with Pentalina ramp mods will be required to accommodate above deployments. We've yet to determine the scale of them but will progress that once we know the way forward.

Our intended approach is that we confirm to PF that we are content to progress with charterparty discussions on MV Alfred, with agreement subject to successful berthing trials being completed and a satisfactory vessel inspection. If we can't deploy MV Alfred as expected on the routes outlined in charterparty then the contract will be void.

Are you content with the approach? If so, we can provide an update to PF and discuss how to progress.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Many thanks,

{redacted}  
**Interim Head of Planning**

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP  
E: {redacted}@calmac.co.uk M:{redacted}

**Annex C – CalMac Press Release MV Alfred Charter**



**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 20 March 2023 16:03

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; Business Performance <businessperformance@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** Urgent Note - CalMac Press Release MV Alfred Charter

Hi all,

Please see below press release which is being issued shortly following the new just announced now about the chartering of MV Alfred from Pentland Ferries:

***MV Alfred to join CalMac network on 9-month charter***

*CalMac's Chief Executive has welcomed the announcement by the Transport Minister that MV Alfred is to join the fleet on a 9-month charter.*

*After an extensive search of the second-hand market for a vessel that could provide resilience to the fleet, agreement has been reached with Pentland Ferries to provide MV Alfred on a time charter. The resilience MV Alfred offers to the network is very much welcomed - however, berthing trials will require to be completed before the vessel enters service. MV Alfred can only operate on a limited number of our routes and, due to the design of the vessel, cannot operate to the current timetable. Further information on her deployment will be published once we have completed these trials.*

*Pentland Ferries expect MV Alfred to be available to CalMac from 18 April 2023 and we are currently working on deployment plans.*

*CalMac is chartering the vessel from owner Pentland Ferries after funding was provided by Transport Scotland.*

*Pentland Ferries will be responsible for delivery of the service on behalf of CalMac and will retain full operational, technical and safety management of the vessel, including maintenance, repair, overhaul and provision of crew throughout the charter period.*

*The primary focus for the use of MV Alfred will be to have her available for resilience purposes and provide relief benefits across the network. This should help mitigate the impact of disruption or where certain islands are reduced to single vessel service. Although resilience availability will remain the priority, there may be opportunities to facilitate some additional, non-bookable freight sailings, when possible, to support capacity constraints. This is most likely to be focused on freight operations at key pinch points on the network. We will be engaging with network community representatives over the next few weeks to discuss deployment options to support resilience across the network.*

*Customers and communities will be kept informed as plans progress and more information will be available on our website.*

*Robbie Drummond, CalMac's Chief Executive, said: "We are delighted that on completion of berthing trials MV Alfred will be joining the CalMac fleet, and her addition will provide much-needed resilience.*

*"While her design means that she can only operate to some ports, having this extra vessel will help support the rest of the fleet during times of annual maintenance or disruption."*

***Editor's notes***

- *MV Alfred has a carrying capacity of 98 PCUs and 230 passengers*
- *Funded by Transport Scotland, the vessel will be on charter from Pentland Ferries - who will be responsible for delivery of the service, and will retain full operational, technical and safety*

*management of the vessel, including maintenance, repair, overhaul and provision of crew throughout the charter period.*

- *As CalMac are an accredited living wage employer, we have ensured that all Pentland Ferries crew are paid this as a minimum and that no crew are on zero hours contracts.*
- *Most deployment options may require some form of ramp modifications*
- *Vessel is 'single-ended', turnaround time of approximately 45 minutes is needed*
- *No retail offering onboard*
- *We plan to base at Campbeltown to avoid disruption at already constrained ports and allowing easy repositioning*
- *Although MV Alfred has similar vehicle carrying capacity to existing vessels such as MVs Caledonian Isles, Clansman and Hebrides, on a practical basis it is likely that the overall capacity offered would be reduced due to increased turnaround times, passage times and additionally the limitation of length of the working day due to the crewing model.*

We are also issuing separate comms to Arran, Islay and Mull communities where we expect queries to come from:

### ***Impacted Communities (Arran and Islay)***

*I am writing to inform you that we have reached an agreement with Pentland Ferries to provide MV Alfred on a time charter. The vessel will be joining the CalMac fleet on a 9-month charter to improve resilience across our network. The vessel has never operated or completed berthing trials on any of our routes so, when she is available, she will conduct berthing trials before we welcome her into the fleet.*

*Funded by Transport Scotland, the vessel will be on charter from Pentland Ferries - who will be responsible for delivery of the service on behalf of CalMac, and who will retain full operational, technical and safety management of the vessel, including maintenance and provision of crew throughout the charter period. Pentland Ferries expect MV Alfred to be available to CalMac from 18 April 2023, when she will begin berthing trials.*

*The vessel design/capability is not optimised to operate to our existing ports or deliver any of the existing timetabled services, and so can only be deployed to serve a limited number of islands across the network including Islay and Arran, subject to the successful completion of berthing trials.*

*While MV Alfred will primarily be used for resilience purposes - covering periods when a vessel is unavailable - she may also provide additional freight sailings when not required for disruption cover. We are keen to engage with you in the coming weeks to discuss deployment options to support resilience across the network.*

*The resilience MV Alfred offers to the network is very much welcomed, particularly given the challenges we are currently facing and we are sure you will join us in welcoming the vessel to the fleet.*

### ***Mull Community***

*I am writing to inform you that we have reached an agreement with Pentland Ferries to provide MV Alfred on a time charter. The vessel will be joining the CalMac fleet on a 9-month charter to improve resilience across our*

network. The vessel has never operated or completed berthing trials on any of our routes so, when she is available, she will conduct berthing trials before we welcome her into the fleet.

Funded by Transport Scotland, the vessel will be on charter from Pentland Ferries - who will be responsible for delivery of the service on behalf of CalMac, and who will retain full operational, technical and safety management of the vessel, including maintenance and provision of crew throughout the charter period. Pentland Ferries expect MV Alfred to be available to CalMac from 18 April 2023, when she will begin berthing trials.

The vessel design/capability is not optimised to operate to our existing ports or deliver any of the existing timetabled services, and so can only be deployed to serve a limited number of islands across the network including Islay and Arran, subject to the successful completion of berthing trials .

Unfortunately, MV Alfred cannot be deployed to Mull due to the clear incompatibility of the ramp and linkspan interface – particularly at Craignure. However, the resilience MV Alfred offers to the network is very much welcomed, particularly given the challenges we are currently facing and we are sure you will join us in welcoming the vessel to the fleet.

Thanks  
{redacted}

{redacted} – Contract & Planning Manager  
CalMac Ferries Ltd  
Mobile: {redacted}  
Teams: {redacted}

Annex D – Deployment and Cascade

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 08 March 2023 16:44  
**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;  
{redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>  
**Subject:** Re: MV Alfred - Deployment and Cascade

Hello {redacted},  
Thank you for your email.

To provide response to your points

2.1. – I think there may be left over reference to the MV Pentalina in the 2<sup>nd</sup> last line?

Thank you for highlighting I have corrected.

6.1.5 – Could this state how much notice the owners require?

Reasonable notice is required, it is hard to define a timeline line to this, any deployment considerations would be assessed as per normal disruption process, incorporating any lead times.

6.3 – The wording about the Uig closure options could be revised as we are now near the end of the 1 closure period and to state that this will be explored further following a review of the first closure period in preparation for the service plan for the second closure period. If I've understood this correctly.

Point noted, once MV Alfred completes berthing trials and has been introduced to the fleet, any deployment considerations would be assessed as per normal disruption process to determine additional support that could be provided during the Uig closure period.

I trust the clarification address your queries.

If not please let me know, I can get back to you via email or happy to set a call up.

Thanks,  
{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

---

**From:** {redacted}@transport.gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Sent:** 08 March 2023 15:32

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>;

{redacted}@gov.scot <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted}

<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>;

{redacted}<{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted}@transport.gov.scot

<{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Subject:** RE: MV Alfred - Deployment and Cascade

Hi {redacted},

This is a good starting point for stakeholder engagement after which, as noted in 3.2, the report will require to be reassessed.

A few other little things:

2.1. – I think there may be left over reference to the MV Pentalina in the 2<sup>nd</sup> last line?

6.1.5 – Could this state how much notice the owners require?

6.3 – The wording about the Uig closure options could be revised as we are now near the end of the 1 closure period and to state that this will be explored further

following a review of the first closure period in preparation for the service plan for the second closure period. If I've understood this correctly.

Thanks, {redacted}

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{redacted}

## TS – Ferries Directorate

**From:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Sent:** 03 March 2023 16:30

**To:** {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>; {redacted} <{redacted}@transport.gov.scot>

**Cc:** {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>; {redacted} <{redacted}@calmac.co.uk>

**Subject:** MV Alfred - Deployment and Cascade

Hello all,

Please find attached the paper outlining deployment and cascade options for the introduction of MV Alfred.

Scope of the paper:

- Explores the service model for the vessel
- Explores the capacity benefits that could be achieved
- Considers Uig Harbour Closure support
- CalMac's recommendation.

There is a requirement to confirm the service model as soon as possible to allow the comms plan to be finalised, your timely review on this would be greatly appreciated.

If you would like a quick call to talk through, please let me know.

Thanks,

{redacted}

{redacted}

Project Manager | Operational Planning

**CalMac Ferries Ltd**

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: {redacted}

M: {redacted}

Annex E – Service Model Options paper - Attachment to previous email chain

Added as separate document