

FOI ref 202300385570

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 5:34 PM
To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Afternoon All,

[Redacted]

- Extending charter of MV Alfred
 - [Redacted] mentioned that [Redacted] has started discussions with Minister regarding the feasibility of additional funding extending Alfred charter (currently on charter until mid Jan 2024). Is there any thoughts on that?
 - [Redacted]

Plus it would be worth starting discussions with PF sooner rather than later on this point.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Head of Planning and Projects

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP
E: [Redacted] M: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov
Sent: Tuesday, June 27, 2023 5:48 PM
To: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov; [Redacted] @transport.gov; [Redacted] @transport.gov
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

[Redacted],

[Redacted]

On extension I think we would be keen to see if there is an appetite from PF on this. [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Head Of Ferries Branch

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted]
Sent: Wednesday, June 28, 2023 12:31 PM
To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot >
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

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Thanks for the quick reply [Redacted]

[Redacted]

On the potential to extend the charter, there is provision within the current charter party for this. With written agreement from PF it could be extended by 6 months on two occasions. They would need this confirmed three months before the end of the charter so latest mid October. [Redacted]

Unfortunately I have a diary clash for Friday so wont be available for the call, unless we could push it to 1230. Would that work for others?

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Head of Planning and Projects

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP
E: [Redacted] M: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:28 AM

To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Morning All,

[Redacted]

Also, Pentland we discussed with PF if their initial view on a charter extension. They have advised they are happy to consider an extension and have noted if this is going to be requested, that discussions commence as soon as practical to allow for the required planning.

Many thanks,

[Redacted]

Head of Planning and Projects

CalMac Ferries Ltd, Ferry Terminal, Gourock, PA19 1QP
E: [Redacted] M: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 9:45 AM

To: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; Paul [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

[Redacted]

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On the extension this is something we are highly likely to consider and note the timescales.
[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Head Of Ferries Branch

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 2:31:01 PM

To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Subject: Re: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Afternoon all,

Pentland are making plans for the winter overhaul and have asked for feedback on the following two points:

- There is a deficit of seven days hire (12/5 - 18/5) for the Alfred so far in this charter period , it is our intention that these days are added to the end of the charter period at no additional cost, can TS confirm they are content with this approach ?
- To inform Pentland's planning they are seeking to establish when there is likely to be a decision made on the extension of the charter. Can you please advise when a decision is likely?

Thanks,

[Redacted]

Project Manager | Strategy & Change

CalMac Ferries Ltd

Ferry Terminal Gourock PA19 1QP

T: [Redacted]

www.calmac.co.uk

Be Brief, Be Bright, Be Gone

Give Me Details

Involve Me

Show Me You Care

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2023 2:48 PM

To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Subject: Re: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Content with the overhaul approach.

Do we have formal costs from them and calmac for a further 6 month extension?

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2023 5:02 PM

FOI ref 202300385570

To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Hi [Redacted],

Thanks for confirming on the week extension with the deficit days.

Please see below for estimated cost profile for MV Alfred six month charter extension (this is based on the same approach as estimated for the current charter).

[Redacted]

Once a decision has been made a formal costing will be shared as per normal process.

To highlight, a decision would be required three months before the end of the charter so latest mid October 2023. Are TS able to advise when a decision is likely?

Please let me know if you have any queries or would like to discuss any of the costs.

Thanks,

[Redacted]
Interim Head of Projects
Strategy & Change

CalMac Ferries Limited
Ferry Terminal, Gourrock
PA19 1QP

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 4:29 PM
To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Hi [Redacted],

The current agreement within the charter party specifically states the period of extension(s) as six months exercisable, following receipt of written approval from the owners on two occasions up to a maximum of twelve months.

Therefore, the provision of a three month extension is not within the current charter party as it stands.

I trust that this clarifies

Regards

[Redacted]
Interim Head of Projects

FOI ref 202300385570

Strategy & Change

CalMac Ferries Limited
Ferry Terminal, Gourrock
PA19 1QP

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Sent: Thursday, August 3, 2023 1:33 PM

To: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

[Redacted],

Thanks for the below and looping in our finance colleagues directly for awareness.

We are looking to progress this as quickly as possible and would hope to have approval by the end of the month if possible (ideally well before then but it's a significant ask and this needs multiple levels of approval at our side).

We are currently proposing to extend this by 6 months but in discussions with [Redacted] he has indicated the preference would be to have the vessel for the full 12 months [Redacted]

I have a couple of points/questions that it would be helpful to get Calmac's view on before we finalise the funding request at our side –

- [Redacted]
- On passenger capacity and crewing levels, what is the Calmac view on the right approach here (in operational and VFM terms)? [Redacted] had noted in discussions (and we would tend to agree) that the lower pax capacity would be sufficient across the winter timetable even accounting for the vessel having a more permanent deployment across that period.
- Given we anticipate that the vessel would revert back to having a resilience role from around May (if we retain it for the further 6 month period) what is the Calmac view on maintaining the current PC levels at that point to (noting neither of us could stand behind the disproportionate and unjustifiable additional costs PF have suggested for a single additional crew member).
- Would there be a compromise of agreeing the current levels but having a mechanism to increase this for particular events (with an agreed cost and notice period)?

[Redacted].

[Redacted]

Head Of Ferries Branch

FOI ref 202300385570

[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 3:56 PM

To: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Afternoon [Redacted]

I am just covering off some queries from my finance colleagues. Can you advise if the current agreement is specific that any extension would need to be for a minimum of 6 months, or could we agree 3 months with a view to extending further?

[Redacted]

TS Ferries

T: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 9:39 AM

To: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Good Morning

[Redacted]

the extension for the MV Alfred has the [Redacted] for each 6 month section
i.e. if we do choose to extend for a 12 month period, [Redacted].

[Redacted]

TS Ferries

T: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Sent: Monday, August 7, 2023 9:59 AM

To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk

Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter Discussions

Hi [Redacted],

That is correct,

The charter party states that any of the extensions beyond the initial 38 weeks shall be at [Redacted] for each of the 6 month periods.

Thanks

[Redacted]

Interim Head of Projects

Strategy & Change

FOI ref 202300385570

CalMac Ferries Limited
Ferry Terminal, Gourock
PA19 1QP
M: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 9:10 AM
To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Subject: MV Alfred Charter

Hi [Redacted],

[Redacted]

In order to do that we are planning to finalise timetables based on the assumption that MV Alfred charter will be extended as per our discussions on the last few of our Friday calls.

[Redacted]

Thanks

[Redacted] – Contract & Planning Manager
CalMac Ferries Ltd
Mobile: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Sent: 23 August 2023 10:13
To: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter

[Redacted],

This is a tricky question! I'm 99% sure we will secure funding for the Alfred extension and – with a fair wind – this will be within the next week. However, nothing is guaranteed until that is formally signed off. [Redacted]

My instinct is to plan on the basis you suggest but ultimately I think that is a judgement call for Calmac at this point.

[Redacted]

Head Of Ferries Branch
[Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 10:37 AM
To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot

FOI ref 202300385570

Cc: [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk; [Redacted] @calmac.co.uk
Subject: RE: MV Alfred Charter

Thanks [Redacted] we caught up with [Redacted] just now, who confirmed timelines and hopefully approval by end of this week. We will ratify that decision internally once you guys have confirmed funding agreed and proceed with plans on that basis.

Thanks
[Redacted]

[Redacted] – Contract & Planning Manager
CalMac Ferries Ltd
Mobile: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @heraldtimes.co.uk
Sent: 01 November 2023 16:08
To: [Redacted] @gov.scot
Subject: Media Inquiry

Hi there.
Sorry for the lateness.
I am doing an article for our newsletter today deadline for 5pm about MV Alfred and welcome TS comment.

There is talk that it is being retained for a further 6 months. and maybe further.
It is said that funding has been approved to extend the use of the vessel.
Can I check with you when the current charter ends. It was meant to be nine months.
Appreciate the lateness, but it was sent early this morning and again just now and seems to get blocked.

[Redacted]
Senior News Reporter
The Herald/Herald on Sunday
Tel: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]
Twitter: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Sent: Friday, November 3, 2023 3:14 PM
To: Minister for Transport @gov.scot >
Cc: Press Transport Scotland @transport.gov.scot; Chief Executive Transport Scotland @transport.gov.scot; Roddy Macdonald @transport.gov.scot >; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @gov.scot; [Redacted] @gov.scot; Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Net Zero & Just Transition @gov.scot
Subject: MV Alfred extension - draft news release

Hi PO,

Grateful for Ms Hyslop's clearance of the attached draft news release, covering the extension of the charter agreement for the use of the MV Alfred on the Clyde and Hebrides ferry network. Spads are content, and I will add a supportive quote from CalMac when I receive it.

FOI ref 202300385570

We plan to announce this on Monday, and will issue the release shortly after the formal letter is sent to committee.

Thanks,

[Redacted]
Strategic Communications Manager
Transport Scotland

Office: [Redacted]
[Redacted]

NEWS RELEASE –

[MV Alfred charter extension | Transport Scotland](#)

From: [Redacted] @gov.scot

Sent: Monday, November 6, 2023 10:12 AM

To: james.stockan@orkney.gov.uk; heather.woodbridge@orkney.gov.uk

Cc: Minister for Transport @gov.scot

Subject: Correspondence from the Minister for Transport - Orkney Islands Council - 6 November 2023

Good Morning,

Please find attached correspondence from Fiona Hyslop MSP, Minister for Transport, for the attention of the Leader and Deputy Leader.

Kind regards,

[Redacted] Private Secretary to the Minister for Transport
The Scottish Government | St Andrew's House, Edinburgh, EH1 3DG
[Redacted]

Extract from letter from Minister for Transport to Orkney Island Council:

Dear Councillors Stockan and Woodbridge

PENTLAND FIRTH SERVICES

I refer to your letter to {Redacted}, Head of Ferries in Transport Scotland of 5 October regarding ferry services to Orkney over the winter period. I wanted to personally respond to you on these matters given the announcement noted below.

Extension of the Charter of the MV Alfred

I wanted to confirm to you, in confidence, that CalMac have extended the Charter of the MV Alfred for a further 6 month period.

FOI ref 202300385570

Whilst this is funded and supported by Scottish Ministers, any decisions around choice of vessel chartering and deployment is one for Pentland Ferries. However, as a courtesy I wanted to let you know that this arrangement has been extended.

From: [Redacted] @heraldtimes.co.uk
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 10:48 AM
To: Press Transport Scotland @transport.gov.scot
Subject:

Hi there.

Can i check the cost of the six month extension of the MV Alfred charter, and whether the money is being paid for as an extra from Scottish Government or whether CaMac is expected to meet the cost within its own budgets.

Ta

<https://www.transport.gov.scot/news/mv-alfred-charter-extension/>

[Redacted]
Senior News Reporter
The Herald/Herald on Sunday
Tel: [Redacted]
Email: [Redacted]
Twitter: [Redacted]

From: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Sent: Friday, November 10, 2023 11:10 AM
To: [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot; [Redacted] @transport.gov.scot
Subject: RE: Herald - costs of MV Alfred Charter

SG funding so would just leave it at that.

By way of background FMQ lines

MV ALFRED CHARTER EXTENSION

We have previously highlighted our commitment to secure or retain a major vessel for resilience purposes in the CalMac fleet. It is for CalMac to lead these commercial discussions.

- The current charter for MV Alfred runs to January 2024, although it will be adjusted to account for the period the vessel was out of service and therefore off charter.
- An agreement has been reached with Pentland Ferries to extend the charter for a further six months. This will help maintain resilience on the Clyde and Hebrides ferry network during the winter months and into the summer.
- The vessel was chartered from Pentland Ferries in March 2023 for an initial nine months, but an agreement has been reached to extend the charter until the end of July 2024.

FOI ref 202300385570

- CalMac will confirm details of the MV Alfred's deployment in due course but with the return of the Hebridean Isles to service it is expected that she will function as a resilience vessel and also assist with vessel overhaul cover where required.

From NZET Supp Doc

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The current charter for MV Alfred runs to January 2024, although it will be adjusted to account for the period the vessel was out of service and therefore off charter.

An agreement has been reached with Pentland Ferries to extend the charter for a further six months. This will help maintain resilience on the Clyde and Hebrides ferry network during the winter months and into the summer.

The vessel was chartered from Pentland Ferries in March 2023 for an initial nine months, but an agreement has been reached to extend the charter until the end of July 2024.

CalMac will confirm details of the MV Alfred's deployment in due course but with the return of the Hebridean Isles to service it is expected that she will function as a resilience vessel and also assist with vessel overhaul cover where required.

[Redacted]

[Redacted] | Vessels Projects |
Ferries Directorate | Transport Scotland
Mob: [Redacted] | Email: [Redacted]