



Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd
Municipal Buildings
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Rural Economy and Connectivity Committee
FAO: Clerk to the Committee, Steve Farrell
by email only

14 February 2020

Dear Mr Farrell

Inquiry into construction and procurement of ferry vessels in Scotland

I am due to attend the Rural Economy and Connectivity (REC) Committee meeting on 26 February 2020 to provide oral evidence to the Inquiry into construction and procurement of ferry vessels in Scotland. CMAL will also submit written evidence.

In advance of that, I feel it is necessary to bring to the attention of the Committee inaccurate information that has been heard in recent oral evidence.

During the Committee meeting on 5 February, it was stated that the First Minister had announced the contract price before it was agreed. However, pre-contract documentation shows that Ferguson Marine Engineering Ltd (FMEL) offered a price of £48.5m per vessel on 28 August 2015, several days before the news release announcement on 31 August 2015.

I can confirm the following key dates from the procurement process:

- The preferred bidder letter to FMEL was prepared on 27 August 2015 and issued and dated 28 August 2015.
- The standstill letters to the unsuccessful bidders were prepared on 27 August 2015 and issued and dated 28 August 2015.
- On 28 August 2015, upon receipt of the preferred bidder letter, FMEL provided a proposed billings schedule at the total price of £48.5 million per vessel (combined total - £97 million).
- On 31 August 2015, the First Minister made an announcement that FMEL had been chosen as the preferred bidder.
- Until the final signing of the contracts on 16 October 2015 the price of £48.5 million per vessel did not change.





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There are several other inaccuracies regarding the dual fuel ferry contracts that I am keen to address, and I look forward to attending the Committee meeting to present accurate information later this month.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Hobbs
Chief Executive Officer

for and on behalf of
Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited

