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8 October 2020

Dear Edward,

## **Inquiry into the construction and procurement of ferry vessels in Scotland**

In response to your letter of 29 September 2020, I am writing to provide the information you requested.

You asked for confirmation of which Ministers were made aware of the delays and increased costs and when they were first made aware. You have also requested confirmation of whether, prior to my appointment to this role, Scottish Ministers were at any stage provided with a list of problems with vessels 801 and 802 and, if so, when.

Ministers first became aware of CMAL's concerns around vessel delivery, as set out in its quarterly update report of February – April 2016. This was a point I made at Committee, but in the context of another Member's question. Detail of this report and subsequent updates on progress are set out at paragraph 69 onwards of the written statement submitted to the Committee on behalf of Scottish Ministers.

This report and associated documents were published on the Scottish Government website in December 2019. I provide a link to the Feb – April 2016 report for ease of reference <sup>1</sup>

A range of Ministerial portfolio interests have been engaged at various points in time since the award of contracts for vessels 801 and 802. Those include the First Minister, the Deputy First Minister (in both his current role as Deputy First Minister and previous role as Finance Secretary), the former Cabinet Secretary for Finance, Economy and Fair Work (in that role and in his previous role as Minister for Transport and the Islands), the former Minister for Transport and the Islands, the former Cabinet Secretary for Infrastructure, Investment and Cities, the current Cabinet

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2016/documents/ferguson-marine-cmal-quarterly-progress-report-february-to-april-2016---1-april-2016/ferguson-marine-cmal-quarterly-progress-report-february-to-april-2016---1-april-2016/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bquarterly%2Bprogress%2Breport%2BFebruary%2Bto%2BApril%2B2016%2B-%2B1%2BApril%2B2016.pdf>

Secretary for Transport and Infrastructure and myself in my capacity as the Minister for Energy, Connectivity and the Islands.

CMAL, as part of their normal practice, have and continue to maintain an Owners Observation Report (OOR) which is regularly discussed with Ferguson Marine. The themes and trends from those detailed reports were summarised at Network Strategy Group(NSG) meetings to provide the necessary assurance and updates.

The NSG updates from April 2016 (24 in total) have previously been published and the relevant, full OOR report was provided as an Annex with Report on Updated Cost and Programme for vessels 801 & 802 in Dec 2019. For ease I provide links to these documents below in an annex.

*Kind regards*



**PAUL WHEELHOUSE**

## ANNEX A – Contract monitoring and oversight – links to written project updates

### 2016

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2016/documents/ferguson-marine-cmal-quarterly-progress-report-february-to-april-2016---1-april-2016/ferguson-marine-cmal-quarterly-progress-report-february-to-april-2016---1-april-2016/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bquarterly%2Bprogress%2Breport%2BFebruary%2Bto%2BApril%2B2016%2B-%2B1%2BApril%2B2016.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2016/documents/ferguson-marine---cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---14-november-2016/ferguson-marine---cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---14-november-2016/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B14%2BNovember%2B2016.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2016/documents/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---10-december-2016/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---10-december-2016/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B10%2BDecember%2B2016.pdf>

### 2017

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/january-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---17-january-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---17-january-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B17%2BJanuary%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/february-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---16-february-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---16-february-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B16%2BFebruary%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/april-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---20-april-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---20-april-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B20%2BApril%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/may-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---17-may-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---17-may-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B17%2BMay%2B2017.pdf>

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)



[cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---18-may-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---18-may-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B18%2BMay%2B2017.pdf](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/may-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---18-may-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B18%2BMay%2B2017.pdf)

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/june-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-june-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-june-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B22%2BJune%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/july-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---20-july-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---20-july-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B20%2BJuly%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/august-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---31-august-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---31-august-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2B%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B31%2BAugust%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/september-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---28-september-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---28-september-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B28%2BSeptember%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/october-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---19-october-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---19-october-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B19%2BOctober%2B2017.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2017/documents/december-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---5-december-2017/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---5-december-2017/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B5%2BDecember%2B2017.pdf>

## 2018

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/january-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---25-january-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---25-january-2018/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B->

Scottish Ministers, special advisers and the Permanent Secretary are covered by the terms of the Lobbying (Scotland) Act 2016. See [www.lobbying.scot](http://www.lobbying.scot)



[%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2B25%2BJanuary%2B2018.pdf](#)

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/february-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-february-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-february-2018/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2B22%2BFebruary%2B2018.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/march-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-march-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-march-2018/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2B22%2BMarch%2B2018.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/april-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---april-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---april-2018/govscot%3Adocument/FM%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2BApril%2B2018.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/may-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---24-may-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---24-may-2018/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2B24%2BMay%2B2018.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/june-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---june-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---june-2018/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2BJune%2B2018.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2018/documents/august-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---23-august-2018/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---23-august-2018/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2B23%2BAugust%2B2018.pdf>

## 2019

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2019/documents/january-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---17-january-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---17-january-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B17%2BJanuary%2B2019.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2019/documents/february-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-february-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---22-february-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B-%2B22%2BFebruary%2B2019.pdf>

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[cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---28-february-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---28-february-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B28%2BFebruary%2B2019.pdf](https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2019/documents/april-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---28-february-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---28-february-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B28%2BFebruary%2B2019.pdf)

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2019/documents/april-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---18-april-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---18-april-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B18%2BApril%2B2019.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2019/documents/may-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---30-may-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---30-may-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B30%2BMay%2B2019.pdf>

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-key-documents-2019/documents/july-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---11-july-2019/ferguson-marine-cmal-update-to-network-strategy-meeting---11-july-2019/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B-%2BCMAL%2Bupdate%2Bto%2Bnetwork%2Bstrategy%2Bmeeting%2B%25E2%2580%2593%2B11%2BJuly%2B2019.pdf>

Report on Updated Cost and Programme for Vessels 801 and 802 (Dec 2019)

<https://www.gov.scot/binaries/content/documents/govscot/publications/transparency-data/2019/12/ferguson-marine-report-on-cost-and-programme-for-vessels-801-and-802/documents/ferguson-marine-report-on-cost-and-programme-for-vessels-801-and-802/ferguson-marine-report-on-cost-and-programme-for-vessels-801-and-802/govscot%3Adocument/Ferguson%2BMarine%2B---report%2Bon%2Bupdated%2Bcost%2Band%2Bprogramme%2Bfor%2Bvessels%2B801%2Band%2B802%2B-%2B9%2BDecember%2B2019.pdf>