



The Scottish Parliament  
Pàrlamaid na h-Alba

Gregor Irwin  
Director-General Economy  
The Scottish Government

By email only

**Public Audit Committee**  
Room T3.60  
The Scottish Parliament  
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16 June 2023

Dear Mr Irwin,

**New Vessels for the Clyde and Hebrides: Arrangements to deliver vessels 801 and 802**

Thank you for your recent reply to the Committee's request that the Scottish Government publish two externally commissioned reports in relation to Ferguson Marine Post Glasgow. The Committee will formally consider this response at its meeting next week.

At its meeting on 15 June 2023, the Public Audit Committee considered a written submission from the former director of the former organisation, Ferguson Marine Engineering Limited (FMEL). Included in the submission is the full contract for vessel 801 signed by FMEL and Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited on 16 October 2015.

The Committee, in line with the Parliament's founding principles, and protocol for handling the written submissions it receives, wishes to ensure that as much information can be put in the public domain as possible. The Committee is however aware that the Scottish Government has only published a redacted version of the contract documents on the Ferguson Marine: documents section of its website.

The Committee believes there is clear merit in publishing this contract information in full and asks the Scottish Government to do so in the interests of transparency and to enable scrutiny. Should this not be possible, the Committee requests a detailed explanation of the reasons for this approach.

The Committee would be grateful for a response by **14 July 2023**.

Yours sincerely,

**Richard Leonard MSP,  
Convener**