

Ferries Unit

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Mr Stuart Todd
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions Committee
Room T3.40
Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH 99 1SP

Your ref: PE1473

Our ref:

Date:

3 April 2013

Dear Mr Todd

CONSIDERATION OF PETITION PE1473

Thank you for your letter of 21 March 2013, following the Public Petitions Committee's meeting on 15 March 2013.

During the Public Petitions Committee's consideration of PE1473 a number of questions / issues arose. I am replying to the question directed at the Scottish Government / Transport Scotland regarding whether we will make it a condition of any future tenders for ferry routes that the provider would have full Wi-Fi capabilities on CalMac vessels.

I can advise you that we are convinced of the benefits of Wi-Fi to ferry users making best use of their business and leisure time on board our ferries. However, we are currently some way off specifying our next ferry services tender. Final decisions regarding how far we will specify Wi-Fi will be made at a later date.

With regard to the other questions raised by the Public Petitions Committee, with CalMac Ferries Ltd and NorthLink Ferries, I understand that the Managing Directors of both companies will be responding to you directly.

I hope this information is helpful to the Committee

Yours sincerely

Graham Laidlaw
Head of Ferries