

Deputy First Minister and Cabinet Secretary for
Economy and Gaelic
Leas Phrìomh Mhinistear agus Rùnaire a' Chaibineit
airson Eaconamaidh agus Gàidhlig
Kate Forbes MSP
Ceit Fhoirbeis BPA



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

T: 0300 244 4000
E: scottish.ministers@gov.scot

Edward Mountain MSP
Convener
Net Zero, Energy and Transport Committee
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

13 May 2025

Dear Mr Mountain,

MV Glen Rosa – Revised Delivery and Cost Update

I am writing in response to the letter from the Chief Executive Officer of Ferguson Marine (Port Glasgow) Ltd, setting out a further delay to the delivery of MV Glen Rosa and a significant increase to its forecasted cost.

Let me be clear, these changes at this late stage of the build programme are both unacceptable and deeply disappointing. The scale of the delay and cost escalation reflect challenges of leadership and control within the yard over a prolonged period, challenges which cause real consequences for the communities this vessel is intended to serve.

This Government has been clear in its expectation that the senior leadership at Ferguson Marine must demonstrate capability and accountability in the delivery of MV Glen Rosa. That expectation has not changed, indeed, in light of this update, it is more important than ever.

While I acknowledge the efforts of the new CEO to review the build plan and initiate weekly oversight through the Review Group, I cannot overstate my frustration that we are once again facing a revised timeline and rising cost. My officials, working alongside the Government's technical advisers at CMAL, will support the Review Group to scrutinise the revised delivery plan, ensuring regular oversight of key milestones, cost forecasts and operational performance.

The level of costs now forecast were not apparent at the time Parliament approved the Scottish Budget and exceed the total capital allocated to Ferguson Marine. We will need time to consider fully the knock-on budgetary consequences of the revised delivery plan.

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

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE
We invest in people Silver



I will continue to keep the Committee updated on the assurance process and any further developments. The communities who depend on this service deserve better, and I intend to ensure they get it.

Yours sincerely,

KATE FORBES

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

St Andrew's House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot

INVESTORS IN PEOPLE™
We invest in people Silver

