



Caledonian Maritime Assets Ltd
Municipal Buildings
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Edward Mountain
Convenor
Net Zero, Energy & Transport Committee
Scottish Parliament
EH99 1SO

1st September 2025

Dear Mr Mountain,

Interim Update on New Vessels for Islay & Little Minch. MV Isle of Islay (NB1092), MV Loch Indaal (NB1093), MV Lochmor (NB1100) and MV Claymore (NB1101)

We feel that it is necessary to update the Committee regarding the delivery of the MV Isle of Islay.

In our most recent update (30th June 2025) we advised that the delivery date was anticipated within Q3 2025 – so by 30th September 2025.

The vessel has undergone two sets of Builders Sea Trials in the Sea of Marmara but has yet to undertake the CMAL Acceptance Trials in which every aspect of the vessel is tested as the vessel is close to completion with all machinery and systems operational. Both CMAL and Cemre (as builders) are targeting mid-September for these trials. Once completed successfully the trials will allow the full finalisation of the vessel which includes significant compliance checks.

We are very aware of the need to expedite delivery of this “first in class” vessel for the benefit of the Island Communities and likewise the shipyard is fully focussed on delivery as efficiently as possible. However, the internal lifts within the vessel and the RoRo gear (stern and bow doors plus the mezzanine decks) are yet to be fully commissioned.

We do not anticipate any major issues to arise in the CMAL acceptance trials but until successfully completed we cannot accurately predict a date for delivery. It is however clear that delivery will not be achieved within September 2025.

Our collective teams in Türkiye being CMAL, CalMac and Cemre are firmly focussed on attaining delivery as soon as possible and thereafter commence the repositioning voyage from the Sea of Marmara back to Scottish Waters – this aspect being some 2 weeks including a refuelling stop in Gibraltar prior to executing the final leg into the Atlantic and across the Bay of Biscay. Upon arrival there will be a period of familiarisation and testing of the vessel at the ports in which it will operate.



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It is also of note that the MV Lochmor (third vessel in the series) was successfully launched on 23rd August 2025 at Cemre 2 shipyard and now is undertaking further outfitting activities whilst afloat.

The MV Loch Indaal remains afloat with continuous outfitting activities whilst the MV Claymore remains on the slipway awaiting its launch with outfitting being assisted using the slipway gantry crane.

The next major milestones are the delivery of the Isle of Islay followed by the launch of the MV Claymore.

We will give a further update no later than 30th September 2025 as is the normal quarterly update process.

We attached two images from the pre-launch and launch taken on 23rd August 2025 which we hope are of interest.

Yours sincerely

Kevin Hobbs
Chief Executive Officer

for and on behalf of
Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited



All four vessels—MV Isle of Islay, MV Loch Indaal, MV Lochmor, and MV Claymore—shortly before MV Lochmor launch



MV Lochmor enters the water