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Edward Mountain
Convenor
Net Zero, Energy & Transport Committee
Scottish Parliament
EH99 1SP

3rd October 2024

Dear Mr Mountain,

MV Glen Sannox

I am writing to you to provide an interim update on MV Glen Sannox.

On Monday 30th September Acceptance Trials began with anchor trials where one anchor successfully passed, and one did not. Together FMPG, CMAL and CalMac considered that the safety of the ship was not compromised, and trials could continue.

On Tuesday 1st October MV Glen Sannox successfully docked at Brodick and tested the ramps. This was a great achievement for all parties and the local area who were out in support.

Yesterday, during day three of owner's trials, MV Glen Sannox experienced a blackout. This was a result of inadvertently triggering a fire detector on board; although a false alarm, it ultimately resulted in the shutdown of the ship's main propulsion. The ship was operating on marine gas oil at the time.

Checks of the main engines were undertaken, and a soft restart followed. All systems were safely restarted without any adverse effects. However, trials were temporarily halted.

As a precaution, tugs were called to assist. The vessel returned to Inchgreen under her own power with a view to assessing the event and the operation of the fire detection system.

FMPG, CMAL and CalMac together have agreed that trials should remain suspended today (03/10/24) with an aim to resume tomorrow. A solution to the fire detection system is now in place with the agreement of MCA and Lloyds.

Action required:

We are working hard on a solution for the mooring system (anchor and rope) to have it revised and installed.

Unfortunately, at this time we cannot give a time frame until the subcontractor has reviewed the proposals but be assured, we are putting our full efforts into fixing the issues to ensure a safe vessel is provided to everyone's satisfaction. We will provide an update as soon as we have further information.

After completion of sea trials, we will give a further update next week on any impact on the handover date.

Yours sincerely,

John Petticrew

Interim CEO