

Dear Kerrera Community

Further to the Community consultation and ferry provision to Kerrera

Thank you to everyone for attending the meeting on Monday the 18th of Feb

After due consideration of Community views comment and feedback the following changes are being proposed for implementing in or as close to the 4th of March as practicalities allow.

It is important that Community views are included on an on going basis particularly when there is changes in the fares either positively or negatively

The success or failure of the short term arrangements hinges on continued dialogue within the Community and including everyone in a step by step basis.

The next step is for you to answer yes or no to the following proposals in light of various views and concerns expressed.

Please make your views known to David Keys your Community spokesperson at your earliest possible convenience by e mail or in writing hopefully by Friday the 1st of March

David will need to keep some form of record of your collective views to demonstrate evidence of your continued support or not as the case maybe.

Instead of redrafting the current proposals you have, I will highlight the changes here in this attachment, to keep this process as simple and as clear as possible.

Changes to current draft

Instead of a single step from £2:50 to £4:00 return for residents The step on the 4th of March will be to £3:00 resident adult return for the remainder of 2013

The current visitor fare will fall from £5:00 return to £4:50 return until the next fare review

There will be another fare review as part of the on going dialogue with the Community and Govt. (Approx. March 2014)

In keeping with Calmac policy, Kerrera ferry will have a free livestock trailer policy. This will allow the trailer to be loaded with items on the return journey if required . Specific operational details can be discussed directly as we go.

Island young adults over 16 years still in full time education will remain on the child fare not the adult fare for the duration of their time in education.

All other tariffs will remain as they are currently drafted.

Timetable

After due consideration the 8:00 sailing and the 19:00 sailing by request will be extended to include Saturday but not Sunday.

The late night ferries will not be practical at this stage and in the short term time frame.

Summary

The reason and thinking behind this decision is, while the Dunollie Estate lease is still binding we have sufficient scope to move more gradually towards RET within the current legal framework. When the service does go to public tender and put under contract Kerrera Ferry Ltd will have no say in what the charges will be and it could easily be a different ferry operator providing the service.

After lengthy discussions it was thought the whole Community would prefer a breathing space and time to adjust towards RET as opposed to reducing costs for farm freight alone or any specific group of ferry users.

By reducing the increase on resident fare we can take into account views expressed.

By adjusting the resident adult fare we include everyone in the benefit.

Making the changes more gradual allowing you time to adjust.

I hope you agree with this proposal and we can roll out a new improved ferry service to Kerrera in a spirit of co operation.

Transport Scotland will call another meeting in approx. 2 months (hopefully before lambing starts) to discuss the changes as they unfold.

There is a significant degree of uncertainty for everyone in this process and I hope you will work with me as we move forward and please ask any questions you wish concerning these changes.

Duncan MacEachen

Kerrera Ferry Ltd

Mike Robertson

Dunollie Estate

David Keys

Community Representative