

Transport Users Consultative Committee for Scotland

Secretary:
S. Mulcock

75 HOPE STREET,
GLASGOW G2 6AJ

Telephone:
041-221 7760

Our : R.4099

22nd July, 1981

Miss J.M. Bennett,
Tom-na-ha,
91 Victoria Road,
Dunoon,
Argyll, PA23 7AD

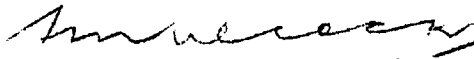
Dear Madam,

Proposed withdrawal of Gourock/Dunoon
Ferry Service

Thank you for your communication indicating your objection to the proposed withdrawal by the Scottish Transport Group of the passenger/vehicle service between Gourock and Dunoon. This objection will be taken into consideration when the subject comes before my Committee.

In the meantime, I enclose a copy of the Principal Points of Information on this proposal, ~~provided by the Scottish Transport Group.~~

Yours sincerely,





Scottish Development Department
New St Andrew's House Edinburgh EH1 3SZ

Telex 727301

Telephone 031-556 8400 ext 5492

J M Bennett Esq
91 Victoria Road
Dunoon

Your reference

Our reference
TPT/SSL/4/7/1

Date
17 November 1981

Dear Sir

The Secretary of State has asked me to thank you for your letter about the ferry services between Gourock and Dunoon.

Mr Younger is very conscious of the importance of ferry services to the Cowal Peninsula and it is his intention that there will continue to be a fully satisfactory service to Dunoon.

The problem is that the Caledonian MacBrayne service has, in recent years, required a large annual subsidy to meet its increasing deficit on the route. It is unacceptable that the tax-payer should have to bear this high cost, particularly when it is clear from the carrying figures that more and more people have chosen to use the Western Ferries vehicle ~~ferry service~~. This year so far around 70% of car drivers using the route chose to travel by Western Ferries rather than by Caledonian MacBrayne.

The Secretary of State found nothing in the STUCC Report which caused him to alter his proposal about future vehicle ferry services to Cowal. However, in the light of that Committee's recommendations, he has taken note of the need to provide a more satisfactory passenger service than was originally proposed. He is now awaiting advice from the Scottish Transport Group on the best means of providing a passenger service. Pending conclusions on this, the existing Caledonian MacBrayne and Western Ferries Services will continue as usual until this outstanding matter is resolved.

I hope you will accept these assurances of the Secretary of State's intentions that a perfectly satisfactory level of service should continue both for vehicles-passengers. He is however, confident that this can be achieved at a much reduced cost to the tax-payer.

Yours faithfully

J R JOHNSTON

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

APPRAISAL

OF

GOUROCK - DUNOON SERVICE

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CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

HISTORY OF SERVICE

The existing Gourock Dunoon services are a continuation of services operated from Gourock Pier since its opening in 1889 on the completion of the railway from Greenock to Gourock.

The original Caledonian Steam Packet Company was registered in Edinburgh on 8th May 1889, Registration No. 1854, and the present Company can trace its roots back to there and still has the same Companies Registration Number.

The style of service from 1889 was for passengers only until the introduction by the Caledonian Steam Packet Company of hoist operated side lift ships in 1954. This was the date of introduction of Car Ferries from Gourock to Dunoon.

Lirkspan facilities were completed at Gourock in 1971 and at Dunoon in 1972 thus allowing for the introduction of the present style of ship operation now in use - stern loading of vehicles at Gourock and side discharge at Dunoon, or vice versa. This allows for conveyance of vehicles at any state of the tide.

Since services first started they have been integrated with train services to and from Glasgow.

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

WITHDRAWAL PROPOSAL

This application is for complete withdrawal of the Gourock Dunoon service because of the termination of the Government Subsidy for operation of that route.

The letter from the Scottish Office is as follows:-



SCOTTISH DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

New St. Andrew's House, EDINBURGH, EH1 3SZ

Telephone: 031-556 8400, ext. 4124/5

J Stark Esq
Secretary
Scottish Transport Group
Cameron House
114/116 George Street
Edinburgh
EH2 1LA

30 June 1981

Dear Sir

I am writing on behalf of the Secretary of State to give prior notice in writing, in terms of Clause 13(4) as read with Clause 13(3) of the Undertaking dated 11 and 15 August 1975 between the Secretary of State, the Scottish Transport Group and Caledonian MacBrayne Ltd of the determination (ie termination) of the Secretary of State's obligation to make advances by way of revenue for the support of the service at present operated by Caledonian MacBrayne Ltd between Gourock and Dunoon. This letter constitutes six months prior notice in terms of the Undertaking but this period may be shortened by subsequent agreement with the Group on behalf of the Company.

I am copying this letter to the Chairman and Secretary of Caledonian MacBrayne Ltd.

Yours faithfully

Mr. Currie

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

CURRENT TIMETABLESMonday to Saturday

Depart Gourock

0645
 0805
 0905
 1005
 1105
 1205
 1305
 1405
 1505
 1605
 1705
 1745 Ex Sats
 1815
 1905
 2005

Depart Dunoon

0730
 0835
 0935
 1035
 1135
 1235
 1335
 1435
 1535
 1635
 1735
 1815 Ex Sats
 1840
 1935
 2035

Sunday

0845
 0945
 1045
 1145
 1245
 1345
 1445
 1545
 1700
 1815
 1945

0915
 1015
 1115
 1215
 1315
 1415
 1515
 1610
 1730
 1900
 2015

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

FARES

GOURDICK and DUNOON

Standard - 1st June to 30th September

	Single	Half Day Return	10 Journey
Passenger	£1.20	£2.05	£6.95
Motor Car (any length)	£3.10	-	£20.10

Off Peak - until 31st ~~May~~ and from 1st October

	Single	Half Day Return	10 Journey
Passenger	£1.05	£1.80*	£6.95
Motor Car (any length)	£2.75	-	£20.10

* April and May only

CARRYINGS 1980 - 1981

W/E	1980			W/E	1981		
	Passrs.	Cars	Comm. Vehs.		Passrs.	Cars	Comm. Vehs.
5 Jan.	3,063	750	42	3 Jan.	2,860	383	3
12 "	3,912	1,214	175	10 "	8,864	1,129	151
19 "	3,554	1,403	172	17 "	7,459	1,007	163
26 "	3,439	1,350	174	24 "	9,072	1,158	134
2 Feb.	3,130	1,281	161	31 "	9,239	1,278	154
9 "	3,201	1,308	195	7 Feb.	8,399	1,191	146
16 "	3,597	1,379	153	14 "	9,599	1,253	156
23 "	11,935	1,545	190	21 "	9,859	1,288	163
1 March	11,201	1,461	133	28 "	9,294	1,484	185
8 "	11,323	1,470	197	7 March	8,312	1,200	176
15 "	10,256	1,538	130	14 "	8,794	1,302	159
22 "	3,387	1,327	170	21 "	9,468	1,318	156
29 "	3,356	1,361	175	28 "	8,709	1,321	172
5 April	13,430	1,853	177	4 April	10,479	1,344	191
12 "	17,137	2,240	157	11 "	10,123	1,419	154
19 "	13,406	1,982	221	18 "	13,991	2,056	163
26 "	12,309	1,819	210	25 "	13,391	2,021	149
3 May	10,539	1,582	136	2 May	11,150	1,484	180
10 "	9,102	1,279	132	9 "	12,623	1,588	180
17 "	13,203	1,684	205	16 "	11,743	1,519	165
24 "	15,762	2,297	229	23 "	15,463	1,913	193
31 "	17,951	2,591	232	30 "	15,772	2,080	187
7 June	15,529	2,327	255	6 June	14,245	1,847	223
14 "	17,165	2,271	233	13 "	13,927	1,881	200
21 "	14,393	2,210	234	20 "	13,947	1,797	194
28 "	15,503	2,338	237	27 "	14,213	1,820	190
5 July	13,393	2,541	239	4 July	17,551	1,941	199
12 "	19,383	2,556	225				
19 "	19,180	2,902	213				
26 "	19,523	2,777	213				
2 Aug.	20,987	3,063	216				
9 "	19,340	3,086	181				
16 "	19,686	2,838	204				
23 "	17,122	2,728	201				
30 "	33,939	3,562	319				
6 Sept.	20,749	2,760	220				
13 "	14,305	2,161	194				
20 "	14,947	2,064	233				
27 "	14,503	2,010	213				
4 Oct.	13,064	2,191	193				
11 "	12,730	1,816	221				
18 "	13,297	1,783	149				
25 "	11,799	1,443	163				
1 Nov.	11,747	1,461	153				
8 "	11,130	1,361	149				
15 "	11,310	1,321	174				
22 "	3,931	1,411	153				
29 "	3,559	1,256	162				
6 Dec.	10,361	1,612	175				
13 "	3,357	1,385	163				
20 "	10,323	1,554	153				
27 "	7,751	1,142	37				
31 "	3,492	804	53				

NUMBER OF SAILINGS

1980

1981

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

FINANCIAL STATISTICS - GOUROCK/DUNOON SERVICE

	<u>RESULTS 1980</u>		<u>ESTIMATES 1981</u>	
	£'000		£'000	
<u>REVENUE</u>				
Passengers	433		467	
Cars	220		221	
Commercial Vehicles	108		120	
Freight & Mails	<u>32</u>	793	<u>36</u>	844
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>				
Ship Operating	1050		841	
Shore Terminal	80		76	
Exceptional Pier Repairs	<u>174</u>	1304	<u>164</u>	1081
<u>OPERATING RESULT</u>				
		<u>-511</u>		<u>-237</u>
ADD: Depreciation	113		98	
Allocation of Overheads	<u>194</u>		<u>163</u>	
<u>NET DEFICIT</u>				
		<u>-818</u>		<u>-498</u>

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

ALTERNATIVE SERVICES

The alternative services, to be provided by Western Ferries (Argyll) Ltd., will comprise:-

- (1) Vehicle and Passenger Service McInroys Point to Hunters Quay every 30 minutes between 0700 - 2230.
- (2) Passenger Service between Gourock Pier and Dunoon Pier basic hourly frequency 0700 - 2200.

CALEDONIAN MACBRAYNE LIMITED

TIMETABLES

COMPARATIVE JOURNEY TIMES

CENTRE TO CENTRE

CALVAC

Gourock - Dunoon

Mileage Journey Time

3.8 (Nautical) 20 minutes

Gourock to
DunoonGourock Station Exit
to McInroys PointMcInroys Point to
Hunters QuayHunters Quay to
Dunoon

WESTERN FERRIES

Clyde - Argyll

Mileage Journey Time

1.75 5 minutes

2.2 (Nautical) 20 minutes

2.0 6 minutes

Total Journey Time

Centre to Centre

20 minutes31 minutes

MAP OF ROUTE

TRIP :
DUNOON - DUNOON

WESTERN PERIPHERY :
MORRISON'S POINT - HUNTERS QUAY

