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19 July 2024

Dear Richard,

**New Vessels for the Clyde and Hebrides: Arrangements to Deliver Vessels 801 and 802.**

I refer to your letter dated 13 June 2024, seeking an update following my letter to you on 27 November 2023, on Caledonian Maritime Assets Limited (CMAL) Framework Agreement and Shareholder Authorisation. With regard to the CMAL framework agreement, I can confirm that Transport Scotland officials are currently working with the CMAL Board and SG Legal Directorate colleagues to review all governance arrangements to update the current agreement, with a view to having it finalised in the coming months.

More generally, in respect of written authorisation, the SG Governance Hub has provided guidance to SG Public Bodies to support Accountable Officers in producing and publishing written authorities in line with the Public Finance and Accountability Act. This includes the expectation for public bodies to publish their written authorities on their own websites, alongside highlighting that they must also comply with the SPFM requirements - that all written authorities are shared with the Auditor General and Public Audit Committee promptly after issue.

I hope that this is helpful and please let me know if the committee needs anything further at present.

Yours sincerely,

**FIONA HYSLOP**  
**Cabinet Secretary for Transport**

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