

ANNEX III – 2.1c

PUBLIC SERVICE COMPENSATION FOR MARITIME LINKS TO ISLANDS

FERRIES

Calmac/Northlink

Calmac are owned and operated by the Scottish Government. The Calmac network is subject to an ongoing Commission investigation by DG Tren under Article 88 (2). Therefore we cannot report these services as SGEI until a decision has been made by DG Tren.

ORKNEY ISLAND COUNCIL

The ferries serving the islands covered by the PSO are owned or leased by Orkney Islands Council and the services are currently operated by Orkney Ferries Limited.

There are 3 ferries all based in Kirkwall, and Westray, Sanday, Stronsay and Eday have a daily return service. Westray, as the main island, has a dedicated service while the other islands share routes. The ferries serve Papa Westray twice weekly and North Ronaldsay weekly. Essentially the core users of the air services are business travellers, and people based in Kirkwall providing essential services to the islands.

SHETLAND ISLAND COUNCIL

Ferries operate between each of the islands and ports on Shetland Mainland. The services are operated by Shetland Islands Council, except the Foula Service, which is operated by Atlantic Ferries. All of these services are highly weather dependent and can be delayed for considerable periods in winter months.

The frequency and duration of the ferry service is as follows:

Fair Isle	Three return services a week (May to September), one return service a week (October to April).
Foula	Three return services a week (May to September), two return services a week (October to April).
Papa Stour	Eight return services a week;
Skerries	Eleven return services a week.

The core users of these services are freight providers for the islands and tourists.

HIGHLAND COUNCIL

There are 4 ferry services operating in this area. The Nether Lochaber to Ardgour route is operated by Highland Council. Camusnagaul to Fort William is operated by Sea Ventures (a contract was awarded after tender), Nigg to Cromarty is operated by the Cromarty Ferry Company (a contract was awarded after tender). The Drimnin to Tobermory route is operated by the Sound of Mull Transport Group which is jointly funded by Highland and Argyll and Bute Councils.

ARGYLL AND BUTE COUNCIL

There are 4 ferry services operated by or on behalf of Argyll and Bute Council. The 3 services operated by the Council are Cuan to Luing, Port Appin to Lismore and Ellenabeich – Easdale. The Port Askaig to Feolin route is operated by ASP Ship Management Ltd.