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Councillor Alan Reid
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Dear Alan

Thank you for your letter of 9 October, on behalf of the Cowal Transport Forum, regarding your request for the implementation of Road Equivalent Tariff (RET) on the Dunoon – Gourock ferry services.

The Ferries Plan 2013-2022 stated the Scottish Government's intention to roll out RET to all lifeline ferry services, however, there is no commitment to timing or funding for rolling out RET on the Dunoon – Gourock ferry services.

As you correctly state in your letter, introducing RET on the Gourock– Dunoon services now would increase fares for a large number of users. Additionally, there is the complicating factor of the presence of a wholly commercial operator. Consideration of fare levels on the Gourock – Dunoon service will be given once the outcome of the Ferry Services Procurement Policy Review is known and the future of Gourock – Dunoon town centre to town centre ferry service is clearer.

HUMZA YOUSAF

