Public comments following North Isles Ferry Replacement Consultation – September 2025

STRONSAY

Bacon rolls please! and how much they cost?

Not part of design consideration however bacon rolls will continue.

Are we going to definitely get these vessels?

Subject to Scottish Government funding.

Can we please have separate toilets for men and women?

Outline design provides single toilets which are unisex as opposed to shared areas.

Ship's wheelchair available?

Operational consideration. Will pass to Orkney Ferries for consideration.

Please can we have a few more outside seats? – possibly fold down seats on the mooring deck!

Looking at deck 4 only as opposed to additional seating at deck 5.

Some tables in the recliner lounge would be useful! Otherwise, anyone trying to work on a laptop, etc, will need to sit in the café area! Also, some soft benches would be good for anyone who prefers to lie down in rough weather.

Current seating design includes pull down lap trays.

Noted. Proposed amendment to seating in forward area to provide soft seating which would be suitable to lie down in rough weather.

Will we be able to park near lift if travelling with a disabled passenger?

Operational matter. All lanes will be wider so disabled passengers will be able to exit and enter vehicles easier than currently.

Swivel chairs?

Final outline design will consider a number of different options for comfortable seating. Cannot recommend swivel chairs due to space requirements and weather conditions (they will break).

Any plans for the inter-isles' service?

Operational question. Demand is predominantly direct to Kirkwall. Passenger service currently provides inter-isles connectivity. Timetabling and excursions to be considered further in discussion with community.

Having the comfy seats all facing the same way isn't good for families or groups of people!

Noted. Final outline design to consider changes to seating to accommodate families and people travelling in groups.

What will the vessels be called?

Most likely that the community will be involved in the naming process of the new vessels.

How long will it take to build the vessel? And how many will there be?

Proposal is for three 60m vessels for the islands of Eday, Sanday, Stronsay and Westray with the possibility of purchasing a fourth for the South Isles network depending on suitability. This will be confirmed during phase 2 of the Ferry Replacement Programme. This would provide the ability to interchange vessels during refit period etc.

Will the vessels be able to carry more passengers and cars?

Yes. The proposed new vessels will carry 190 passengers, 10 HGV's or 24 cars.