

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Inter-Island Ferry Restricted Timetable FAQs</h2>
<p><b>Why do the Councils internal ferry routes need to move to “Restricted Timetables”?</b></p>	<p>The Council needs to plan ahead and act, so that vital services and connections within the islands are maintained at this very challenging time. These restricted timetables will help to ensure our internal ferries have the resilience to continue to deliver vital lifeline services and conduct essential business over coming weeks.</p>
<p><b>How have the timetables been arrived at?</b></p>	<p>These timetables have been constructed in consultation with NHS, Community Care, emergency services and key local businesses. They protect vital journeys for essential workers, NHS and key business activities at a level which the Council feels most confident it can sustain with uncertain numbers over the coming weeks.</p>
<p><b>What are the main changes with the restricted timetable?</b></p>	<p>The main reductions will be around evening travel, which we appreciate is important to islands in their normal social activities. However during this exceptional period it is essential to ensure that the most important life-line journeys can continue to be provided.</p> <p>On Yell Sound the feedback we had was that many of the sailings throughout the day were important for serving business in the North Isles with little in the way of significant periods of no demand.</p> <p>In this regard, when we have to step down to a single crew operation, we have concentrated the resources on Yell Sound to address these demands.</p> <p>What this means is a relatively early shut down of the service, 1855 from Toft being the last sailing, to accommodate the 10 hours of rest in a 24 hour period that is required under Maritime Working Regulations.</p> <p>However, looking at demand in the evenings it is very low and, bearing in mind the ban on unnecessary travel, demand for these services on all routes should be absent altogether.</p> <p>Bluemull Sound – The Bluemull timetable has focussed on maintaining connections to support aquaculture in the island, support for care services and, as far as possible, to maintain connections to support local retail and travel to and from mainland Shetland for essential travel needs.</p> <p>Whalsay – On the Whalsay route the aim has been to maintain the journey to essential work and access to other critical needs on the mainland as well as enabling local retailers to continue to access wholesalers.</p> <p>Bressay – For Bressay there has been a greater challenge in matching reduced crew availability against maximising service provision. The</p>

	<p>timetable in Bressay is designed to support travel to essential work and to essential shopping and medical care and pharmacies.</p> <p>In overall terms, for each of the routes we have sought to find the best fit of services with demand, within the constraints we face.</p>
<p><b>When will the “Restricted Service” Timetables come into force?</b></p>	<p>These timetables will come into force on Monday the 6<sup>th</sup> of April and are expected to be in place for as long as conditions require that to be the case.</p> <p>They will be reviewed regularly to ensure they continue to meet core needs, and those reviews will also consider when these restricted timetable arrangements may no longer be required.</p>
<p><b>Will there be restricted timetables for all routes?</b></p>	<p>All routes will be examined, the main crossings, Yell Sound, Whalsay, Bressay and Bluemull Sound will be implemented from the 6<sup>th</sup> April, and other routes will follow as appropriate “Restricted Timetables” are developed.</p>
<p><b>Will all islands have the same restricted timetable?</b></p>	<p>No, the essential travel needs of each island will be considered individually taking into account the provision of lifeline services, essential travel and key business requirements. It is likely that adjustments to timetables for the smaller islands will be more limited as they have fewer services in the first instance.</p>
<p><b>Where can I find out more details about the Restricted timetables?</b></p>	<p><b>Further details and FAQs are available on the Councils Coronavirus advice website and Ferry and ZetTrans websites and Facebook pages or by contacting the Ferry Booking Office.</b></p> <p>Council Ferry Information and Booking Website  <a href="http://www.shetland.gov.uk/ferries/">www.shetland.gov.uk/ferries/</a>  <a href="http://www.shetland.gov.uk/ferries/covid19.asp">http://www.shetland.gov.uk/ferries/covid19.asp</a></p> <p>ZetTrans Ferry Travel Information  <a href="https://www.zettrans.org.uk/covid19">https://www.zettrans.org.uk/covid19</a></p> <p>Ferry Admin Office email address –  <a href="mailto:ferries.admin@shetland.gov.uk">ferries.admin@shetland.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Ferry Booking Office Telephone Number  01595 745804</p> <p>Council Coronavirus advice website address –  <a href="https://www.shetland.gov.uk/coronavirus.asp">https://www.shetland.gov.uk/coronavirus.asp</a></p>