

Dear Scrutiny Panel Members,

I am writing in response to your letter dated 17th December 2025.

The JMC&LCC welcome your review of the DFDS operated Ferry service and offer the following comments and perspectives on this matter.

The new operating licence has had a devastating effect on local motorsport. Our visiting competitors have no choice but to travel to Jersey from either the UK or Guernsey with a van to transport their Motorcycles, or a large car and trailer for transporting their Race Cars. Of the seven disciplines of motorsport we host, all are down on competitor numbers from the UK and Guernsey in 2025 compared to previous years. I have offered a breakdown below.

Motorcross:

- May 2-Day event; 20 Guernsey riders absent.
- September 2-Day event; 30 riders absent (Guernsey and UK riders).
- Guernsey vs Jersey Inter-Insular event; cancelled for the first time in 60 years (apart from covid).

Beach Racing:

- 2-Day sandtrack event; no Guernsey riders compared with 12 the previous year.

Trials:

- November 2-Day trial; 30 Guernsey riders down from previous year. That's 33% of the total entry.

Hill climb:

- July National Hill Climb; down 8 UK entries.

That means 8 drivers and typically an entourage of 5 accompanying support crew for each. Total of 48 people, plus a further 10 Guernsey competitors.

- 3 Remaining Bouley Bay Hill Climbs; 10 competitors down.

Sprint/Twisty Sprint:

- October event; 6 Guernsey competitors down.

Jersey Rally:

- October event; 2 entries withdrawn in 2025 directly due to boat cost. Total of 8 people including crew.

L'Etacq Stages Rally:

- Sprint time event; no Guernsey entries were placed. We had 7 the previous year, a total of 21 people including crew.

To simplify these figures, 187 competitors chose not to come to Jersey to compete in motorsport as a direct result of infrequent, expensive and in a lot of cases, a non-existent Ferry service.

The knock-on effect of this extends to the tourism industry.

A conservative estimate would be that 187 competitors visiting Jersey to take part in events of between 1 and 5 days in duration require 330 hotel bed nights. 130 of those in October and November. Hotels, restaurants, bars, cafes and tourist attractions are all suffering.

The main problem from our perspective is the lack of a regular Ferry between Jersey and Guernsey which should operate to serve the weekend period. We would also like to point out however, that in our opinion, the service to the UK has shortcomings.

I have personally met with the senior management of DFDS and discussed the issues, but they put the blame quite firmly with the Governments of both Jersey and Guernsey. They are satisfied that they are fulfilling the terms of their contract.

In summary, the ferry service is restrictive, expensive and does not serve the Channel Islands. The result of this is that local sport and national level sporting events, together with the hospitality industry that serve them, are suffering tremendously. If you compete in a sport which requires equipment larger than a golf club, inter island sport is impossible.

I would welcome the opportunity to sit before the panel for further discussion.

Kind Regards,

Nathan Beddoe

JMC&LCC President