

29 March 2024

Dear Resident

### **UPDATE ON OUR PAPA STOUR SUBSEA CABLE**

I'd like to begin by thanking you for your patience and understanding since the fault on our subsea cable at the end of January.

Alongside our operational colleagues from Lerwick Depot who have been maintaining the temporary generators currently providing your power, our subsea team has also been carrying out their own detailed analysis of the best long-term resolution of the fault.

Following a site visit earlier this week by members of our subsea team, we've made the decision to replace the cable; we've arrived at this decision following consideration of the potential risks of further damage to the existing cable during any repair works.

These plans to replace the cable will be progressed as soon as is practically possible; before we can start work, we need marine licensing and other consents, and we also need to be able to secure specialist contractors and the installation vessel.

We're working hard behind the scenes to secure a specialist vessel to carry out the works before the end of September, with the actual installation process taking approximately one week.

In the meantime, all properties on Papa Stour will continue to be supplied via back up generation, with members of our team in Lerwick carrying out regular inspections and refuelling of the temporary equipment on your island.

### **COMMUNITY INFORMATION SESSION**

We appreciate that you may have questions about the timescales of our work and what our specialist teams will be doing, and so we are going to be hosting a community information session at Papa Stour School on **Wednesday, 24 April between 10:30am – 3pm**. Members of our subsea team will be on hand to explain more about the works and proposed timescales - everyone on the island is invited, there's no need to make an appointment.

I hope that all of this information has been useful, and also helps to reassure you that we're committed to doing all we can to restore your permanent power supply as safely and as quickly as possible; and if there is anything I can do to help, please don't hesitate to contact me on the details at the head of this letter.

Regards

Kevin Galbraith  
Project Director, Subsea Cables