

12 October 2007

TravelWatch *ISLE OF MAN* Media Release

Concerns over Steam Packet winter timetable.

TravelWatch *ISLE OF MAN* welcomes the news that the Steam Packet are exploring the possibility of providing some day trips to Liverpool in the period leading up to Christmas. In our 12th October Press Release we had identified the loss of the day return facility to Liverpool as a distinct disadvantage in the changes to the winter schedule.

Other questions which still need to be addressed include:

- • will there be adequate passenger capacity over the Christmas / New Year holiday period?
- • The reduction in weekend travel opportunities in both directions arising from the lack of a Friday sailing from Liverpool and a Sunday afternoon/evening return trip to the Mersey.
- • The loss of opportunity for weekend travellers to and from Heysham and points further north

TravelWatch are progressing these matters as follows:

- • We are meeting the Steam Packet Company this week
- • These issues will be aired at our Public Meeting at the Villa Marina on Saturday morning 17th November
- • We are giving evidence in public to the Tynwald Select Committee later this month

Issued by TravelWatch ISLE OF MAN

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