



PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGOED TO 1400 HOURS, 28 June 2002

ANNIVERSARY OF JCRA: WELCOMES LAW COMING INTO FORCE ON JULY 1ST

On the anniversary of his appointment and the establishment of the JCRA, the Chairman, Dr Patrick McNutt, believes that small states create a very unique situation with regard to the regulation of industries such as telecoms. In recent years small states have started to move towards liberalising their telecoms markets. Dr McNutt believes that *'the symposium on telecoms regulation that has been held in Jersey has given regulators from small states the opportunity to learn from shared experiences, to develop best practice and to discuss progression in a fast developing field'*.

The Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 is due to come into force on 1 July 2002. After this the JCRA will be turning its attention to the postal industry and a Postal Law is being drafted. A competition law is also currently being developed so as to prohibit restrictive practices and monopoly abuse and to enhance the JCRA's investigatory powers in both the private and public sectors.

The symposium has been very timely with the Telecommunications Law coming into force in a few days time. Liberalisation and independent regulation will be beneficial to the Island's telecoms market. It will help Jersey remain in a competitive major international finance centre through improvements in efficiency, productivity and innovation. It is also hoped that it will create an environment that is conducive to a takeoff in e-commerce. It is a positive step towards creating a competitive environment in Jersey that is in tune with the realities of modern transactions in the 21st century.

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For further information, please contact:

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