



PRESS RELEASE

EMBARGOED TO 0900 HOURS, 13th FEBRUARY 2002

NEW APPOINTMENTS AT THE JCRA AS PREPARATIONS FOR THE LIBERALISATION OF THE TELECOMS INDUSTRY GATHER PACE

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority has made three new appointments in preparation for the liberalisation of Jersey's telecommunication industry later this year.

Graeme Marett has joined the JCRA as a Case Officer. As a professional engineer with over 30 years of private and public sector experience in the telecoms and IT industries, he brings with him a wealth of technical knowledge. Graeme is also a part-time lecturer in telecommunications and electronic engineering at Highlands College.

Paul Hamilton worked for the States from 1992, with periods spent in the Health, Treasury and Policy and Resources Departments. He was seconded from the States to assist in the setting up of the JCRA, and has now been officially appointed by the JCRA as a Case Officer. He will also act as Secretary to the JCRA Board.

Lisette Le Boutillier has joined as a Project Officer. She is a recent graduate of the University of Oxford.

Graeme, Paul and Lisette will assist in research, and provide support in the development of JCRA policy and casework.

Dr Patrick Mc Nutt, Chairman of the JCRA, commented:

“These new appointments augment the JCRA team to a complement of seven. The extra assistance will be invaluable as the JCRA's workload increases in preparation for the changes that the new Telecommunications (Jersey) Law will bring.

“Consultation, which forms an integral part of the JCRA's work, has increased as the Island moves towards the new telecoms licensing regime. Jersey Telecom and other telecommunications companies like Newtel now have 'ownership' of the consultation process. They are participating with the JCRA in arriving at an appropriate framework for the provision of telecoms services on the island of Jersey.”

-(Ends)-

For further information, please contact:

Charles Latham, Executive Director of the JCRA
Telephone: 514990

Note to Editors:

The Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 received Privy Council approval in December 2001, and is expected to come into force in April.

The law will introduce competition into the telecommunications market in Jersey; Jersey Telecom will be incorporated and will operate in competition with new entrants, such as Newtel. A new licensing regime for telecoms operators – administered and controlled by the JCRA – will help to ensure that the market works well for consumers.