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PRESS STATEMENT

JCRA EXPRESSES CONCERN OVER 11.5% RISE IN POSTAL CHARGES

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority has expressed concern over the changes in postal rates that come into force from today (Tuesday 22nd January).

The cost of sending a letter under 60g to the UK has risen from 26p to 29p. This represents an 11.5% increase, which is more than treble the rate of inflation. This increase means it will now cost Islanders 2p more to send a letter from Jersey to the UK than it does to send one in the opposite direction.

Jersey Post's claim that the price increases have been offset by changes in the weight bands is to some extent true, but their widening of the weight bands and abolition of the 60g, 150g, 250g, and 350g rates also means that the true costs to consumers are not clear.

Charles Latham, Executive Director of the JCRA commented:

“The issue highlights the need for the incorporation of Jersey Post and its regulation in the interests of the Island's consumers. A postal law is currently being drafted which will introduce competition into the postal sector. The market will be regulated by the JCRA to ensure that the interests of consumers remain at the forefront. The JCRA will be writing to Jersey Post stressing the need to put consumers' interests first.”

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT CHARLES LATHAM,
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE JCRA ON 01534 514992**

Notes to Editors

The JCRA does not currently have any formal power to regulate the postal sector in Jersey but it is the intention to introduce regulation following the drafting of the appropriate legislation and following the completion of a consultation process.