

PRESS RELEASE

21 MARCH 2003

JCRA STRATEGIC PLAN

2003 - 2005

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority today issued its draft Strategic Plan for public consultation.

The draft Plan outlines the JCRA's strategy in order to meet its objectives and sets out the JCRA's projects and programmes for the next 2 years.

The Plan not only covers detailed consultation in telecommunications but also includes the JCRA's objectives for the regulation of the postal and other sectors, and the possible introduction of a Competition (Jersey) Law.

This consultation exercise is to allow the JCRA to obtain the view of stakeholders as to the priorities for its workload during 2003-2005. The JCRA invites comments from interested stakeholders to be received by no later than 25 April 2003.

The JCRA Plan envisages consulting on a price cap for Jersey Telecom Limited in the second half of 2003. The JCRA Board has directed Jersey Telecom Limited to freeze its prices in the interim.

With the licensing of Newtel Limited and others, it will also be necessary to have interconnection arrangements in place between Jersey Telecom Limited and its competitors.

Charles Latham (Executive Director) stated:

“With the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 in force since January of this year, and the possibility of a new Postal Law and Competition Law coming on stream in 2004, the next two years are likely to be an important and busy time for the JCRA. We hope that by undertaking the objectives laid out in this draft Strategic Plan the JCRA will deliver real benefits for Jersey's consumers”.

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For further information, please contact:

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Note to Editors

The draft Strategic Plan was issued today for consultation. An Executive Summary is attached. A future consultation is envisaged on price caps.

Jersey Telecom Limited was granted an interim telecommunications licence on 1 November 2002 which runs until 30 April 2003. Jersey telecom Limited has applied for a 20 year licence to run from May 2003 and this application is the subject of current consideration.

Newtel Limited was granted a 10 year telecommunications licence on 15 January 2003.

Cable & Wireless (Jersey) Limited have announced their intention to apply to the JCRA for a telecommunications licence for Jersey.

Drafts of the Postal (Jersey) Law 200- and Competition (Jersey) Law 200- have been the subject of public consultation, but have yet to be lodged *au Greffe*.