

**JCRA Media Release**

31 March 2009

**JCRA Welcomes Recommendations of an Independent Review of  
Telecommunications Regulation in Jersey**

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (“JCRA”) welcomes the recommendations of an independent review of telecommunications regulation in Jersey. These recommendations include increased resources and powers in telecommunications regulation, including the power to fine operators for telecommunications licence violations.

The independent review was carried out by consultants LECG in conjunction with law firm Charles Russell LLP at the request of the Minister of Economic Development. The consultants reviewed the JCRA’s powers under Jersey’s Telecommunications Law and examined whether additional powers may be necessary to enhance regulatory effectiveness. They also considered whether the current consultation process, which is a required by Jersey’s Telecommunications Law, could be streamlined and improved. The JCRA cooperated fully in this process.

The report contains nine key recommendations. These include a recommendation that the JCRA moderately increase its resources for telecommunications regulation. Furthermore, the statutory consultation process mandated by Jersey’s Telecommunications Law should be streamlined in certain respects. It recommends that the JCRA publish additional information, key performance indicators and market data to underpin the annual Statement of Aims and Objectives which it already publishes. Finally, consistent with regulatory regimes in other jurisdictions, the report recommends that the JCRA be empowered to impose fines of up to 10% of turnover on telecommunications operators for breach of licence conditions.

Chuck Webb, the JCRA’s Executive Director, said:

*“We welcome the LECG report and its recommendations, which should help strengthen telecommunications regulation in Jersey for the benefit of consumers. We look forward to working with the Economic Development Department to implement the recommendations. As part of that process, the JCRA will be finalising its draft Guidelines on procedures under Jersey’s Telecommunication Law, which it consulted on and produced at the end of last year”.*

All enquiries should be directed to the JCRA’s Executive Director, Chuck Webb, on +44 (0)1534 514990.

About the JCRA

**EMBARGOED UNTIL 00.01 TUESDAY 31 MARCH 2009**

The JCRA is an independent authority established by the States of Jersey to enforce Jersey's competition law and regulate its telecommunication and postal sectors. In each of these areas, the JCRA's primary mission is to promote consumer welfare through efforts that encourage lower prices and greater choice and innovation in the goods and services available in Jersey. The JCRA is recognized internationally as a leading voice in the application of competition law and policy in small economies.

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