## **JCRA Media Release**

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## JCRA Publishes Final 2009 Workplan

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority ("JCRA") has published today its final 2009 Aims and Objectives. The document outlines the major goals the JCRA shall be working to achieve in the coming year.

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. It currently has three primary areas of competence: (1) to enforce Jersey's Competition Law, (2) to regulate Jersey's telecommunications sector, and (3) to regulate Jersey's postal sector. The JCRA's 2009 Aims and Objectives outline major initiatives in all three of these areas. These initiatives include the following.

Under Jersey's Competition Law, the JCRA intends to continue its vigorous enforcement activities in 2009. Last year, JCRA action led to results such as the elimination of recommended resale prices among Jersey's coal distributors and the elimination of recommended fares among registered taxi-cab operators. The JCRA's prior work has demonstrated that such actions benefit consumers in terms of promoting lower prices and greater choice in the goods and services on offer in Jersey.

In the area of telecommunications regulation, in 2009 the JCRA plans to continue its efforts to create a level competitive playing field in the provision of telecommunication services in Jersey. A major achievement in the regard occurred in late 2008 with the implementation of number portability among Jersey's three mobile telecommunication providers. In the coming year, the JCRA plans to have an increased emphasis on fixed-line telecommunications, and to this end intends to carry out major reviews of Jersey Telecom's wholesale fixed-line product offering and separated accounts methodology. The purpose of these reviews is to ensure that other competitors have fair and

2

nondiscriminatory access to JT's network, thereby enabling them to offer services in competition with JT to customers in Jersey.

In postal regulation, over the past twelve months the JCRA has awarded the first two licenses for companies to provide postal services in competition with Jersey Post ("JP"). In 2009, the JCRA plans to determine if additional competition for postal services can be introduced in Jersey while, at the same time, not placing an unfair burden on JP to continue to fulfill its universal service obligations.

The JCRA's 2009 Aims and Objectives is the product of a month-long consultation that commenced in November 2008. Along with the final Aims and Objectives document, the JCRA also is publishing today a document that details the changes that were made to the Aims and Objectives as a result of comments received during this consultation. The JCRA would like to thank all parties that participated in this consultation.

The JCRA's Executive Director, Chuck Webb, states:

"Last year was an extremely busy and productive year for the JCRA that produced tangible results for the Jersey consumer, such as the introduction of mobile number portability. We expect nothing less in 2009 and have released today an ambitious workplan to further our ultimate goal of increasing consumer welfare in Jersey. We stand ready and are excited to execute this plan over the next twelve months."

Copies of the final 2009 Aims and Objectives and the document showing changes that were made thereto are attached to this Media Release. Copies also are available on the JCRA's website, www.jcra.je. All enquiries to the JCRA should be directed to the Executive Director, Chuck Webb, on +44 (0)1534 514990.

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