

## **JCRA Media Release**

**6 July 2010 (Embargoed until 2pm today)**

### **JCRA AND GUERNSEY TO SHARE REGULATOR CHIEF**

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority ('JCRA') is pleased to announce that the Director General of Guernsey's Office of Utility Regulation ('OUR'), John Curran, is to be appointed to the role of Executive Director of the JCRA a role which he will undertake in parallel with his existing role in Guernsey. This innovative development was quickly agreed by the Board of the JCRA, with the agreement of the Minister for Economic Development Alan Maclean and Guernsey's Commerce and Employment Department. Mr Curran will succeed Chuck Webb as Executive Director at the end of Mr Webb's term in October. He will divide his time between Jersey and Guernsey, with the costs being equally shared between the JCRA and the Guernsey Government.

Mr Curran was appointed Director General of the OUR in February 2005. He had previously been Director of Regulation with the OUR since April 2003 and prior to this worked as Regulatory Adviser with Telstra, the Australian telecoms company. He also spent four years with the Office of the Director of Telecommunications Regulation (now ComReg) in Ireland, the Irish Regulatory Agency for Telecommunications and Post, where he was Regulatory Manager with the Market Operations Division during the liberalisation of the telecoms market. Prior to this John worked for three years in communications regulation in Ireland, including dealing with cable and broadcasting while working with the Irish Civil Service. He started his career in the Irish Civil Service having studied Electronic Engineering at Galway Institute of Technology.

Commenting on the appointment Mark Boleat, Chairman of the JCRA, said –

*This is a great appointment for both Jersey and Guernsey. John is a highly experienced regulator with a great knowledge of the special issues in the Channel Islands. He could not be better qualified to take on the role of Executive Director of the JCRA. The JCRA and OUR have*

*increasingly worked together over the last few years, recognising that there are similar issues in the two islands. This appointment is a natural follow on from this co-operation and will stimulate further sharing of resources in the years ahead, resulting both in greater effectiveness and a significant cost saving.*

*The JCRA and Guernsey's Commerce and Employment Department agreed the arrangement very quickly, both understanding the substantial benefits that it would bring and working in a spirit of mutual trust.*

Commenting on his appointment as the JCRA's Executive Director, John Curran said:

*I am very pleased to have been appointed as Executive Director of the JCRA. I look forward to working with the JCRA Board and staff to build on the high level of co-operation that has already developed between the JCRA and the OUR.*

*My appointment to this role will enable both agencies to deliver an even more efficient and focused approach in both the administration of regulation and competition law. It also represents recognition and a response to the call from the business community and the regulated companies for a more joined up approach from both Islands in this area.*

All enquiries should be directed to the JCRA's Chairman, Mark Boleat, on +44 (0)7770 441377.

#### About the JCRA

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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