



Media Release – embargoed until 6am 13th January 2011

OUR and JCRA creating stronger links

The Guernsey Office of Utility Regulation (OUR) and the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which will facilitate closer working between the two agencies. The MoU is designed to ensure that information can be shared across the islands and will enable the OUR and the JCRA to work jointly on more projects in the future.

“This agreement is a further important step in enabling closer co-operation between the two regulatory agencies. It will enable us to share information, allowing us to start integrating the expertise from both agencies and work on more joint projects,” said OUR Director General and JCRA Executive Director John Curran.

The agreement will enable both agencies to share information on matters of common interest. It is planned that during 2011, the staff from the two agencies will start working more closely together with combined project teams drawn from staff in both the OUR and the JCRA working on Pan Channel Island initiatives.

John Curran added: “There is very strong support for the two agencies to work more closely together. This agreement helps us to extend the co-operation already being achieved and will enable both organisations to achieve more with our combined resources.”

Information for the Editor

About the OUR

The Office of Utility Regulation was established in 2001 to regulate the three utilities of post, telecommunications and electricity in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. The Office is headed up by Director General, John Curran and has four staff.

The role of the OUR is to protect the interests of Guernsey consumers and the economy. It does this by ensuring that customers receive the best in price, choice and quality services in the three regulated sectors, while at the same time ensuring that those sectors are vibrant and robust so that they can positively contribute to and underpin a successful Guernsey economy.

The OUR licenses and regulates telecommunications operators, Guernsey Electricity Ltd and Guernsey Post Ltd. Wherever possible, the OUR promotes the introduction of competition by ensuring that there is fair play and a level playing field between the operators. Where competition is not yet effective or where it is not feasible, the OUR regulates prices and quality of services to end customers. More information is available from the OUR website www.regutil.gg, or by contacting the Office of Utility Regulation on 01481 711120.

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 recognised internationally as a leading voice in the application of competition law and policy in small economies.

More information is available from the JCRA website www.jcra.je or by calling 01534 514990.