



CICRA media release

10 June 2013

CICRA seeks resolution to bring wholesale line rental to Jersey

CICRA (the Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities) is seeking to engage in further constructive dialogue with JT to avoid costly litigation after JT lodged an appeal against the regulator's plans to introduce wholesale line rental in Jersey.

CICRA wants to make sure customers in the Channel Islands will see the benefit of competition in the landline market.

Chief executive Andrew Riseley said: "The introduction of wholesale line rental (WLR) will have a tangible and positive impact on consumers as it will allow other operators in both Jersey and Guernsey to lease landlines from JT and Sure, respectively, to resell to consumers.

"The move allows other operators to offer a complete telecoms service to their customers: providing consumers with more choice and potentially cheaper prices.

"WLR is a straightforward service widely available elsewhere in the world. It has been in place for more than 10 years in the UK and has allowed telecoms service providers to offer substantial benefits to customers through discounts and bundled services.

"While CICRA is disappointed with the delay, and recognises other operators will be frustrated, we understand that JT's position is that it would not stand in the way of wholesale competition being developed.

"WLR is essentially a change in billing arrangements which would provide the framework for JT to charge other operators to lease these lines. The change opens up choice for

consumers and allows competitors to offer all services on one bill as JT is already able to do in Jersey,” he said.

“Sure has confirmed to us that it will be in a position to implement WLR in Guernsey. We will continue to work with JT to resolve its concerns so that WLR can be implemented on a pan-Channel Island basis.

“We welcome JT’s motivation to continue constructive dialogue with us in the hope that we can avoid an expensive and unnecessary appeal process.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

All enquiries should be directed in writing to CICRA Chief Executive, Andrew Riseley, in Guernsey at the Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority, Suites B1 & B2, Hirzel Court, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 2NH or in Jersey at the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority, 2nd Floor, Salisbury House, 1 - 9 Union Street, St Helier, Jersey JE2 3RF. Alternatively email info@bicra.gg.

About CICRA:

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities or 'CICRA' is the name given to the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA) and the Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority (GCRA) (formerly the Office of Utility Regulation). The JCRA was established under the Competition Regulatory Authority (Jersey) Law, 2001, and the GCRA was established under The Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2012. In Jersey, the telecoms and postal sectors are regulated by the JCRA, which is also responsible for administering and enforcing the Competition (Jersey) Law 2005. In Guernsey the telecoms, postal and electricity sectors are regulated by the GCRA, which is also responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Guernsey competition law since it came into force on 1 August 2012.

By working together and sharing resources and expertise between the islands, CICRA strives to ensure that consumers in all the Channel Islands receive best value, choice and access to high quality services.