



CICRA media release

23 July 2014

CICRA awards 4G spectrum in the Channel Islands

Local consumers are set to benefit from access to much faster mobile internet speeds and enhanced capabilities on their mobile phones following the announcement that CICRA (the Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities) is awarding 4G spectrum to three successful applicants.

In June interested operators submitted bids to the telecoms regulator for the ability to offer 4G services. Following evaluation of the bids CICRA is working with Ofcom to ensure that local consumers have access to these services as soon as possible.

JT, Sure and Airtel have been successful in their bids to be allocated spectrum so that they will be able to offer customers 4G services. As part of their bid operators have committed to a roll out timetable, the speed customers will be able to access and coverage they will deliver.

CICRA chief executive, Michael Byrne, said: "The three winning operators have demonstrated a strong commitment to invest in 4G technology which is an emphatic vote of confidence for the Channel Islands.

"Customers are the ultimate winners and will benefit from greater capacity and speed when transmitting data that's available from 4G. We look forward to seeing new innovative services that utilise spectrum.

"We have also ensured the issue of 'bill shock,' when people use data roaming off-island with their mobile devices which results in high charges, is not an issue for 4G

services. This has been a longstanding problem for mobile customers using 3G. It is even more vital this is addressed now given the potential amounts of data 4G is designed to deliver.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

All enquiries should be directed in writing to CICRA Chief Executive, Michael Byrne, 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@cicra.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.