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CICRA releases results of mobile customer satisfaction survey

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities' (CICRA's) third independent customer satisfaction survey of mobile service providers has seen JT achieve across-the-board improvements in customer satisfaction levels although its results still lag behind those of Sure and Airtel. Sure and Airtel have struggled to sustain the high level of customer satisfaction that they have previously achieved.

Sure, Airtel and JT are the three providers currently providing mobile services in Jersey.

CICRA, which conducts the survey every six months, commissioned Island Global Research to survey 500 islanders asking them to give their opinion on the quality of service, billing and the level of customer service they received from their operator.

Overall the number of respondents who rated their mobile service provider's quality of service as satisfactory or highly satisfactory rose from 57% in November to 66% in May. Sure achieved 80%, a small increase from 78% in November, while Airtel's results dropped to 70% from 78% in November. JT's result of 58% is a welcome improvement on the 40% it achieved in November.

Just over half of respondents rated their billing as satisfactory or highly satisfactory with Sure and Airtel achieving 76% and 75%, respectively, compared to JT's 44%. While this shows a marked improvement from JT's 27% rating achieved in November there is still a significant gap between JT and the other operators.

39% of those surveyed had cause to contact customer services in the past six to 12 months with 59% reporting their experience to be satisfactory or highly satisfactory up from 45% in November. JT's result showed significant improvement rising from 26% to 51% although its remains behind the results achieved by Sure (64%) and Airtel (81%).

13% of those surveyed had changed provider in the past six to 12 months and one in four suggested they would be likely or very likely to change provider in the future.

Half cited pricing and special offers as the main reason for seeking to change.

CICRA director, Louise Read, said: "It is encouraging that JT has made significant across-the-board improvements. It appears to be responding to customers' feedback, has initiated improvements and is seeing customer satisfaction ratings improve as a result".

"The results for Sure and Airtel suggest that these operators have been unable to deliver sustained, across the board improvements.

"We are now looking to all three operators to demonstrate the ability to achieve sustainable improvements in customer satisfaction.

"We encourage customers to use these survey results to help them decide which mobile provider they choose in the future."

This is the second of a series of three reports that CICRA will be issuing. The first report, on fixed lines, was published on 1 July, 2015 and the final report, on broadband services, is due to be published shortly.

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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, Suite 4, 1st Floor, Plaiderie Chambers, La Plaiderie, St Peter Port, Guernsey GY1 1WG 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.

In line with CICRA's consultation policy, it intends to make responses to the consultation available on the CICRA website. Any material that is confidential should be put in a separate annex and clearly marked as such so that it may be kept confidential. CICRA regrets that it is not in a position to respond individually to the responses to this consultation.

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.