



## **CICRA media release**

**01 October 2015**

### **CICRA's concerns for taxi reform in Jersey**

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities (CICRA) has expressed its concern that the proposed plans to reform the taxi industry in Jersey is not in the best interests of consumers.

CICRA's aim is to ensure that consumers receive the best value, choice and access to high quality services, in addition to promoting competition and consumers' interests, and has provided its views to the Transport and Technical Services department throughout the five years since the reform process started.

CICRA chief executive, Michael Byrne, said: "We are, and will continue, to be supportive of changes to the taxi industry when they promote competition, innovation and are in the best interests of consumers.

"We are concerned that the reforms that the department is seeking to introduce retains a two-tier system which is confusing for consumers, will significantly increase the cost to industry of providing services (costs which will ultimately be borne by consumers) and appear to increase the burden of regulation on the industry (with associated costs) without a clear case for such interventions.

"Ultimately what consumers want is a service that is available when needed, is safe, reliable and value for money. It is not at all clear that these proposals will meet those needs."

**ENDS**

## **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](mailto: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.