



CICRA media release

12 February 2016

CICRA fines JT for licence contravention

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities (CICRA) has found that JT contravened its telecoms licence when it introduced its JT One products in 2015.

JT launched JT One as a product offering bundled fixed line, mobile and broadband services. JT is required, under the terms of its licence to alert CICRA and other operators 21 days before any proposed new service/offer comes into effect.

JT notified CICRA but chose not to provide other operators with details of its new offers at a critical point in the opening of the Jersey market to competition and, in failing to do so, it contravened a key licence condition intended to protect competition.

CICRA chief executive Michael Byrne said: "CICRA has given JT every opportunity to comply with its obligations and remedy its behaviour. Yet JT has persisted in marketing JT One while in contravention of its obligations despite being informed by its competitors, and by the regulator, of their concerns. Instead of seeking to remedy its behaviour and do the right thing it has required a full regulatory process to get it to stop such behaviour which is disappointing.

"In addition to finding that JT has contravened its licence CICRA has directed JT to take steps to ensure it is in compliance and has fined JT £3,000."

CICRA has taken the decision to set a low fine in this instance given this is a first contravention. Future contraventions may attract more significant remedies.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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.