



CICRA media release

14 March 2013

CICRA launches study into tobacco products in Jersey

CICRA (the Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities) has been requested by the Economic Development Department to conduct a review of the level of pricing, costs and profit of tobacco products in Jersey.

The reference from the Minister for Economic Development, Senator Alan Maclean, seeks a market study into the tobacco industry in the island, with specific reference to exclusive agreements for tobacco imports.

CICRA chief executive, Andrew Riseley, said there had been public concern regarding arrangements at various levels of the supply chain for tobacco products in the island and the apparent differences between the pre-tax price of cigarettes in Jersey and those charged in markets such as the UK. The review will consider those arrangements, as well as the pricing conduct of importers, distributors and retailers on occasions when duties on tobacco have been increased.

“In light of the public interest, and the States request, CICRA will undertake the study into the supply of cigarettes and hand-rolling tobacco and will make recommendations as to how the operation of the market could be improved,” Mr Riseley said.

The analysis will include prices, costs and profits at the importation, wholesale and retail levels of the supply of tobacco and whether certain features of the market impact on competition. The study will also take into consideration the States of Jersey Tobacco Strategy.

Mr Riseley said CICRA aims to complete the study by May this year.

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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.