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Competition Authority publishes its 2019 work programme

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities (CICRA) today published its work programme for 2019. These cover the three areas of work as the economic regulator in the Jersey and Guernsey telecoms sector, the Jersey postal and ports sector. It also covers its role in competition law enforcement across the two islands.

Developing a telecoms regulatory framework to support policy ambitions in each island for next generation connectivity, improving prospects for innovation and reviewing whether wholesale pricing of broadband is based on a fair return feature among its top priorities for 2019.

As the economic regulator of Ports of Jersey since its commercialisation the main areas of its work will be maintaining transparency of quality of service achieved by Ports of Jersey and setting a long term pricing framework for the airport and harbour operations where Ports is the monopoly provider.

Ensuring that certain mergers or acquisitions do not lead to unacceptable risks to consumers from market concentrations when competitors acquire each other is a key area of the Competition Authority's work in competition law enforcement. The Authority also carries out a number investigations on a confidential basis, publishing decisions following due process. Though in many cases these are resolved before formal action is required.

The Authority maintains a watching brief on the postal sector and regulates by exception.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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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 makes markets work.