



NEWS RELEASE

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Competition Authority announces telecom retail price study

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the Authority) is to conduct a study of retail pricing in the telecoms market to assess how prices in Jersey compare internationally with other similar jurisdictions, including Guernsey and the Isle of Man.

The Authority announced in June 2021 that it would be carrying out a series of market studies to evaluate several key areas of the Island's economy that could be improved for consumers, which includes government, businesses, and citizens. Studies are currently underway for the Freight Logistics and into Alcohol Pricing and Promotions.

A market study is the analysis of a market, or features of a market, in this case the prices, to assess how well it is working and if any changes should be recommended to make it work better.

The new study will benchmark retail prices in the telecoms market in Jersey against comparator jurisdictions. It will follow an established methodology, set by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), to compare retail prices for key consumer services (as of quarter 4 2021).

The study will consider different defined services – in particular:

- Fixed voice services
- Mobile voice and data service
- Fixed broadband services
- Mobile broadband services (dongle-based mobile broadband) and
- Bundled services
 - Phone and broadband
 - Triple play, phone, broadband and mobile.

Peter Hetherington, Senior Economic Case Officer said, “Market studies are an important area of our work and can be used to promote a competitive environment. This study will help provide a better understanding of how prices in Jersey compare internationally, which is an indicator of how well the telecoms market is working for consumers.

“The study also has broader benefits. For example, telecommunication services are an element that can drive inflation. Therefore, understanding pricing better can help support the Government’s anti-inflation strategy.”

The telecoms retail pricing market study will start this month and the findings will be published in the first quarter of 2022. The Authority has published the terms of reference and a list of frequently asked questions, which are available to download from its website www.icra.je

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Attached to this media release is a summary of the most frequently asked questions about the study, and the terms of reference.

More information about market studies can be found at the Authority's website <https://www.jcra.je/competition-and-regulation/market-studies/>

About The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority:

The JCRA was established under the Competition Regulatory Authority (Jersey) Law, 2001. It is responsible for administering and enforcing the Competition (Jersey) Law 2005 and also regulates the telecoms and postal sectors and the Ports of Jersey.

The JCRA strives to ensure that the markets work well for the benefit of all stakeholders, including Government, business, citizens and consumers facilitating best value, choice and access to high quality services.