



## NEWS RELEASE

02 March 2022

### **JCRA tests interest in 5G services**

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the Authority) has restarted the process required to award the radio spectrum needed to provide Fifth Generation (5G) services in Jersey.

The process was paused in 2020 in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and concerns expressed by the Government of Jersey regarding the security of 5G infrastructure. Today the Authority has restarted the process with a public consultation to find out how interest in 5G has been affected during the last two years.

Tim Ringsdore, Chief Executive of the Authority said, “We’re pleased to be restarting the process for licencing 5G spectrum for Jersey, and enabling future benefits for local mobile users. As the pandemic’s impact recedes and the situation with network security requirements becomes clearer, we believe that now is the right time to pick up this matter again and look forward to re-engaging with interested parties and islanders about 5G.”

The process for awarding local 5G spectrum involves several steps culminating in a recommendation to Ofcom, the UK communications regulator responsible for managing radio spectrum throughout the British Isles. Prior to this, the Authority

plans to reassess interest and demand in 5G spectrum, create and publish a statement of intent setting out the approach to awarding and run an application process to select suitable network operators.

The first step, which is this consultation to reassess interest and demand, has been started with a document setting out the planned approach along with key influencing factors the Authority intends taking into account within a revised statement of intent. This is available for review and comment on the JCRA website at [www.jcra.je/open-consultations](http://www.jcra.je/open-consultations), with responses welcome until 29 April 2022.

## **Ends**

---

Issued by ORCHID

Allan Watts

T: 01534 888994

E: [allan@orchid.je](mailto:allan@orchid.je)

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **About 5G and the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority's process**

5G, or Fifth Generation, is the latest in a series of common international standards created to define mobile phones and the networks they use. For mobile users and telecom operators the new standard offers a quantum step forward for mobile data services with the potential for higher connectivity speeds, much greater capacity for data traffic and lower latency on connections. This allows the continuing development of mainstream services including mobile broadband and IoT (Internet of Things), and potential for future niche or vertical services in sectors such as transport, medical and logistics.

Radio spectrum is an invisible but essential resource required to provide numerous wireless services including connections between mobile phones / terminals and mobile operator's network transmitters or base stations. Enabling the development of 5G requires the Authority to licence new bands of spectrum, which has been internationally designated for this purpose.

## **About The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority:**

The Authority 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 Authority 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.

The JCRA is a member of the [International Institute of Communications](#).