

INFORMATION NOTE

Licensing satellite broadband operations in Jersey

There is growing global interest in the emerging low earth orbit (LEO) satellite broadband sector, which offers the potential to extend high-speed internet access to parts of the world with limited or no coverage.

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the **Authority**) is presently monitoring developments in this area, liaising with UK communications regulator Ofcom which has responsibility for managing the local radio spectrum needed for satellite broadband services. Part of this monitoring activity is deciding what steps may be needed to provide local licences, which would be required to allow satellite broadband companies to operate legally in the Island. Also under consideration is what level of prioritisation the Authority should give to this activity.

Given the Island-wide fibre-to-the-home network and extensive mobile broadband coverage available locally, the Authority is presently treating the development of satellite broadband licences as a lower priority for 2022. This is scheduled for review in 2023, alongside other projects and activities presently under consideration.

Comments and views are welcome from anyone interested in satellite broadband services – send to info@jcra.je.

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