



NEWS RELEASE

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Competition Regulator to undertake a market study into groceries

The supply of groceries is to be reviewed by the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (**the Authority**), in the latest in a series of market studies.

Terms of Reference have been published today, together with an information sheet, that outline the purpose, and approach to the study, which is to consider how the market operates and to understand if there are features of the market that might impact competition. The study will also take into consideration previous studies of the market that the Authority has undertaken.

A market study is a flexible tool to explore whether a market, or feature of a market, is working well for Jersey consumers. It is important to note that a market study is on the structure and behaviour of the market itself, not the action of any specific business or firm.

Peter Hetherington, Senior Case Officer said, “Groceries represent a significant proportion of weekly household expenditure; it is a sizeable market of considerable economic value to islanders so it is appropriate we take a closer look at it to consider if it is working well for consumers. The Authority last reviewed the market in 2014.

This study is being launched in the context of the continuing public debate on ‘cost of living.’

Formal work on the study will start in January 2023 and completion is expected by the end of the year.

Recent Market Studies conducted by the Authority have included Jersey’s Freight Logistics market, Telecoms Retail Pricing and Alcohol Pricing and Promotions.

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

Attached to this media release is a summary of the most frequently asked questions about market studies in general, and this review in particular; and the Terms of reference.

More information about market studies, including a video quick guide and previous 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 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.