



NEWS RELEASE

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School uniforms focus of market study

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the Authority) will review the market for school uniforms.

The Terms of Reference for the study have been published today, together with a Frequently Asked Questions document. These outline the purpose and approach to the study, which is to review the market and consider whether Authority recommendations could be used to help improve the competitive process and consumer outcomes.

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.

The Authority last reviewed the market for school uniforms in 2011, resulting in guidance for schools and other stakeholders on how to improve the competitive process for the benefit of consumers.

Tim Ringsdore, Chief Executive Officer said, “Consumers are facing additional expenditure pressures as a result of inflationary pressure on the cost of living. School uniforms can pose a significant expense on household expenditure,

particularly where there is multiple, compulsory, or 'crested' items of uniform. We feel this study is necessary and timely.'

Deputy Inna Gardiner, Minister for Children and Education, said

"Over the last few months, I've spoken to many parents who are concerned about the cost of school uniforms, especially given the increased cost of living.

"While individual schools and organisations are finding ways to support parents, it's important that we look at the broader picture. I look forward to reading the final study once it is prepared and anticipate that we will find new ways to support families."

Work on the study has begun and a final report is scheduled for publication in April 2023.

Recent Market Studies conducted by the Authority have included Jersey's Freight Logistics market, Telecoms Retail Pricing and Alcohol Pricing and Promotions. Next year the Authority will also study Jersey's groceries' market.

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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.