

Project / Activity:	T-085 Spectrum Defragmentation
Document:	Consultation Response (Newtel)
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1 Purpose of document

To record for publication a consultation response received by the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA).

2 Consultation response (Newtel)

Question 1: Do you support our provisional view that 5G spectrum is ideally provided in large contiguous spectrum blocks? If not, please explain why.

Yes, we are of the same opinion which is why we believe that we would need a larger continuous spectrum to support the considerable investments required and, in the future, cover the large losses incurred by the move to the new 5G Broadband services.

Question 2: Do you support our provisional view that the best method for defragmenting 5G spectrum is to potentially move existing historic licensees within the 3.4-3.8 GHz band or remove them? If not, please explain why.

Homenet is the only local operator which have used its spectrum and have live customers using this service, other OLOs have never used it. Our existing spectrum cannot be moved as the band is embended (sic) in the radio hardware and CPEs we use, migration is not an option as the current equipment in the form of base stations and CPEs are not reprogrammable and any movement on spectrum will cause a full loss of Homenet services and the radio/ base station and all CPEs both installed and in stock for installation. The consequence of Homenet having to give up its spectrum, would be catastrophic if there is not alternative solution therefore the only acceptable approach is to have 100MHz allocation for 5G spectrum the same that has been provided to JT and Sure and the same argument goes for the size of spectrum for it to be viable we would need 100MHz.

Question 3: Do you agree with our approach to the legal framework relating to spectrum defragmentation and timetable for completion? If not, please explain why.

Yes, with the above caveats.

Question 4: Do you have any comments on our initial assessment of the need to defragment Jersey's 3.4-3.8 GHz spectrum band? Only the above.

Question 5: Do you have any comments about our proposed draft approach to defragmenting Jersey's 3.4-3.8 GHz spectrum band?

No, only that JCRA needs to be aware that Homenet will potentially lose a very profitable revenue stream and you will create by your actions a large number of customers who will no longer be able to access the cheapest broadband available in Jersey which in the current economic climate seems counter-intuitive. We can move within a year if a 100Mhz is made available like other OLOs and not 40Mhz on the upper band. This will avoid any negative publicity as our customers will still be able to access affordable Broadband and free calls.