



NEWS RELEASE

01 October 2026

Jersey's new merger rules take effect on 1 November: What businesses need to know

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA) is reminding businesses that Jersey's updated merger control regime comes into force on 1 November 2026. The new system is simpler, clearer and more focused on local markets.

The Competition (Mergers and Acquisitions) (Jersey) Order 2026 replaces the 2010 Order. The updated rules cut unnecessary red tape and remove barriers to business. They also let the JCRA focus its resources on the mergers that matter most to competition in Jersey, local consumers and businesses.

Mergers can benefit Jersey's economy by supporting growth and investment, but some mergers may harm competition, leading to higher prices, reduced choice or quality, less innovation, or less resilient markets. The JCRA investigates certain mergers to assess whether it is likely to substantially lessen competition in Jersey.

From 1 November:

- **A clear turnover test.** A merger must be approved by the JCRA before completion where the parties' combined turnover is £5 million or more, and at least two of them each have Jersey turnover of £2 million or more.
- **A targeted call-in power.** the JCRA may require an application for a below-threshold merger where it has a material connection to Jersey and may substantially lessen competition. The power is expected to be used only in limited circumstances.

To support the effective implementation of these changes, the JCRA has strengthened its early engagement processes. Pre-application discussions will be used to identify proportionate information and evidence requirements for mergers, while briefing notes have been introduced to enable businesses to seek early clarity on whether a below threshold merger is likely to be called in for review.

The JCRA's updated merger guideline has been enhanced to help businesses navigate the revised merger control regime. Businesses can find the new guidelines, and details of how to contact the JCRA, at www.jcra.je.

The JCRA's merger investigation process has not changed and merger fees will not change in 2026 or 2027.

Sarah Price of the JCRA, said:

“These changes give Jersey a modern merger regime that is proportionate and focused on the Island's needs. By concentrating on local impact, we can reduce unnecessary red tape while ensuring that the competition issues affecting Jersey's businesses and consumers receive proper scrutiny.

“Our message to businesses is straightforward: if you think a merger or acquisition may require JCRA approval, or you have questions about the new process, please contact us early.”

The new guidelines can be read on the JCRA website [Guideline on Mergers and Acquisitions](#)

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NOTES TO EDITORS

- The Competition (Jersey) Law 2005 was amended by the States Assembly in November 2025, and the amendments came into effect on 1 May 2026.
- The Competition (Mergers and Acquisitions) (Jersey) Order 2026 was made by the Minister for Sustainable Economic Development on 17 April 2026 and comes into force on 1 November 2026.

- The JCRA ran a public consultation (Case C-005) from 23 June to 4 August 2026 on how the new regime would be put into practice. The JCRA's consultation response document can be found here: [Consultation Response](#).

About the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority

The JCRA 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 JCRA 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.