



## NEWS RELEASE

8<sup>th</sup> August 2025

### **Telecoms watchdog consulting on new guidance planned to assure security and reliability of Jersey's vital communications networks**

**The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the Authority) is consulting on proposed new guidance for local telecoms companies being challenged by Jersey's Government to assure the Island's vital communications networks and services are secure and reliable.**

The importance of communications for Islanders, local organisations and Jersey's economy has become increasingly apparent over recent years. Many aspects of our lives, work and productivity rely on being able to contact people and access applications at any time and from any place. The loss of communications can cause considerable dissatisfaction and disruption, and in certain circumstances, threaten livelihoods and lives.

In common with many other jurisdictions, Jersey's Government is developing a legal framework designed to ensure important public communications networks and services are inherently secure and reliable. The move not only recognises the critical role of telecoms, but also the increasing level of cyber threats emerging around the world.

In 2024, the States Assembly passed the first part of the framework, which amended the Island's telecoms law to include a new range of legislation aimed at increasing the security and reliability of local communications networks and services.

In July 2025, the Government began a consultation on the next elements of the legal framework, which includes specific steps for telecoms companies to take, and guidance to help them understand legal expectations.

Under the new legal framework, the Authority will receive a considerably enhanced role, designed to monitor and manage compliance with the legal obligations being placed on local telecoms companies. It has issued draft guidance explaining how it will approach its new powers and duties and is seeking views on its proposed approach. The consultation will take place throughout the summer and into the autumn to ensure as wide a consideration and feedback as possible.

Commenting on the Authority's plans, **JCRA CEO Tim Ringsdore** said: 'This is an important step in helping ensure Jersey has access to the most secure and reliable telecommunications possible. There can be few of us who don't rely on communications in one way or another, and most people will be aware of the increasingly turbulent and threatening world outside of our Island.

'Fortunately, Islanders already have access to high-quality networks and services – the Government's new legislation is about ensuring local telecoms companies continue their focus on increasing the level of security and reliability. The Authority has worked closely with Government to understand threats and requirements and is looking forward to working with local telecoms companies as they develop their networks and services to meet expectations.'

The Authority's consultation on its Draft Procedural Guidance and Draft Resilience Guidance opened on 8 August and runs until 17 October 2025. The associated documents can be found on its website at [www.jcra.je/#OpenConsultations](http://www.jcra.je/#OpenConsultations), along with information on how to respond.

**Ends**

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

### **About the telecoms security legislation**

Following similar developments in the UK and elsewhere, the Government of Jersey is developing a new telecoms security framework to help ensure the Island's communications networks and services are secure and reliable. The move recognises the vital role telecommunications play in the everyday

lives of consumers and the productive operation of organisations, with any loss of critical networks and services, even for short periods, having potentially serious consequences.

The new telecoms security framework comprises underpinning legislation passed by the States Assembly in September 2024, additional detailed legal requirements (the Security Measures Order) for telecoms companies to adopt and guidance (the Code of Practice) explaining practical expectations. The Government is consulting on the measures and guidance at the present time, with the expectation they come into force early in 2026.

### **About the Draft Procedural Guidance and Draft Resilience Guidance**

The new telecoms security framework provides the Authority with additional regulatory oversight powers and duties. In connection with these, the Authority is issuing two documents for consultation as part of the new telecoms security framework. The Procedural Guidance explains how the Authority will work with telecoms companies to monitor their compliance with legal expectations, which includes reporting security incidents. The Resilience Guidance explains expectations that telecoms companies need to focus on the reliability of their networks and services and on the resilience needed to minimise the impact of security incidents should they occur.

### **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.