



T-105 Spectrum Strategy

Response to consultation and final Spectrum Strategy

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1 Overview and summary

- 1.1 Radio spectrum is the invisible but essential resource required to connect wireless devices to each other and to the networks of telecoms providers offering mobile and wireless services. Spectrum licensing frameworks exist to ensure there is enough of this scarce and highly demanded resource available for users and applications and to prevent interference between networks and services,
- 1.2 The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the **JCRA**) works closely with UK communications regulator Ofcom, which has legal responsibility for licensing and managing the Island's spectrum. This includes assessing local interest in and demand for spectrum before making recommendations to Ofcom on the availability and allocation of key spectrum bands.
- 1.3 After considering the possible approach to several of these bands, the JCRA has developed a Spectrum Strategy as a framework within which key decisions can be taken and implementation initiatives prioritised. This development process included public consultation to ensure representative and relevant views were heard, and industry engagement and analysis to understand wider context.
- 1.4 This document contains the response to a Draft Spectrum Consultation and the final spectrum strategy based on an assessment of responses received.

2 Introduction and background

Introduction

- 2.1 This document is a response to a consultation on a Draft Spectrum Strategy (the **Consultation**) issued by the JCRA in January 2026¹ which set out its provisional approach to the allocation and licensing of certain local spectrum bands and sought views and comments on the proposals. It follows a Call for Information (the **CFI**) carried out in 2025 to establish interest in and demand for local spectrum, considered particularly relevant following the Sure acquisition of Airtel in the previous year.²
- 2.2 A summary of the responses received to the Consultation, and the JCRA's subsequent analysis and conclusions are included in this document along with the Spectrum Strategy, which is shown in Annex A. This should be considered final and in place as a framework for the JCRA's planned spectrum activities during the next one-five years.
- 2.3 This framework includes an initial process allowing existing Full Service Network providers (JT and Sure) to apply for spectrum blocks in the 800-2600 MHz bands that are available or due to become so following the Sure-Airtel merger. Connected to this, the JCRA has issued another document—Spectrum Allocation Framework for the 800-2600 MHz Bands—providing greater detail on the planned approach to application for, transfer and licensing of available blocks.
- 2.4 This section of the document offers an introduction and provides context for the sections that follow. It contains the following subsections:
 - Introduction
 - Background
 - Legal and regulatory context
 - Planned process and timetable

Background

- 2.5 Radio spectrum is an important and valuable resource used to connect wireless devices to the networks of telecoms providers. While it may not be visible, spectrum enables the connections that Islanders and local organisations rely on every day—supporting everything from business operations and public services to entertainment and leisure.
- 2.6 The Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006 (the **WTA**),³ extended to Jersey, gives UK communications regulator Ofcom legal responsibility for licensing and managing the Island's spectrum. Under

¹ JCRA: T-105 Spectrum Strategy – see [here](#) for more information.

² JCRA: C-042 Sure, Airtel – see [here](#) for more information.

³ UK Government: Wireless Telegraphy Act – see [here](#) for more information.

agreed arrangements, Ofcom expects the JCRA to assess local demand, manage the application process and make licensing recommendations.

- 2.7 Given the need for certainty, decisions on spectrum allocation and licensing should take place within a wider strategic framework, which supports network investment cycles and minimises the risk of inefficient deployment. There were additional important drivers for developing this spectrum strategy. Among these, the Sure-Airtel merger, which fundamentally changed the Island's competitive landscape, and second, the development in the UK of new licensing frameworks for 5G spectrum.
- 2.8 The CFI, issued in March 2025,⁴ established the need for a spectrum strategy and described certain areas for potential consideration. From a regulatory process perspective, it presented an opportunity for organisations and individuals with an interest in spectrum to express their views on future direction and to comment on specific demands that might exist.

Legal and regulatory context

- 2.9 The duties of the JCRA include protecting and furthering the long-term interests of users within Jersey of telecom services and apparatus by promoting competition among persons engaged in commercial telecom activities.
- 2.10 When carrying out its duties, the JCRA must act in accordance with its statutory obligations under the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 (the **Law**). These include a primary duty to ensure that telecom services are provided within Jersey to satisfy all current and prospective demands for them. Part 3 of the Law includes several specific duties including:
- (a) To protect the short-term and long-term interests of Islanders using telecoms services; and
 - (b) To further the economic interests of Jersey.
- 2.11 The JCRA places particular weight on the points shown in Paragraph 2.10 above in respect of this Spectrum Strategy and the decisions contained. It interprets the former as an obligation to ensure that the maximum number of Islanders can access future wireless services and the latter as an obligation to ensure Jersey has future wireless services that are beneficial to customers / increase consumer welfare.
- 2.12 In matters involving spectrum, telecoms providers operating a wireless telecoms network in Jersey require two licences:
- (a) A valid telecoms licence issued by the JCRA under the Telecoms Law allowing the provision of telecoms services in the Island; and
 - (b) A valid spectrum licence issued by Ofcom under the WTA allowing the use of specific spectrum bands.

⁴ JCRA: T-105 Spectrum Strategy Call for Information – see [here](#) for more information.

2.13 Although the JCRA has no statutory powers in relation to issuing spectrum licences, under Article 22 of the Telecoms Law it is able to cooperate with Ofcom, which includes recommending the issue of spectrum licences to local companies. Under agreement, Ofcom expects the JCRA to make recommendations after following an appropriate consultation and assessment process to underpin and justify any decisions and subsequent recommendations that are made.

Planned process and timetable

2.14 This document concludes work on developing a Spectrum Strategy through establishing a framework for future decisions and initiatives.

3 Response to consultation

3.1 The Consultation explained the outcome of the CFI and set out a Draft Spectrum Strategy based on responses received and related industry analysis. This section summarises and analyses responses received to the Consultation and sets out associated JCRA conclusions. It contains the following subsections.

- Consultation response
- Consultation question 1: summary, analysis and conclusions
- Consultation question 2: summary, analysis and conclusions

Consultation response

3.2 There were two responses to the Consultation, with all comments gratefully received and carefully considered when developing the final Spectrum Strategy. The respondents are shown below, with non-confidential versions of their responses issued on the JCRA's website alongside this document:

- JT (Jersey) Limited (**JT**)
- Sure (Jersey) Limited (**Sure**)

Consultation question 1: summary, analysis and conclusions

Question 1: Do you agree with the JCRA's proposed approach to frequency allocations below 3.8 GHz as set out in Provisional Decisions 1-3? If not, please explain why and propose any alternatives.

Provisional decision 1

Consultation focus

3.3 Provisional Decision 1 addressed a key question on whether spectrum blocks in the 800-2600 MHz bands being released following the Sure-Airtel merger should be reserved for a potential new Full Service Network provider⁵ or made available to the existing ones. The JCRA proposed the latter approach, with conditions established to maximise benefits for Islanders and local organisations.

Summary of responses

3.4 While welcoming the proposed approach as a means of supporting future growth, JT also questions whether making short-term investments to accommodate additional spectrum is justifiable.

⁵ Defined by the JCRA as being a licensed provider operating an Island-wide wireless network providing services intended for general public use Mobile services used by consumers and organisations.

- 3.5 JT raises a question about the relationship between JCRA spectrum plans and those of the GCRA for Guernsey⁶, noting that the latter appears to be adopting a different approach.
- 3.6 JT further requests clarification on the JCRA's plans to review 'current conditions relating to 4G ...' and whether this includes making the 2G/3G/4G bands technology neutral.
- 3.7 Sure does not support Provisional Decision 1, claiming that the JCRA is using an unnecessarily long framework to determine plans for and allocate spectrum in the 800-2600 MHz bands. Sure further explains that it is currently planning a significant mobile network upgrade in Jersey which depends on certainty over access to certain frequencies in a shorter timeframe than the JCRA regulatory process permits.
- 3.8 Continuing, Sure states that it and JT's responses to the CFI show broad agreement on the allocation of bands in the 800-2600 MHz bands, and that delaying allocation is not in the best interest of consumers. Noting that the GCRA in Guernsey has already begun allocating spectrum, Sure urges the JCRA to follow by expediting the process.

Analysis and JCRA conclusions

- 3.9 Taking both responses in the round, the JCRA finds there is support for the underlying principle of Provisional Decision 1, which is to make spectrum in the 800-2600 MHz bands released following the Sure-Airtel merger available for allocation to existing Full Service Network providers – JT and Sure. In light of this, the JCRA confirms the approach set out in Provisional Decision 1.
- 3.10 The JCRA appreciates Sure's view that the framework being followed to determine plans for and allocating spectrum in the 800-2600 MHz bands is unnecessarily long. However, there is also awareness that spectrum decisions can have long-term implications and need to be taken within a consultative framework that satisfies Ofcom's expectations under the WTA. The JCRA intends to move promptly forward with implementing relevant decisions from the strategy and will address further spectrum-related activities with appropriate pace.
- 3.11 Considering JT's question on whether short-term demand warrants making an investment in additional spectrum, the JCRA will design an application process that accommodates a Full Service Network provider deciding to apply at a later date. However, there will not be a commitment to reserve spectrum for future applications, rather the JCRA will hold a strategic position of prioritising spectrum in the 800-2600 MHz bands for use by existing Full Service Network providers, but not guarantee its indefinite availability.
- 3.12 Turning to the matter of coordination / alignment with the GCRA raised by both respondents, the JCRA notes that its prime focus must be on Jersey, and its legal duties which are to protect the interests of Islanders and the local economy. However, there is a spectrum objective in the Draft Spectrum Strategy which commits the JCRA to 'Work with Guernsey where possible for economic benefits and to prevent harmful interference through aligning spectrum licencing across the Channel Islands.' This means the JCRA will continue to share and discuss its spectrum plans with

⁶ Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority

the GCRA, and seek opportunities for alignment both for economic benefits and to minimise possible interference.

3.13 In response to JT's comments on current 4G licensing conditions, the JCRA will address this matter through its spectrum allocation process (see Spectrum Allocation Framework for the 800-2600 MHz Bands). On technology neutral spectrum licences, the JCRA refers to its case T-094, which enabled a process allowing local licensees to request that Ofcom remove certain conditions allowing the reuse of existing spectrum for newer technologies such as 5G.⁷

3.14 In summary, the JCRA concludes that it is appropriate to confirm Provisional Decision 1 without modification, while taking account of and accommodating responses with the spectrum application process where considered appropriate.

Provisional Decision 2

Consultation focus

3.15 Provisional Decision 2 was effectively an extension to Provisional Decision 1, proposing to take the same approach to all presently unlicensed spectrum blocks in the 800-2600 MHz bands, subject to an assessment of demand for its use by local utility companies or similar organisations.

Summary of responses

3.16 Both respondents welcomed the decision, with JT again cautioning that short-term demand may not warrant immediate investment.

Analysis and JCRA conclusions

3.17 Separate to the Consultation, the JCRA has further considered the potential requirement to ensure spectrum in the 800-2600 MHz bands should be reserved for use by local utility companies or similar organisations. The principal is that the development of technologies such as smart meters will require reliable, wide-area and mission-critical connectivity for coverage. Responding to industry interest in the UK, Ofcom identified several candidate spectrum bands, some below 800 MHz and some within the range 800-2600 MHz, but has not yet progressed to conclusion by designating specific bands.⁸ Once a final position is reached, the JCRA expects that any agreed band for UK utilities will be available for use by those in Jersey, if they are required.

3.18 The JCRA concludes that it is appropriate to confirm Provisional Decision 2, but modify to recognise assessment of utilities' requirements. The final decision is:

Decision 2

⁷ JCRA: T-094 Spectrum: Technology Neutral Licence Conditions – see [here](#) for more information.

⁸ Ofcom: Call for Input, Potential spectrum bands to support utilities sector transformation - see [here](#) for more information.

The JCRA intends prioritising any historically unlicensed spectrum blocks between 800 MHz and 2600 MHz for use by existing Full Service Network providers.

Provisional Decision 3

Consultation focus

3.19 Airtel's exit from the local market broadly meant that one of the three 5G Full Service Network spectrum packages offered in 2022 was not taken up.⁹ Based on responses to the CFI and relevant technical assessment, the Draft Spectrum Strategy proposed holding the associated spectrum for a period, unless compelling demand arises.

Summary of responses

3.20 JT contends that the JCRA misrepresented its CFI consultation response in the Draft Spectrum Strategy, which was intended to convey a viewpoint that there is current demand, particularly for an additional allocation of 700 MHz spectrum. JT substantiates this by referred to 15 MHz allocations for this band in Guernsey and the Isle of Man, rather than the 10 MHz made available in Jersey and elaborates further through explaining the importance of the 700 MHz band in 5G Standalone (SA) deployments.

3.21 Commenting on the Draft Spectrum Strategy's position taken on the currently unallocated 90 MHz of 3.4-3.8 GHz spectrum outside the third Full Service Network spectrum package, JT raises certain points on the JCRA's proposed approach and questions some of the statements made.

3.22 Sure supports Provisional Decision 3.

Analysis and JCRA conclusions

3.23 After careful consideration, the JCRA concludes that rather than misrepresent JT, the Draft Spectrum Strategy presents a reasonable conclusion based on an analysis of the information presented in responses, along with wider technical assessment. Paragraph 3.30 of the Draft Spectrum Strategy considers JT's proposal to divide available spectrum, including the 700 MHz band, between itself and Sure, but explains the JCRA does not support this, partly because both providers have only recently received 5G spectrum allocations, and partly because it closes the possibility of a future Full Service Network provider entering the local market using allocations of 700 MHz and 3.4-3.8 GHz spectrum blocks.

3.24 The JCRA thanks JT for its submission of information supporting its CFI proposal to receive an additional spectrum allocation in the 700 MHz band, which has been carefully considered. While appreciating that larger allocations may have been made elsewhere this is not universally the case. Moreover, while JCRA understands JT's demand for an additional 5 MHz allocation of paired 700 MHz spectrum, it does not believe this merits changing its provisional decision at this time.

⁹ JCRA: T-064 5G Spectrum Award (2022) – see [here](#) for more information.

Finally, the JCRA takes account of Sure's support for Provisional Decision 3 when evaluating JT's position.

3.25 Considering JT's comments on the currently unallocated 90 MHz of the 3.4-3.8 GHz band, the JCRA has reviewed its position in the Draft Spectrum Strategy to ensure clarity of intent. This can be summarised as:

- The JCRA recognises there may be future demand from new market entrants for spectrum allocations allowing the provision of a 'Limited Service Network', which the JCRA defines as being an Island-wide wireless network providing services designed for specific public or private use¹⁰.
- This demand could be met from the currently unallocated 90 MHz of the 3.4-3.8 GHz band, or from allocations in currently unlicensed 3.8-4.2 GHz Band.
- The JCRA does not believe there is current demand for Limited Service Networks in Jersey, so does not intend proactively seeking to allocate the 90 MHz of spectrum in the 3.4-3.8 GHz band at this time.

3.26 In summary, the JCRA concludes that it is appropriate to confirm Provisional Decision 3 without modification.

Consultation question 2

Question 2: Do you agree with the JCRA's planned approach to frequency allocations above 3.8 GHz as set out in Provisional Decision 4? If not, please explain why and propose any alternatives.

Provisional Decision 4

Consultation focus

3.27 In view of demand, the UK has licensed further spectrum bands for use with 5G services and the JCRA wanted to understand whether similar demand existed locally for allocations in the 3.8-4.2 GHz and the 26 GHz and 40 GHz bands (mmWave band).

Summary of responses

3.28 JT restated its view expressed through the CFI response that it would be interested in using the 3.8-4.2 GHz band in the future as an addition to the 3.4-3.8 GHz band in order to provide additional network capacity and potentially for private access. Rather than defer this—as proposed in the JCRA's Provisional Decision 4—JT would like to see a licensing framework developed. It offers potential use cases in support, explaining that the absence of an agreed framework represents a barrier to these developing. JT would prefer the approach taken by Ofcom in the UK, which is to prepare for potential demand before evidence is forthcoming.

¹⁰ Potential user cases are public FWA broadband or a private equipment monitoring network.

3.29 Sure supports Provisional Decision 4.

Analysis and JCRA conclusions

3.30 While appreciating JT's views on the importance of developing a local licensing framework for the 3.8-4.2 GHz band, the JCRA notes it is not shared by Sure, and did not come widely through as a demand in the CFI. This could be because the Local Service Network¹¹ market is yet to mature (it took time to develop in the UK¹² and is still relatively immature elsewhere¹³). Or—and as advanced in the Draft Spectrum Strategy—because local conditions such as Island-wide fibre-to-the-premises minimise deployment opportunities in Jersey.

3.31 Notwithstanding the above position on local demand, the JCRA welcomes JT's information supporting the development of a local licensing framework ahead of the market's potential development. Ideally, regulation and licensing should be an enabler of network and service development and not a barrier. However, an important consideration for smaller regulators, such as the JCRA, is how and when to prioritise limited resources when faced with competing demands.

3.32 On balance, the JCRA believes its Provisional Decision 4 remains appropriate. However, it is open to further discussion on a licensing framework for the 3.8-4.2 GHz band in response to demonstrable interest and demand from either existing telecoms providers or potential new market entrants. The JCRA also reminds that Ofcom can quickly provide innovation and trial licences for this local band, which could be used to deploy proof of concept networks and services.¹⁴ While these licences are limited to a non-permanent, non-commercial basis, they could provide evidence of deployed networks and services in support of any subsequent permanent application or development of a local licensing framework.

3.33 In summary, the JCRA concludes that it is appropriate to confirm Provisional Decision 4 without modification.

¹¹ The Draft Spectrum Strategy defines a Local Service Network as a geographically limited wireless network providing service intended for specific public or private use – used for public campus-wide internet access, for example, or a private hospital-wide medical network.

¹² Ofcom: Evolution of the shared access licence framework – see [here](#) for more information.

¹³ The French regulator launched a consultation on the 3.8-4.2 GHz band in 2025, for example – see [here](#) for more information.

¹⁴ Ofcom: Innovation and trial licensing – see [here](#) for more information.

4 Conclusions and next steps

4.1 This section draws together conclusions and explains next steps. Its sub-sections include:

- Final spectrum strategy
- Spectrum allocation framework

Final Spectrum Strategy

4.2 After considering responses received to the Consultation, the JCRA confirms the provisional decisions contained in the Draft Spectrum Strategy. They are shown in a final Spectrum Strategy appended as Annex A of this document.

Spectrum allocation framework for the 800-2600 MHz bands

4.3 Alongside this document, the JCRA has issued another setting out a framework for allocating spectrum blocks in the 800-2600 MHz bands. This Spectrum Allocation Framework for the 800-2600 MHz Bands aligns with Decision 1 and Decision 2 of the final Spectrum Strategy.

4.4 The framework plans a three-stage approach (as shown in Figure 1 below) to making the currently unlicensed spectrum blocks in the 800-2600 MHz bands available for application by existing Full Service Network providers, along with those being released following the Sure-Airtel merger. It includes a subsequent transfer stage allowing successful applicants to move their licenced allocations to create contiguous spectrum blocks, and a final licensing stage.

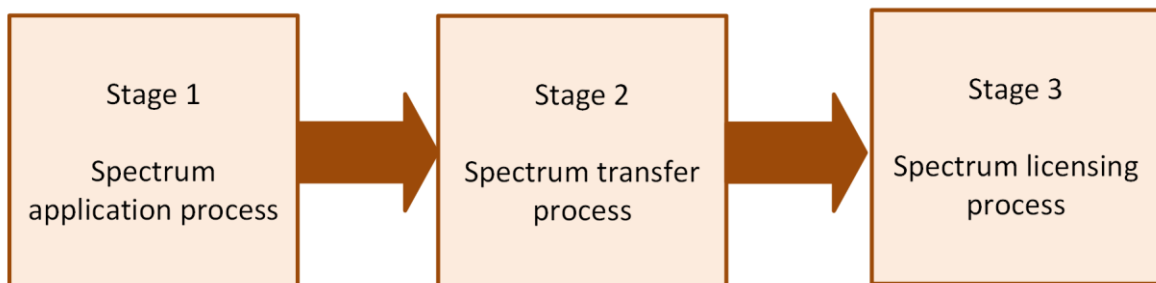


Figure 1: Spectrum allocation framework

4.5 The JCRA expects to begin this spectrum allocation framework in Q2 2026 and conclude by the end of the year.

Annex A: Final Spectrum Strategy

1 Introduction

1.1 This section introduces the Spectrum Strategy, explains its development and describes its purpose. Its subsections include:

- Background
- Developing the strategy

Background

1.2 Spectrum is the invisible radio waves used to connect wireless devices to the networks of wireless network providers and used for numerous services and applications including the use of mobile phones. It has a finite capacity, leading to access being carefully licensed and managed.

1.3 In Jersey, the UK communications regulator Ofcom is legally responsible for licensing and managing the Island's spectrum¹⁵—a role it fulfils in cooperation with the JCRA, which assesses local interest and demand before recommending an appropriate course of action.

1.4 Under the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002, the JCRA has a broad primary duty to ensure Islanders and local organisations have access to the telecoms services needed to meet their interests. Creating a spectrum strategy supports this by helping ensure the best conditions for delivering medium-term expectations and requirements.

1.5 Given the need for certainty, decisions on spectrum allocation and licensing should take place within a wider strategic framework, which supports network investment cycles and minimises the risk of inefficient deployment. There were additional important drivers for developing this spectrum strategy. Among these, the Sure-Airtel merger, which fundamentally changed the Island's competitive landscape, and second, the development in the UK of new licensing frameworks for 5G spectrum.

1.6 The JCRA chose to create a spectrum strategy covering several important local spectrum bands currently under consideration. Its purpose is to explain and establish the planned approach in the medium term, which will lead to making recommendations to Ofcom for spectrum licensing and management.

Developing the strategy

1.7 The JCRA began the process with a Call for Information (the **CFI**) issued in March 2025 as the first step in a planned three-stage approach to developing a spectrum strategy, as shown in Figure 1 below:

¹⁵ Under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006, extended by regulation to Jersey – see [here](#) for more information.

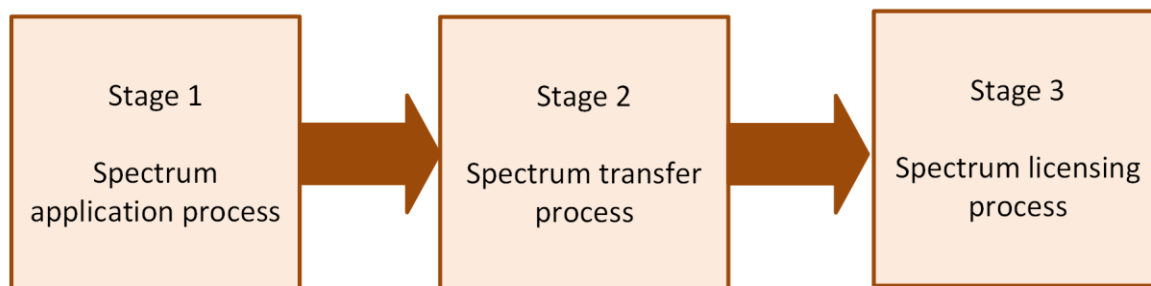


Figure 1: Development of the Spectrum Strategy stages

- 1.8 Following an assessment of responses received to the CFI, the JCRA formulated and released a Draft Spectrum Strategy for consultation in January 2026 and the final Spectrum Strategy in April 2026.
- 1.9 The JCRA intends the guiding factors and decisions within the Spectrum Strategy to provide a regulatory policy framework for the next one to five years. However, it may be subject to review and revision during this period, given fast-moving technology cycles associated with wireless services and continuously emerging and evolving demand.

2 Spectrum strategy

2.1 This section contains the JCRA’s Spectrum Strategy, developed through the consultation framework shown in Figure 1 (above). Its subsections include:

- Guiding factors
- Strategic decisions
- Other spectrum matters

Guiding factors

2.2 The JCRA developed and refined a framework of several guiding factors to shape its spectrum policies and within which it took strategic spectrum decisions.

Guiding factor 1: the JCRA’s stated spectrum objectives

2.3 The JCRA works to achieve several overarching spectrum objectives, as shown in Table 1 (below).

Ref.	JCRA spectrum objective
1	To promote sustainable competition as a mechanism to further its consumer, market, economic and environmental interest objectives.
2	To create value for Jersey through focus on the short- and long-term interests of consumers and organisations, having regard to prices and costs, and the availability and range of services suitable to different local needs.
3	To seek to ensure the processes and criteria adopted by the JCRA are consistent with Ofcom’s duties, including the duty to secure the optimal use of wireless telegraphy of the electromagnetic spectrum.
4	Work with Guernsey where possible for economic benefits and to prevent harmful interference through aligning spectrum licencing across the Channel Islands.

Table 1: JCRA spectrum objectives

Guiding factor 2: aligning with Ofcom policies and plans

2.4 The JCRA will continue the existing arrangements of assessing interest and demand for key local bands before making spectrum licensing and management recommendations to Ofcom that include the allocation approach and any associated terms and conditions of access.

Guiding factor 3: aligning with Government policies and priorities

2.5 The JCRA will work closely with the Government of Jersey to ensure strategic alignment where appropriate, including on matters relating to spectrum potentially required by critical infrastructure providers.

Guiding factor 4: anticipating future demand for wireless services

2.6 The JCRA has defined three categories of potential wireless network that may operate in Jersey as a framework for anticipating future demand for local wireless services. These are shown in Table 2 below:

Category	Definition	Example services	Spectrum requirement
Full Service Network	An Island-wide wireless network providing services intended for general public use	Mobile services used by consumers and organisations	Typically requires substantial blocks of spectrum below 3.8 GHz to meet the demands of their customers
Limited Service Network	An Island-wide wireless network providing services designed for specific public or private use	Public FWA broadband, private equipment monitoring network	Could use spectrum below and above 3.8 GHz, with the ideal band and amount dependent on the service
Local Service Network	A geographically limited wireless network providing service intended for specific public or private use	Public campus-wide internet access, private hospital-wide medical network	Typically deployed in spectrum above 3.8 GHz in other jurisdictions, including the UK

Table 2: Categories of wireless network that may operate in Jersey

2.7 The JCRA has used this framework when considering potential approaches to allocating and licensing the local spectrum under consideration in this spectrum strategy

Strategic decisions

2.8 The JCRA developed and refined four strategic decisions on the approach to several key spectrum bands under consideration. These decisions are shown below, with further contextual information available in the Response to Call for Information and Draft Spectrum Strategy¹⁶ and the Response to consultation and final Spectrum Strategy.¹⁷

¹⁶ JCRA: T-105 Draft Spectrum Strategy, Response to Call for Information and Draft Spectrum Strategy for consultation – see [here](#) for more information.

¹⁷ JCRA: T-105 Spectrum Strategy, Response to consultation and final Spectrum Strategy – see [here](#) for more information.

Decision 1

2.9 The JCRA will make spectrum in the 2G/3G/4G bands being released following Sure's acquisition of Airtel available to existing licensed Full Service Network providers (JT and Sure) through a defined application and assessment process that seeks to maximise benefits for Islanders. The specific process arrangements and conditions will be issued alongside the final Spectrum Strategy, but applicants will be expected to provide a business case that demonstrates benefits, to include commitments in the following areas:

- (a) Providing sustainable MVNO access to new or existing licenced telecoms providers;
- (b) Providing assured, measurable commitments to demonstrably improve service coverage and quality within the Island;
- (c) Illustrate how the allocation of additional spectrum can reduce the need for extensive physical network infrastructure, thereby limiting the proliferation of new masts; and
- (d) Committing to return any subsequently unused spectrum for reallocation by the JCRA.

2.10 Applicants will further agree to cooperate in a structured and timely re-farming process aimed at efficiently reallocating currently licensed spectrum in the 2G/3G/4G bands between 800 MHz and 2600 MHz and agree to pay any reasonable fixed administrative costs associated with the application and re-farming processes.¹⁸

Decision 2

2.11 The JCRA intends prioritising any historically unlicensed spectrum blocks between 800 MHz and 2600 MHz for use by existing Full Service Network providers.

Decision 3

2.12 The JCRA will not seek to proactively allocate any currently unlicensed spectrum in the 700 MHz or 3.4-3.8 GHz bands designated for use with 5G services in the short- to medium term, unless compelling demand arises before then.

Decision 4

2.13 The JCRA will follow Ofcom's designation of the 3.8-4.2 GHz band and the 26 GHz and 40 GHz bands (mmWave band) as being used for 5G. No further work will be undertaken for these bands until clear evidence of demand is identified.

Other spectrum matters

¹⁸ Rather than use a potentially costly auction process to allocate local spectrum, the JCRA traditionally uses a comparative evaluation process and seeks to recover its administrative costs directly from applicants rather than use funds available from general telecoms licence fees.

- 2.14 Considering the 2G/3G switch-off, the JCRA will continue monitoring and supporting the initiative currently led by GoJ and being implemented or planned by JT and Sure.¹⁹ The JCRA also notes that an initiative to remove technical conditions from certain spectrum licences is already progressing.
- 2.15 Taking account of comments associated with reviewing the current conditions relating to 4G contained in certain licences, the JCRA proposes to carry this out alongside provisional plans for transferring and allocating 2G/3G/4G spectrum, as stated in Provisional Decision 1.
- 2.16 Having concluded some provisional work to understand the approach to drone licensing in the UK and how Ofcom could extend its licensing regime to the Island, the JCRA will monitor any development of local high-power drone usage for commercial purposes, and consider addressing regulatory requirements if there is demand.
- 2.17 Considering spectrum for utilities, the JCRA will monitor Ofcom’s activities in this area to understand how any decisions on UK spectrum allocations can be implemented in Jersey—if necessary.
- 2.18 The JCRA will continue actively monitoring spectrum developments relating to satellite services, including the emergence of direct-to-handset licensing frameworks, but not carry out any proactive regulatory activities in the short-term.

¹⁹ The first stage is switching off 3G networks, with plans to maintain 2G networks until the early 2030s.