

NEWS RELEASE

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Regulator opens consultation on future of Jersey's telecoms market

The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the **Authority**) has opened a public consultation as part of its major review of the Island's telecoms market.

The Telecoms Market Review (the **Review**) is a significant project, and the Authority has now published its Draft Decision, which sets out market definitions for the telecoms sector and an assessment of market power. Where appropriate, it also indicates what measures and future work the Authority is proposing could be carried out to promote competition in the sector.

Telecoms services and the regulatory framework are critical to Jersey's economy. Consumers rely on telecoms services to keep in contact with friends, loved ones and the world around them, while in the workplace, telecoms services support business competitiveness and productivity.

Effective regulatory and competition policy enabled the development of competition in both voice and broadband services. The implementation of telecoms regulation has improved consumer outcomes with greater choice and competitive pricing. In addition, the Authority has helped ensure the mobile market remains competitive for consumers.

The Authority has thoroughly reviewed the current market and regulatory framework to ensure its proposals are fit for purpose now and in the future.

The Draft Decision concludes that JT (Jersey) Ltd (**JT**) is still dominant in key telecoms markets. In addition to proposing that JT continue to be subject to certain regulatory obligations, such as the provision of regulated wholesale products and services, the Draft

Decision proposes further work on key areas of telecoms connectivity. These include (fixed) number portability, development of a broadband-line only product, and the future approach to data centres.

Peter Hetherington, Chief Economist said, "Telecoms services are vital in supporting the Jersey economy, ensuring the public and businesses continue to benefit from reliable and resilient telecoms services and the market continues to grow and remain competitive.

"This Draft Decision is an important step towards ensuring a fair and competitive telecoms market. Our review aims to promote consumer choice, encourage investment, and support sustainable competition. We invite feedback on the proposals from all stakeholders."

The Authority's <u>Draft Decision</u> is open for public consultation until 23 April 2025. Responses will be taken into account before the Authority publishes its Final Decision later this year.

Ends

Issued by ORCHID

Allan Watts

T: 01534 888994

E: allan@orchid.je

NOTES TO EDITORS:

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.