



Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002

Case TL-18 - Initial Notice: Proposed Class I Licence for BT Jersey Limited

Document No: JCRA 24/65

Date issued: 9 December 2024

Deadlines for representations: 17:00 on 7 January 2025

Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority
2nd Floor Salisbury House, 1-9 Union Street
St Helier
Jersey JE2 3RF
Tel 01534 514990
Web: www.jcra.je

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1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (the **Authority**), is issuing this Initial Notice of its intention to exercise a specified regulatory function to grant a Class I Licence pursuant to Article 14(1) of the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 (**Telecoms Law**) to BT Jersey Limited (**BT Jersey**) a company incorporated in the Bailiwick of Jersey under registration number 87593 and with its registered office at IFC5, St Helier, Jersey, JE1 1ST.
- 1.2 The form of the proposed licence (**Licence**) is annexed to this Initial Notice.
- 1.3 This Initial Notice sets out the intention of the Authority to exercise such specified regulatory function. In due course, the Authority may issue a Final Notice or a fresh Initial Notice if responses are received, following the process outlined in Article 11 of the Telecoms Law.

2. Legislative Background and proposed Licence

- 2.1 Article 2(1) of the Telecoms Law provides that:

‘A person shall not run part or all of a telecommunications system except under a licence in force in respect of the person’s running of the system’

- 2.2 Article 14(1) states that:

‘The Authority may grant a licence for the running of any telecommunications system specified in the licence.’

and Articles 15 and 16 set out, respectively, that such a licence may contain conditions and what those conditions can relate to.

- 2.3 In practice, the Authority has granted [four classes](#) of licence. The Licence is a Class I licence, which is appropriate for:

‘those telecoms operators that have no discernible impact on the competitive market’

- 2.4 The Class I licence issued to BT Jersey under the Telecoms Law on 19 December 2014 (**Old Licence**) expires on 18 December 2024. Accordingly BT Jersey has applied for the Licence and has paid the specified application fee. The Authority has determined that BT Jersey has complied with the application process set out on its [website](#).
- 2.5 The Licence is in the same terms as the Old Licence, save for necessary updates and corrections and the duration being 15 years, and is consistent with the other Class I licences currently in issue.
- 2.6 It is intended that the Licence will be issued on or around 10 January 2025 with a Commencement Date of 19 December 2024.

3. Next Steps

- 3.1 This is Initial Notice of an intended exercise by the Authority of a specified regulatory function, that is to issue the Licence to BT Jersey. If representations are received before 17:00 on 7 January 2025 regarding the proposed exercise of such function, the Authority will consider them and will decide:
 - (a) not to exercise such function;
 - (b) to issue a new Initial Notice; or
 - (c) to issue a Final Notice confirming the issuing of the Licence to BT Jersey.

- 3.2 If no responses are received before such time, the Final Notice issuing the Licence to BT Jersey will be made on or about 10 January 2025.
- 3.3 Written representation or objections to the exercise of this specified regulatory function may be made by e-mail to info@jcra.je on or before 17:00 on 7 January 2025.

By Order of the Authority

5 December 2024

Annex: proposed Licence



Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002

Licence for

BT Jersey Limited

Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority
2nd Floor Salisbury House, 1-9 Union Street
St Helier
Jersey JE2 3RF
Tel 01534 514990
Web: www.jcra.je

JERSEY COMPETITION REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Class I Licence

Issued to

BT Jersey Limited

under

THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS (JERSEY) LAW 2002

The JCRA, in exercise of the powers conferred on it by the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002, grants to BT Jersey Limited, a company incorporated in the Bailiwick of Jersey under registration number 87593 and with its registered office at IFC5, St Helier, Jersey, JE1 1ST (the **Licensee**) to run the Licensed Telecommunication System and provide Telecommunication Services (as these terms are defined in the Conditions of this Licence), within, to and from the Bailiwick of Jersey and subject to the Conditions, all lawful Directions of the JCRA and all applicable laws, rules, regulations, ordinances and orders of the States of Jersey.

DATED: [] JANUARY 2025

SIGNED ON BEHALF OF THE JERSEY COMPETITION REGULATORY AUTHORITY BY:

Timothy Ringsdore
Chief Executive

CONDITIONS

1. DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 A word or expression that is used in the Licence and the Conditions and is also used in the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 (the **Law**), has, except where otherwise stated in the Licence or Conditions, the same meaning in the Licence and the Conditions that it has in the Law. In addition, the expressions set out below have the meanings given to them below:

Access	means the ability to obtain a required service, facility or function;
Associated Company	means a company that controls or is controlled by the Licensee or which is under the control of the same person or persons as control the Licensee;
Change in Control	has the meaning given in Condition 2.7;
Class I Licence	means this Licence;
Conditions	means Conditions 1 to 16 of this Licence, as may be amended, revoked or added to by the JCRA from time to time;
Control	has the meaning given in Condition 2.7;
Direction	means a written statement issued by the JCRA with which the Licensee must comply;
Force Majeure	means any cause affecting the performance by the Licensee of any obligation hereunder arising from acts, events, omissions, happenings or non-happenings beyond its reasonable control including (but without limiting the generality thereof) governmental or States' acts or regulations, fire, flood, inclement weather, terrorism or any disaster or an industrial dispute affecting the provision of Telecommunication Services. Any act, event, omission, happening or non-happening will only be considered Force Majeure if it is not attributable to the wilful act, neglect or failure to take reasonable precautions of the affected party, its officers, contractors, sub-contractors, agents, servants or employees;
Interconnect	means the connection of the telecommunication systems of two Licensed Operators;
JCRA	means the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority;
Licence	means this Class I Licence to run the Licensed Telecommunication System, subject to the Conditions;
Licence Commencement Date	means 19 December 2024;
Licence Fee	means the fee prescribed by the JCRA under Article 17 of the Law and payable by the Licensee;
Licensed Operator	means any person who holds a licence granted and in force under the Law;

Licensed Telecommunication System	means the system for the conveyance of messages through the agency of energy which the Licensee is authorised to establish, operate and maintain in the Bailiwick of Jersey;
Licensee	means BT Jersey Limited a company incorporated in the Bailiwick of Jersey under registration number 87593 and with its registered office at IFC5, St Helier, Jersey, JE1 1ST;
Network	means a set of interconnected devices across which a telecommunicated message can be passed;
Numbers	means the formats of codes and subscriber numbers for routing telecommunications services to a Network termination point, User, telecommunications equipment or customer premises equipment in the Bailiwick of Jersey, which formats are allocated by the JCRA or by the UK's Director General of Telecommunications appointed under the Communications Act 2003 as administered by Ofcom;
Number Portability	means a service enabling a Subscriber to transfer his or her contract with the Licensee to another Licensed Operator within the Bailiwick of Jersey and retain the same number allocated to that Subscriber by the Licensee;
Number Translation	means calls using non-geographic numbers which are translated to geographic numbers;
Numbering Conventions	means the guidelines from time to time set out in the Bailiwick of Jersey Numbering Plan and/or the Ofcom UK National Telephone Numbering Plan;
Other Licensed Operator	means any person who, other than the Licensee, holds a licence granted and in force under the Law;
Public Telecommunication System	means a communications system to which the public have Access which includes, but is not limited to, fixed line and mobile telephone networks and the provision of wireless Internet Access services;
Subscriber	means a legal or natural person who has a contract with the Licensee to receive Telecommunication Services via the Licensed Telecommunication System. For the avoidance of doubt a Subscriber does not include users of pre-paid services;
Subsidiary	has the same meaning as in the Companies (Jersey) Law 1991;
System	means a device for the origin and completion of telecommunicated messages;
Telecommunication Services	includes the provision of any telecommunication service to the public;
Term	means a period of 15 years from the Licence Commencement Date;
User	means a person, organisation or other entity that is a consumer of Telecommunication Services.

1.2 In the Licence and these Conditions, unless the context indicates a contrary intention:

- (a) references to Conditions, paragraphs and subparagraphs are to Conditions, paragraphs and subparagraphs of the Conditions, as varied from time to time in accordance with the Conditions;
- (b) a document will be incorporated into and form part of the Conditions if it is referred to in the Conditions, and reference to such a document is to that document as varied from time to time;
- (c) headings used for Conditions, paragraphs and subparagraphs are for ease of reference only and will not affect the interpretation of the Conditions;
- (d) references to any law, rule, regulation, ordinance, order or other legal instrument includes any modification, re-enactment or legislative provisions substituted for the same;
- (e) use of the word **includes** or **including** should be construed as being without limitation; and
- (f) the masculine gender shall include all other genders, and the singular shall include the plural, and vice versa, and words importing persons shall include firms or companies.

PART I:

ESTABLISHMENT AND ENFORCEMENT

2. SCOPE OF THE LICENCE

2.1 This Licence authorises the Licensee to run, (including establishing, operating_and maintaining) a telecommunication system that is hereby designated as a Public Telecommunication System in the Bailiwick of Jersey for the Term.

2.2 For the avoidance of doubt, this Licence shall be non-exclusive.

2.3 The Licence is personal to the Licensee and the Licensee shall not:

(a) sub-license, assign or grant any right, interest or entitlement in the Licence nor transfer the Licence to any other person; or

(b) sell or pledge any of its assets which are necessary to provide the Licensed Telecommunication System which the Licensee is obliged to provide under this Licence, unless such assets are immediately replaced with equivalent assets, without the prior written consent of the JCRA, such consent not to be unreasonably withheld.

Condition 2.3 does not apply to:

(i) a mortgage or other transaction entered into for the purpose of securing borrowings of the Licensee or a Subsidiary of the Licensee, being borrowings for the purpose of the Licensed Telecommunication System or the provision thereof or anything incidental thereto; or

(ii) a transfer, assignment or other disposal of an interest in assets under an arrangement whereby the Licensee retains the use and benefit of such assets for the remainder of the useful life of such assets and for the duration of the Licence; or

(iii) a transfer, assignment or other disposal of assets made in the ordinary course of business.

2.4 Subject to Condition 8 the Licensee shall notify the JCRA of the occurrence of any of the following:

(a) any fact or event likely to materially affect the Licensee's ability to comply with any Condition including any change to the Licensed Telecommunication System which may detrimentally affect the permanence, availability or quality of the Licensed Telecommunication System or Telecommunication Services;

(b) an insolvency-related event in respect of the Licensee or a Subsidiary, Associated Company or joint venture of the Licensee, or any preparatory steps being taken that might lead to an insolvency-related event, immediately upon the Licensee becoming aware of the event.

2.5 The Licensee shall notify the JCRA:

(a) of any proposed Change of Control of the Licensee or Associated Company forthwith upon the Licensee, or its Chairman, Chief Executive Officer, Chief Operating Officer or any Director becoming aware of the proposed change; and

- (b) in any event, on the occurrence of any Change of Control of the Licensee, within 30 days of that event.

2.6 On receipt of notification of Change of Control the JCRA may:

- (a) approve, in writing, the change or the proposed change; or
- (b) disapprove, in writing, the change or the proposed change, giving reasons; or
- (c) approve the proposed change or the change subject to the Licensee accepting a modification of the Licence under Article 18 of the Law;

and, or in addition to any of the above measures, the JCRA may issue such Directions to the Licensee or invoke any of the sanctions, penalties or remedies in the Law or the Licence as the JCRA considers necessary or appropriate.

In taking action under this section, the JCRA may have regard to whether or not the JCRA would have awarded the Licence to the Licensee had the Change of Control taken effect prior to the award.

2.7 In this Condition 2, **Control** shall mean any direct or indirect possession of any power or right that enables a person or group of persons to direct, or cause the general direction of, the management or policies of the Licensee or Associated Company by any means and in any event. A person or group of persons shall be deemed to Control the Licensee or Associated Company if:

- (a) he or they exercises or controls the exercise of 50 per cent or more of the votes able to be cast at general meetings of the Licensee or Associated Company on all, or substantially all, matters; or
- (b) he is or they are able to appoint or remove directors holding a majority of voting rights at board meetings on all, or substantially all, matters or is able to appoint or remove a majority of the governing body of the Licensee or Associated Company; or
- (c) he or they exercises or controls the exercise of 50 per cent or more of the partnership or other ownership interests of the Licensee or Associated Company; and

in each case, reference to the Licensee or Associated Company shall include any person or group of persons who Controls the Licensee or Associated Company in any of such ways, and **Change of Control** shall mean any change as a result of which any other person or group of persons acquires Control.

2.8 The Licensee shall supply to the JCRA, in relation to itself and any Subsidiary of the Licensee:

- (a) a copy of its annual return on the same date on which it is required to be filed in accordance with the Bailiwick of Jersey Law;
- (b) a copy of its annual report and accounts on the same date on which it is circulated to the shareholders of the relevant body corporate; and
- (c) in relation to any Subsidiary of the Licensee where the relevant body corporate is not incorporated in the Bailiwick of Jersey, any returns, reports, accounts or other information under the laws of any applicable jurisdiction which are, in the opinion of the JCRA reasonably required, and which are analogous or equivalent to the annual

return and annual report and accounts, at such times and in such forms as the JCRA directs from time to time.

- 2.9 The Licensee shall comply with any other requirement in law or practice to obtain any additional consents, permissions, authorisations or licences as may be necessary for the provision of the Licensed Telecommunication System and for the exercise of its rights or discharge of its obligations under this Licence.
- 2.10 The Licensee shall ensure that:
- (a) the administration and management of the business associated with the running (including establishment, maintenance and operation) of the Licensed Telecommunication System shall be conducted from the Bailiwick of Jersey; and
 - (b) its business is conducted in a manner which the JCRA is satisfied is on a normal commercial basis and at arm's length from the business of any of its shareholders, Subsidiaries, Associated Companies or joint ventures.

3. LICENCE FEE

- 3.1 The Licensee shall pay the Licence Fee in the manner directed by the JCRA.
- 3.2 Without prejudice to any other remedies of the JCRA under this Licence or the law, if the Licensee fails to pay any amount due to the JCRA under this Condition 3 by the due date, the unpaid amount will accrue interest daily from the due date to the date of payment at four percentage points above the published base rate of the Bank of England.

4. PROVISION OF INFORMATION

- 4.1 For the purpose of monitoring the Licensee's compliance with the Conditions and the Law, the Licensee shall provide to the JCRA in the manner and at the times required by the JCRA, any Documents, accounts, returns, estimates, reports or other information (whether financial, operational, technical or otherwise) including but not limited to the Documents, accounts, returns, estimates, reports and other information specified in this Licence.
- 4.2 The Licensee shall, within 90 days of the Licence Commencement Date, provide the JCRA with a comprehensive report on its use of the radio frequency spectrum, and the anticipated future use, and provide updates on the report as requested by the JCRA from time to time.
- 4.3 The JCRA may require an examination, investigation or audit of any aspect of the Licensee's business relating to the Licensed Telecommunication System or its compliance with the Conditions and the Law, and the Licensee shall provide any assistance requested by the JCRA in relation to any such examination, investigation or audit. The JCRA may issue Directions with regard to the manner in which such an examination, investigation or audit is carried out, including the creation of financial and/or technical specifications or documentation.
- 4.4 In particular, the JCRA may authorise a person to carry out an examination, investigation or audit or may require the Licensee to arrange for an examination, investigation or audit of any aspect of the Licensed Telecommunication System to ensure compliance with the Conditions. The Licensee shall allow the JCRA's authorised representative to attend at, enter and inspect any premises under the Licensee's or any of its Subsidiary's or joint venture's control, and to take copies of any documents and to acquire any information in the control of the Licensee or any Subsidiary or joint venture of the Licensee, as may be required in order to carry out the examination, investigation, or audit.

4.5 The Licensee shall bear all reasonable costs associated with any examination, investigation, or audit conducted under this Condition 4.

5. COMPLIANCE

5.1 In addition to the Conditions, the Licensee shall comply with:

- (a) any obligation imposed on it by the Law or by any law, regulation, rule, ordinance or order; and
- (b) any Direction duly issued by the JCRA under the Law, under any other law, regulation, rule, ordinance or order of the States of Jersey, or under this Licence.

6. MODIFICATION

6.1 The JCRA may from time to time modify, delete or add to any Condition in this Licence. Any modification, deletion or addition to the Conditions shall be made in accordance with Article 18 of the Law and any other requirements under any applicable law.

7. ENFORCEMENT AND REVOCATION

7.1 The JCRA may at any time revoke this Licence in accordance with the provisions and procedures set out in Articles 14 and 20 of the Law. The JCRA may also take any action to enforce any Condition of this Licence in accordance with Article 14 of the Law or any Direction issued relating to this Licence.

8. EXCEPTIONS AND LIMITATIONS ON THE LICENSEE'S OBLIGATIONS

8.1 If the Licensee is prevented from performing any of its obligations under this Licence because of Force Majeure:

- (a) the Licensee shall notify the JCRA of those obligations it is prevented from performing and the reason why as soon as reasonably practicable; and
- (b) the JCRA may suspend those obligations and the Licensee will not be liable to perform those obligations, for so long as the Force Majeure continues, only if and to the extent that the inability to perform could not have been prevented by taking steps specifically required under this Licence or other reasonable precautions and the inability cannot reasonably be circumvented by the Licensee at its expense through the use of alternate sources, work-around plans or other means.

9. INTEGRITY OF THE NETWORK

9.1 The Licensee shall take all reasonable steps to ensure the integrity of the Network and may refuse to provide the Telecommunication Services to a particular User if providing those Telecommunication Services would or would be likely to cause damage or interference to the Licensed Telecommunication System.

9.2 The Licensee shall provide details with regard to any proposed refusal to the JCRA. The JCRA shall issue a determination on the matter.

10. MATTERS OF INTEREST TO JERSEY

10.1 The Licensee shall, in connection with its establishment, operation and maintenance of the Licensed Telecommunication System take reasonable steps to prevent any

Telecommunication Services from being used in, or in relation to, the commission of offences against the laws of the Bailiwick of Jersey.

- 10.2 The Licensee shall establish and maintain the capability to intercept messages transmitted over the Licensed Telecommunication System and to provide information regarding the use of Telecommunication Services, in order to be able to meet the requirements of the law of the Bailiwick of Jersey.

11. TERM AND RENEWAL

- 11.1 The Licence commences on the Licence Commencement Date and continues, subject to the Licensee's compliance with the Conditions and the Law, and subject to any revocation or suspension by the JCRA, for the Term.

- 11.2 At any time after the eleventh anniversary and at least six months prior to the fifteenth anniversary of the Licence Commencement Date, the Licensee may serve notice on the JCRA requesting a renewal of this Licence.

- 11.3 Within 56 days of the receipt of this notice under Condition 11.2 or such further period as may be agreed with the Licensee, the JCRA shall notify the Licensee whether or not it agrees to a renewal of the Licence subject to the same Conditions or any modified, amended or additional Conditions, subject to the Licensee providing all necessary information to the JCRA to enable it to make the notification within the required time.

12. MISUSE OF DATA

- 12.1 The Licensee shall not make use of network or traffic data, traffic profiles or any other data of any nature that become available to it directly or indirectly as a result of entering into Interconnect arrangements or otherwise as a result of carrying messages, in any way which, in the reasonable opinion of the JCRA, would unduly prefer the interests of any business carried on by the Licensee or a Subsidiary, Associated Company, or joint venture of the Licensee, or place Other Licensed Operators at an unfair disadvantage.

PART II:

PUBLIC SERVICE CONDITIONS

13. CONSUMER PROTECTION

- 13.1 The Licensee shall safeguard the privacy and confidentiality of all messages transmitted over the Licensed Telecommunication System and the Telecommunication Services provided shall comply with all applicable laws regarding the protection of personal data and shall comply with any Directions issued by the JCRA for the purposes of protecting the interests of Subscribers or Users.
- 13.2 The Licensee shall provide each of its Subscribers with an acceptable level of itemised billing for international calls, at no additional charge, except where a Subscriber has accepted terms of contract specifying no itemization for all or certain classes of calls. On request by a Subscriber, the Licensee shall also provide itemised billing for local calls at a reasonable charge. The itemised bill produced by the Licensee shall in all cases provide sufficient detail to facilitate verification of charges incurred by the Subscriber in using the Telecommunication Services. Calls which are free of charge to the User, including calls to helplines, need not be identified in the Subscriber's itemised bill.
- 13.3 The Licensee shall participate in good faith in any dispute resolution procedure established by the JCRA for the resolution of disputes.

PART III:

GENERAL CONDITIONS RELATING TO THE PROVISION OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS

14. NUMBERING

- 14.1 The Licensee shall use only those Numbers that are allocated to it for the purpose of terminating messages on the Licensed Telecommunication System and shall comply with any Directions concerning use and allocation of Numbers that are issued by the JCRA.
- 14.2 The Licensee shall manage any Numbers allocated to it with a view to conserving Numbers as a public resource and shall maintain a record of the status of all Numbers allocated to it and on request, shall provide that information to the JCRA in the form directed by the JCRA.
- 14.3 The Licensee shall not charge its customers for allocations of Numbers except where authorised and in accordance with any Direction from the JCRA.
- 14.4 The Licensee shall comply with any Directions issued by the JCRA in respect of Number Portability, Number Translation, Number hosting and compliance with the Numbering Conventions.

15. RADIO FREQUENCY

- 15.1 The Licensee shall provide the Telecommunication Services in accordance with the requirements of the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949, Wireless Telegraphy (Channel Islands) Order 1952, and the Law.
- 15.2 The Licensee shall at all times facilitate the proper management of the radio frequency spectrum and shall ensure that the equipment and systems of the Licensee are adequate to prevent or, if necessary, eliminate interference with other authorised radio systems. Where the JCRA believes that an emergency exists, the Licensee shall, if so directed by the JCRA in writing:
 - (a) modify, in such manner as may be specified in the Direction, the operating characteristics of any radio transmitting station used for the purposes of the Telecommunication Services; or
 - (b) cease operating any radio channel or radio transmitting station used for the purposes of the Telecommunication Services.
- 15.3 The Licensee shall ensure that non-ionising radiation emissions from its Licensed Telecommunication System are within the limits specified by the guidelines published by the International Commission for Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) and that it complies with any radiation emission standards adopted and published from time to time by the British Standards Institute, European Telecommunications Standards Institute, the European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardisation and any other standards specified by the JCRA.

16. CESSATION OF THE PROVISION OF THE LICENSED TELECOMMUNICATION SERVICES

- 16.1 If the Licensee proposes to cease to provide all or a material part of the Licensed Telecommunication System it shall give not less than four months' notice in writing to the JCRA of the proposal and its plans in relation to the cessation. Such cessation shall be affected

only with the consent of the JCRA and in accordance with any Directions given by the JCRA in relation thereto and the Licensee shall comply with any such Directions.

- 16.2 At any time within four months before the expiry of the Licence or if the JCRA receives a notice under Condition 16.1 or if the JCRA has made a decision pursuant to Article 20 of the Law to revoke the Licence, the JCRA may, after consultation with the Licensee, direct it in writing to take such steps as are specified in the Direction, being steps that the JCRA considers necessary or expedient to ensure the safety of the Licensed Telecommunication System or the continuity and continuation of the provision of Telecommunication Services or any constituent parts thereof, and the Licensee shall comply with any such Directions.