

Office of Utility Regulation

Media Release

OUR welcomes Competition in Mobile Market

The OUR today welcomed the introduction of competition in the mobile telecoms market in Guernsey. This follows the launch today by Wave Telecom of its mobile networks.

"This is an important day for Guernsey with the introduction of competition in the telecoms market. Customers now have a choice of mobile operators and the OUR would expect to see this deliver benefits for consumers in terms of choice and more innovative services" said John Curran, Regulatory Manager with the OUR. "I want to congratulate Wave Telecom on its launch and look forward to there being a healthy, competitive telecoms market in the Bailiwick in the mobile sector".

The launch follows the awarding to Wave Telecom of 2G and 3G mobile licences in March 2003. Wave Telecom has constructed a new mobile network in Guernsey to support both 2G and 3G services.

"The availability of two mobile operators supporting leading edge services in Guernsey is crucially important. It is important for the perception of the Bailiwick that we are seen to be able to offer the most up-to-date telecoms services and this will help further to create a favourable impression of what Guernsey can offer," said John Curran.

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Information for Editors

The Office of Utility Regulation was established in 2001 to regulate the three utilities of post, telecommunications and electricity in the Bailiwick of Guernsey. The Office is headed up by Director General, Regina Finn and has four staff.

The role of the OUR is to protect the interests of Guernsey consumers and the economy. It does this by ensuring that customers receive the best in price, choice and quality services in the three regulated sectors, while at the same time ensuring that those sectors are vibrant and robust so that they can positively contribute to and underpin a successful Guernsey economy.

The OUR licenses and regulates telecommunications operators, Guernsey Electricity Ltd and Guernsey Post Ltd. Wherever possible, the OUR promotes the introduction of competition by ensuring that there is fair play and a level playing field between the operators. Where competition is not yet effective or where it is not feasible, the OUR regulates prices and quality of services to end customers.

More information is available from the OUR website <u>www.regutil.gg</u>, or by contacting the Office of Utility Regulation on 01481 711120.