



Office of Utility Regulation

Media Release

OUR consults on amending Guernsey Post's licence

The OUR is proposing to amend Guernsey Post's licence following discussions with the company. This amendment is intended to further clarify the services to be regulated under Condition 18 of the company's licence which was originally modified in October 2004. Guernsey Post has appealed that decision.

“The OUR's aim with this proposed modification is to clarify further the services intended to be regulated under Condition 18 of Guernsey Post's licence. In those markets where the company is found to be dominant the OUR will look to examine what further regulatory scrutiny is required” said John Curran, Director General of the OUR. “I would hope that this clarification will enable both parties to concentrate on ensuring that postal users in the Bailiwick are the focus of our work going forward.”

Guernsey Post has appealed against the original decision to amend its licence on the grounds that the OUR did not have the power to amend its licence in the manner that it did and that the amendment was disproportionate and unreasonable. Following discussions between the parties the services to be covered by the licence and the powers available to the OUR have been clarified.

“I am grateful to Guernsey Post for the constructive approach it has taken on this issue. There are a number of very important issues to be dealt with in the postal market – including quality of service and postal charges – and it is important that all efforts are dedicated to these issues for the benefit of Guernsey Post's customers” said John Curran.

Further details of the proposed amendment are included in OUR 05/15 which is available on the OUR website www.regutil.gg or calling the OUR office on 711120.

**ENDS/
6th July 2005**

Information for Editors

About the OUR

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, John Curran 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 www.regutil.gg, or by contacting the Office of Utility Regulation on 01481 711120.