

## Office of Utility Regulation

## Media Release . Embargoed 6.00am Friday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2008

## OUR seeks interest in fixed wireless services

The OUR today issued an information note inviting interest in radio spectrum in the 2.6 GHz band. The radio spectrum available is known as Fixed Wireless Access (õFWAö) spectrum and has been identified as being useful in facilitating the provision of wireless telecoms services, in particularly broadband services

õWireless technology offers a great opportunity for Guernsey. The 2.6 GHz band has significant scope for innovation, with the potential for new technologies, services, applications and devices. The technology also allows for the potential for direct competition with existing fixed services without the disruption of road closures and traffic diversions that can arise when laying infrastructure in the groundö, said John Curran, Director of Regulation at the OUR. õShould its use lead to the roll-out of higher speed, competitive broadband services to compete with existing fixed line broadband providers or competition with other fixed line services, the benefits to Guernsey are likely to be significant.ö

The OUR is looking to gauge interest from operators in utilising this spectrum and will determine after receipt of any comments from operators the next steps in the process. The OUR does not expect the spectrum to be made available for use before the middle of 2009.

The document OUR 08/19 õBroadband Fixed Wireless Access in Guernsey - Licensing of 2.6 GHz Spectrum - Information Note and Call for Expressions of Interestö is available on the OUR website (www.regutil.gg) or by contacting the Office of Utility Regulation on 711120.

## 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 six 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.