



# Office of Utility Regulation

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## **Consultation on Postal Licence conditions**

The OUR is consulting on the licence conditions that any new entrant to the postal market will be expected to comply with. The proposals for licensing competitors to Guernsey Post will be subject to the States of Guernsey agreeing to amend the Postal Law and the finalisation of the OUR's consultation process.

“In our review of the postal market last year we highlighted that the Postal Law currently makes it difficult to regulate competitors to Guernsey Post. We believe, in the interests of fair and effective regulation of the postal market, that a change to the postal law will help address this,” said John Curran, Director General of the OUR. “We have discussed this with the Commerce & Employment Department and we have agreed to consult on the precise arrangements for licensing alternative postal providers before proposing what precise changes we believe should be made to the Postal Law”

The OUR is proposing that new entrants have broadly similar conditions to those already applied to Guernsey Post. The proposals also make provision for new entrants contributing to a fund, should it ever be deemed necessary, to support the Universal Service.

“The provision for contributing to a USO Fund is already in place in the telecoms market and this proposal merely applies the same principles to the postal market. Clearly we would need to be satisfied that Guernsey Post is providing services efficiently before any fund would be established but this is the first step in ensuring we have the ability to enforce such a requirement.”

The consultation runs until 11<sup>th</sup> June and the consultation document is available on the OUR's website – [www.regutil.gg](http://www.regutil.gg).

## **Information for the Editor**

### **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 two 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](http://www.regutil.gg), or by contacting the Office of Utility Regulation on 01481 711120.