



## **CICRA media release**

**EMBARGOED TO 00:00 MONDAY 30 MARCH**

**27 March 2015**

### **CICRA reviews retail price control in Guernsey**

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities (CICRA) has published a consultation seeking views on the retail price controls currently in place for Sure in Guernsey for fixed line services such as calls and exchange lines.

Price controls are a tool by regulators in markets where there is limited competition, as has historically been the case with fixed line services in Guernsey, to ensure that prices to customers are appropriate.

Retail fixed-line services include call charges using fixed-line phones, exchange line rentals and a range of related fees associated with having a fixed-line phone service.

CICRA has worked with consultants Frontier Economics to determine whether continued price controls are justified and, if so, to assist in the determination of what those controls should be.

As part of the process the prices Sure currently charge for fixed-line service were benchmarked against those of comparators, to assess whether Sure's pricing levels are justified. As a result of that review CICRA is proposing a safeguard price control limiting price increase to RPI.

CICRA chief executive, Michael Byrne, said: “While Sure’s costs are not out of line with other jurisdictions, we need to ensure that we ensure that customers receive value for money which we recommend is through price control.

“We are particularly keen to hear interested parties’ views on any price control to be imposed and the length of time over which any price control should be imposed”.

The closing date for responses to CICRA’s consultation is 8 of May. The full details of the consultation and how to make a submission can be found on CICRA’s website [www.cicra.gg](http://www.cicra.gg).

CICRA will consider all responses received if appropriate will issue an Initial Notice – part of the statutory process required to implement a price control on Sure – shortly thereafter.

## **ENDS**

### **About CICRA:**

The Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities or 'CICRA' is the name given to the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA) and the Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority (GCRA) (formerly the Office of Utility Regulation). The JCRA was established under the Competition Regulatory Authority (Jersey) Law, 2001, and the GCRA was established under The Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2012. In Jersey, the telecoms and postal sectors are regulated by the JCRA, which is also responsible for administering and enforcing the Competition (Jersey) Law 2005. In Guernsey the telecoms, postal and electricity sectors are regulated by the GCRA, which is also responsible for the administration and enforcement of the Guernsey competition law since it came into force on 1 August 2012.

By working together and sharing resources and expertise between the islands, CICRA strives to ensure that consumers in all the Channel Islands receive best value, choice and access to high quality services.