



Office of Utility Regulation

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Regulator amends all Mobile operators' licences

Guernsey's utilities regulator has amended the licences of the Island's mobile phone operators to strengthen the requirement for them to co-ordinate their networks more effectively. The change follows a consultation on the proposed amendments launched in August 2007.

"These licence amendments complement the initiatives that have been undertaken by the Environment Department to try and encourage operators to share masts wherever possible", says Jon Buckland, Director of Policy at the OUR. "The operators themselves are working with the Environment Department on a voluntary code of conduct on mast sharing and related issues and we believe these amendments will complement that initiative".

The OUR has modified all mobile operators licence conditions relating to Access to Facilities to address specifically matters related to the sharing of mobile infrastructure. In particular the Director General has reduced the time period for operators to reach agreement from 60 days to 30 days before bringing the matter to the OUR.

"We would still wish to see operators resolve issues such as site sharing through commercial agreement and we would hope that operators will be responsible in their approach to this issue. Recourse to the regulator should be the exception rather than the rule" said Jon Buckland. "All operators have a duty to play their

part in working with the Environment Department to achieve a solution to the development of mobile networks that minimise the impact on the environment.”

The document OUR 07/14 is published on the OUR website - www.regutil.gg – or from the OUR’s office.

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 three 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.