



PRESS RELEASE

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GCRA SUPPORTS NEXT STEPS TOWARDS 5G IN THE BAILIWICK

The Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority (GCRA) has received applications from both JT (Guernsey) Limited and Sure (Guernsey) Limited for access to spectrum required to deliver 5G mobile services across Guernsey, Alderney and Sark.

The GCRA is pleased to confirm that it intends to approve both applications, marking a significant milestone in the introduction of next-generation connectivity for the Bailiwick. The Authority looks forward to seeing 5G services rolled out in the islands, bringing faster speeds, lower latency, and enhanced connectivity for consumers and businesses.

These applications are the first to be considered under the GCRA's new Spectrum Framework Policy, introduced in August 2025 following public consultation. The framework aims to make the spectrum allocation process more streamlined and more efficient while continuing to safeguard competition, security, and public safety.

Both operators have applied for access to the 700 MHz and 3.6 GHz spectrum bands, which are internationally recognised as key bands for 5G. Subject to final approvals, rollout across the Bailiwick is expected to begin in 2026, building on existing progress in neighbouring jurisdictions.

The final step in the award process is when licences are issued under the UK framework by Ofcom at the GCRA's recommendation. The GCRA's approval is subject to key conditions, including:

- "Use it or lose it" provisions requiring spectrum to be brought into use within agreed timescales
- Coverage commitments across the Bailiwick
- Compliance with telecoms security and electromagnetic field (EMF) safety standards
- Fair competition provisions ensuring all operators have opportunities to innovate

Michael Byrne, Chief Executive of the GCRA, said:

“We are delighted to enable both JT and Sure as they take the next steps toward delivering 5G across the Bailiwick. Our new Spectrum Framework Policy enables spectrum to be managed more efficiently while encouraging innovation and investment. The introduction of 5G will represent a major step forward for our islands, enhancing connectivity and supporting the Bailiwick’s digital future.”

The GCRA will now work closely with Ofcom on the technical and legal steps to complete the process and will continue to liaise with local operators to ensure a smooth and coordinated transition to 5G.

ENDS

Issued on behalf of the Guernsey Competition & Regulatory Authority by ORCHID

Contact Allan Watts
allan@weareorchid.com
07797 734735

Notes to Editors

Spectrum refers to the range of radio frequencies used to transmit wireless signals, including mobile, broadband, and broadcast services.

About the Guernsey Competition & Regulatory Authority

The Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority (GCRA) (formerly the Office of Utility Regulation) was established under The Guernsey Competition and Regulatory Authority Ordinance, 2012. The GCRA is responsible for regulating the telecoms, postal and electricity sectors and for the administration and enforcement of the Guernsey competition law.