



Block Exemptions

Information Note

Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities

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1. In the Channel Islands, anti-competitive agreements/arrangements between businesses are prohibited unless exempted:
 - In Jersey by the JCRA or the Minister;
 - In Guernsey, by the GCRA or the Committee.
2. The Minister in Jersey and Committee for Economic Development in Guernsey may, after consulting the Authority, exempt a class of arrangements that would otherwise be prohibited (a so-called “block exemption”). Before advising the Minister or Committee the Authority must publish a draft of the advice it intends to give and consider any representations made to it and must also publish the advice it gives to the Minister or Committee.
3. In May 2015, and following prior engagement with stakeholders, CICRA carried out a public consultation to seek views on the types of agreement/arrangement that might be suitable for block exemption.
4. In July 2015, CICRA wrote formally to the Assistant Chief Minister (in Jersey) and to the Committee for Economic Development (in Guernsey), setting out its formal advice that, on the basis of its consultation and engagement with stakeholders, there was a case for introducing block exemptions in four specific areas:
 - Fuel forecourt distribution agreements;
 - Motor vehicle trade agreements;
 - Insurance agreements (sharing of risk related information and co-insurance of specific risks);
 - Franchise arrangements, subject to turnover thresholds and limits on network effects.
5. Following further informal contacts between CICRA and the Assistant Chief Minister’s office and the Committee for Economic Development, in September 2016 CICRA put forward initial draft wording that could form the basis of block exemptions in these areas in both Guernsey and Jersey.
6. CICRA understands that this matter is now being progressed by the relevant Minister/Committee but remains available to provide any further support that might be required to finalise these block exemptions.

6 July 2017