



Office of Utility Regulation

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Postal Market to open to Competition

From today, postal customers will have access to alternative providers of postal service for packet mail. The Office of Utility Regulation has confirmed the decision to introduce limited competition in the postal market following a consultation on changes to the scope of Guernsey Post's monopoly. The consultation followed discussions between Guernsey Post and the OUR aimed at ending the litigation over increased competition in the Reserved Area.

“Increased competition in the postal market, even in this limited form, will benefit all consumers. Bulk mailers will be able to choose their providers from today while the need for Guernsey Post to be more efficient and competitive should see all postal customers benefit,” said John Curran, Director General of the OUR. *“Our objective is to ensure that Guernsey’s postal market is as efficient and competitive as it needs to be to support the wider economy and to provide the important social service that all postal customers value. We believe this decision supports that goal.”*

The new Reserved Area will see all packet mail being open to competition and Guernsey Post having exclusive rights to supply all other postal items including items categorised as letters and large letters of less than £1.35 in value.

Further details of the revised Reserved Area are included in OUR10/11 which is available on the OUR website www.regutil.gg or by calling the OUR office on 711120.

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.