



**Clear Mobitel (Jersey) Limited
Clear Mobitel (Guernsey) Limited**

**Response to Pan-Channel Island Consultation on
Spectrum Awards in the 2.6 GHz Band**

August 2017

Introduction

Clear Mobitel Jersey has recently clarified its position on the original allocations of 2600MHz spectrum and believes that it is now appropriate to make a bid for a new allocation to enhance its proposed services as disclosed to CICRA.

Response to Consultation

Q1. Respondents views are sought on the continued appropriateness or otherwise of the objectives to guide process and criteria for joint allocation of spectrum in the Channel Islands.

Clear Mobitel is of the view that the development of competitive and innovative wireless broadband services in the Channel Islands will provide the business community with services to help stimulate growth economic over the foreseeable future. Clear Mobitel fully supports CICRA's policies with the development of the use of wireless spectrum.

Clear Mobitel recognizes that spectrum is a scarce and key resource for the development of a competitive market for local businesses. It also recognizes the need for good housekeeping and the efficient distribution of available spectrum for maximum utility. It understands the need to ensure efficient allocation of spectrum across the islands in order to enable operators to plan optimal network topologies. Clear Mobitel is also of the view that the regulator should also ensure the availability of spectrum for future market and technology changes.

Q2 Respondents are invited to comment on, with supporting evidence and explanation, current and prospective demand for spectrum in the 2.6 GHz Band that CICRA should consider in making any spectrum recommendation to Ofcom.

The 2600MHz band was originally released by Ofcom for the provision of 3G services but later was redesignated as technology free in order to permit operators to configure networks for LTE.

Since the deployment of 2600MHz further spectrum has been released for the provision of LTE, notably the 800MHz allocations and refarming of the 900MHz and the 1800MHz bands. In addition, CICRA has also released and allocated certain blocks of 2600MHz for technology free usage.

Since the initial rollout of 4G services, many handset providers are now configuring their products for the use of 4G services on 2600MHz. Clear observes that existing active licensees have yet to deploy any services on the 2600MHz spectrum within their allocation. Clear Mobitel is aware of the potential technical difficulties associated with this spectrum with respect to the use of radar systems in Jersey. Clear Mobitel was aware of this potential problem when it first

applied for this allocation in 2009 and is prepared to accept the consequences associated with its use in order to augment its current allocations.

Clear Mobitel has recently outlined its new strategy to CICRA and it would now seek to augment its spectrum availability with an allocation of 2600MHz in addition to its existing allocations. This would enable the company to develop its network more efficiently and effectively across the islands.

Wireless broadband has seen constant and exponential growth over recent history and consumer expectations and demands rising to keep pace with technical developments. Clear Mobitel expects that these factors will see increasing pressure on the need for bandwidth and thus the need for additional spectrum to satisfy consumer needs. With this in mind Clear Mobitel wishes to develop its services and thus will require additional spectrum and sees the 2600MHz allocation as a highly useful component in its network development.

For the avoidance of doubt, this document may be published in its entirety.

Clear Mobitel.