TELECOMMUNICATIONS (JERSEY) LAW 2002 - SOCIAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Presented to the States on 5th November 2002 by the Industries Committee



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Foreword

The Industries Committee is empowered under the Telecommunications (Jersey) Law 2002 to give the Jersey Competition Regulatory Authority (JCRA), after consultation with it, written directions about "social and environmental policies" to be followed by the JCRA. Those policies could be seen as fundamental to the setting of various licence conditions by it. The Industries Committee is required to make public such policies.

The attached Report sets out the social and environmental policies that have been agreed between the Industries Committee and the JCRA.

Report

Social policies

Relevant social objectives provided in the Island Plan are -

- to minimise social deprivation through ensuring that adequate assistance is given to those in greatest need;
- to make better provision for those with disability.

In considering licence applications and in setting conditions for such licences, the JCRA should be required to aim at supporting the above social objectives. Suggested written directions on Social Policies are -

"In considering licence applications and in setting conditions for such licences, the JCRA should have due regard for -

- the States' strategic objectives to "minimise social deprivation through ensuring that adequate assistance is given to those in greatest need" and "to make better provision for those with disability;
- the provision of basic telephony for -
 - those who are particularly likely to need to summon assistance in their homes or elsewhere due to disability, age or other factors;
 - those requiring special facilities because of physical, mental or other challenges in using telecommunications services;
 - public access for the purpose of summoning emergency services."

Environmental policies

Relevant environmental objectives provided in the Island Plan are -

- to preserve open land while recognising and responding to the need to provide the Island's economic and social policy objectives;
- to discourage development in the rural environment;
- to protect the best of the Island's architectural heritage;
- to protect the Island's natural ecosystems, and conserve their associated flora and fauna;
- to limit the impact of noise and other nuisances;
- to ensure compliance with international commitments;
- to raise levels of environmental awareness and responsibility.

In considering licence applications and in setting conditions for such licences, the JCRA should be required to aim at supporting the above environmental objectives. Suggested written directions on Environmental Policies are -

"In considering licence applications and in setting conditions for such licences, the JCRA should have due regard for -

- the States' strategic environmental objectives as set out in the Island Plan, including but not limited to the following -
 - to preserve open land while recognising and responding to the need to provide the Island's economic and social policy objectives;
 - to discourage development in the rural environment;

- to protect the best of the Island's architectural heritage;
- to protect the Island's natural ecosystems, and conserve their associated flora and fauna;
- to limit the impact of noise and other nuisances;
- to ensure compliance with international commitments;
- to raise levels of environmental awareness and responsibility;
- the need to minimise as far as is practicable any present and future detrimental impact on the natural and built environment of Jersey and on the health of its population."