The social welfare department of the Consell de Formentera reports that on Tuesday, 19 November, the Commission on Gender Violence (*Comissió de Violència Masclista*) convened its first meeting of the current legislative term, reasserting its commitment to defining a gender violence protocol.

At its core, the commision aims to improve assistance for women and children who have been victims of abuse, honing coordination between the various actors involved in responding to gender violence, and building an operational network around existing data-sharing resources and knowledge transfer.

Attendees of the gathering pledged to produce a response protocol by 2020, agreeing to reconvene three times over the year, in addition to reaching out to different stakeholders in an effort to shape acting protocols internally. Also up for discussion was the State Covenant (*Pacto de Estado*
) on gender violence. Signed by every political party with representation in the Spanish parliament, the document calls for special budget allocations for programmes aimed at eradicating gender violence.

So, in combating gender violence, the commission banks on a collaborative approach to ensure quality care for affected women and children.

Eliminating violence against women is everyone’s business. It must be a common cause, one that takes individual action as well as finely-tuned collaboration and cooperation between all parts and strategies that are crosscutting, multidisciplinary and integrated. Launched by the social welfare arm of the Consell de Formentera in 2016, the Commission on Gender Violence has a diverse fleet of members representing social services, equality, health, education, the criminal justice system and law enforcement.

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