

Consell de Formentera premiere Alejandra Ferrer was joined today in press conference by Josep Marí Ribas and Maria Antònia Font, the Balearic government's mobility and housing minister and director-general of health and consumer affairs, respectively, to review new measures linked to the covid-19 public health crisis.

Ferrer described the island's current epidemiological situation as "favourable", highlighting "zero active cases and zero new infections in the last 14 days". She pointed to a number of measures that would soon be relaxed as a result, but indicated de-escalation would be slow, "so the island can make it to summer in good stead. The priority is our residents' welfare."

Measures

With the island still in tier 1 of public health alert, the following restrictions will be in place for two weeks starting Sunday 9 May:

-Maximum six people (no limit on number of households) at outdoor get-togethers and family gatherings. Maximum six people from two households at indoor gatherings.

-Curfew from 11.00pm to 6.00am.

-Normal capacity at shops provided safe distancing measures can be respected. Closure by 10.00pm.

Another important change: eateries with outdoor seating are no longer required to close between 6.00pm and 8.00pm; these establishments can operate until 10.30pm. Rules are as follows:

-Indoor service must stop at 5.00pm on weekdays (Monday to Friday) and 6.00pm on weekends (Saturdays and Sundays).

-Outdoor service must stop at 10.30pm (Monday to Sunday).

Controls unchanged

President Ferrer also stressed the importance of controls on arriving travellers, which she said would continue for two more weeks and perhaps all summer if possible. Ferrer said current collaboration between the Consell, local business and the regional administration sought to offer competitively-priced PCR testing locally and she reiterated an earlier request that figures concerning infected visitors and residents be counted separately "so accumulated incidence

isn't impacted and protocol isn't changed on account of visitors who have already left". "And the Govern balear must work with individual island councils on a roadmap for measures, protocols and timelines that people and businesses will respect in summer", she said.

On Formentera's currently auspicious state of affairs, "It's thanks to the responsibility of islanders and our businesses", Ferrer said. She added, "We know people are tired, but they've continued to follow the rules". The island's top-ranking official also called on islanders to answer vaccination calls with a "yes": "It is crucial we all get immunised — for our safety and for the safety of those around us."

For his part, the regional mobility and housing chief acknowledged improvements and Formentera's praiseworthy case count of zero while insisting on a message of "prudence and prevention". "We won't be able to relax until the virus has been eradicated", he said, and encouraged islanders to get vaccinated.

As for the director-general, "Formentera is the island with the best situation today", she affirmed, citing data from the Health and Epidemiology Service of the Directorate General of Public Health and Participation. Two weeks have passed since Formentera's last case was reported, meanwhile, Eivissa, Mallorca and Menorca wade through a weekslong crunch and report outbreaks of the more transmissible and now predominant British variant. As of 6 May, 3,071 vaccine doses have been administered, 2,320 islanders have received a single dose and 751 have received both doses.

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Consell de Formentera