

The Formentera Department of Heritage reports that applications are being accepted for money to pay for work on cultural heritage sites; restoration of drystone walls and burial of power and telephone lines. Claims on the quarter million euros in available assistance must be submitted by 31 July. The terms of the initiative have been posted to the Official Gazette of the Balearic Islands (BOIB) and www.consellinsulardeformentera.cat .

Heritage chair Raquel Guasch highlighted the snug fit last year between availability and applications received — “proof that, when it comes to preserving our heritage, property owners are interested and involved. So we’re staying the course. True to our word, we will shape the offer so this funding enriches our heritage sites and cements the place they hold on our identity”.

Thirty-five per cent of the €250,000 will go towards work on cultural heritage sites; 45% to restoring drystone walls and 20% to burying power and telephone lines. Twenty-five disbursements issued last year totalled €210.339.

Cultural heritage sites
Eligible projects must involve restoration, conservation, consolidation or refurbishment of cultural and national heritage sites, or involve work on sites or architectural features which are included in Formentera’s catalogue and inventory of cultural heritage. A project must also constitute betterment and elevation of the site’s value.

Depending on a site’s level of protection and the nature of the work in question, funding can cover: in the case of cultural heritage sites, up to 90% of project costs or €50,000; sites with level-B protection, 60% of costs (€30,000); sites with level-C protection, 50% of costs (€25,000); sites in the inventory, 40% of costs (€15,000); sites with ethnological value, 40% of costs (€10,000).

Restoring drystone walls
Funding is available for repairs completed using traditional materials and techniques as well as

replacement with traditional drystone walls of those made of concrete blocks or other substanstard materials. For walls along public roads, assistance will cover €90/metre (or €40/m for property owners who handle the works themselves); for all other walls, assistance covers €75/m (or €30/m).

Burying overhead cables
Assistance is also available for islanders who underground overhead telephone and utility cables (medium voltage power lines; transformer substations; low-voltage mains and shunts). The Consell will give €45/m (up to €60,000) provided funding does not exceed 60% of the initial technical report.

Applications can be submitted in-person at the Citizen Information Office (Carrer Ramon Llull, 6; Sant Francesc) or online, from the Consell de Formentera website, on the Virtual Citizen Information Office (OVAC).

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Communications Department
Consell de Formentera