Catalan language instruction will be offered to locally-stationed officers of the Guardia Civil as part of a collaborative agreement struck by the Language Advisory Service of the Formentera Department of Language Policy and the local seat of the General Administration of the State.

Evenings from this Thursday 12 March, five members of the force will attend classes in a room at the Guardia Civil barracks. The first round of classes starts at the beginners' level —also known as A2— and runs for three months.

According to the island's language policy chief, Raquel Guasch, the agreement with the Guardia Civil "promotes learning and encourages officers of the law stationed on Formentera to use the local language". The first of its kind, the agreement between Formentera and Madrid's office in the Pine Islands is aimed at creating opportunities to learn Catalan and putting the language within reach of Formentera-based officers of the Guardia Civil.

"This is a first step", said Consellera Guasch, "but the goal is to continue adding courses at different levels, like B1 and B2".

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Consell de Formentera