



Formentera president Alejandra Ferrer held a press conference today in Palma with two Balearic government officials—Marc Pons, head of the mobility and housing ministry, and Xavier Ramis, director general of the ports and airports section—to announce a deal to assure ferry service to Eivissa first thing in the morning, and back again late in the evening.

Baleària will offer 6.00am service to Eivissa from Monday to Friday, and Transmapi pledges to maintain the 10.30pm return passage every day of the week. Mr Pons indicated the service would begin no later than 1 March and, in order to expedite the service rollout, that it wouldn't be put to public tender.

The Consell de Formentera president highlighted the collaboration with the Govern balear that had gone into securing a connection so crucial for Formentera residents. “For many islanders who travel to Eivissa to study, these passages mean no longer having to move. For people with a loved one in the hospital, it means longer visiting hours. It means that everyone can make the first and last flights off Eivissa. And these are just some of the quality of life improvements it represents for everyday residents”.

Ferrer also insisted that, at the local government level, efforts would continue to focus on including minimum ferry service and fixed passage times in recent regulation known as the “Maritime Transport Decree” (*decret de Transport Marítim*). “We’d like to see a set number of daily journeys, not only to make sure this is a service islanders can count on, but also to guarantee—since these ships are sailing through the natural reserve—that the service is environmentally sustainable”. She concluded by highlighting “the good the ferry companies had come to the table with in order to work out a deal”.

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