

In a letter today from the Consell de Formentera president to Balearic health minister Patrícia Gómez, Alejandra Ferrer proposed local government's assistance, in the form of two dedicated contact tracing staff, to contend with outbreaks of covid-19 popping up in the islands. Said Ferrer in her note, "We're suggesting that these two individuals, hired by the Consell, receive protocol training from the health department and that they interface with department chiefs on a day-to-day basis to optimise coordination. It's our feeling that the presence of people familiar with the on-the-ground realities of Formentera can go a long way to streamline and improve the work".

President Ferrer asked Ms Gómez for "good inter-government communication so that Formentera's policymakers can be clear on Govern directives at all times and keep islanders in the know accordingly". "It's crucial that the information we receive come quickly and from official sources", said Ferrer, "especially when protocol changes and criteria or information updates are involved". The only way people will follow isolation protocol is if they are informed, said the president, who reiterated a request for transmission data on an island-by-island basis, saying such individualised updates on new infections were essential to understanding the impact of transmissions and the measures being taken to contain them.

Ferrer concluded her letter by highlighting what she called "the overarching end-game": "whatever form of collaboration helps us stop transmission and uphold public health protocol in the best way possible, particularly as we face the start of school and related activities".

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**Department of Communications**

**Consell de Formentera**