The Formentera Social Welfare Department reports that the office is providing ongoing telephone support for islanders 65 and over. Relaunched in December after stay-at-home restrictions were introduced in March, the service is offered for 520 local seniors not otherwise benefitting from social services of the Consell de Formentera.

Underscoring the success of the initiative during lockdown orders, FSWD chief Rafael Ramírez traced its wintertime extension to the fact that “the elderly are among those who are most vulnerable to the effects of the pandemic, and most impacted amid the new normality”. Ramírez said the once-monthly phone calls are made by FSWD family-support staff and serve to “monitor, orient, support and even just offer listening”.

Support at 25 local homes

The phone calls are one component of the At-home Support Service (Servei d’Atenció Domiciliària, or SAD), a service currently offered to 25 Formentera households in line with Covid-19 safety protocol. Offered 365 days a year by a six-person staff of full-time family-care associates, the service aims to cover the basic needs of the island’s most at-risk with an array of at-home services for dependent individuals.

“Right now SAD is essential to meeting the basic needs of Formentera’s most vulnerable”, said Councillor Ramírez, applauding “the efforts and dedication of staff since day one of the pandemic”.

22 January 2021
Communications Department
Consell de Formentera