

Today Ana Juan, President of the Consell de Formentera, and Josep Marí Ribas, Balearic Minister of Mobility and Housing and President of the Balearic Housing Institute (IBAVI), signed a deal providing islanders with support on issues related to housing. Also in attendance were Rafael Ramírez, Councillor of Housing, and IBAVI Managing Director Cristina Ballester.

According to President Juan, this service is "an important step in helping islanders in need of social, technical or legal support". "It is imperative that we promote public policies like the Balearic Housing Act and initiatives like the one we have signed today to offer solutions to people on Formentera who need housing", she added.

Mr Marí pointed out that the Housing Act, still under development, aims to "put people within reach of free guidance and support in terms of access to housing. This is happening thanks to inter-agency collaboration to guarantee that the people of Formentera have personalised and efficient support and so they can exercise their right to housing".

The service will provide social and, where appropriate, specialised legal and technical support around:

- -Difficulties paying for and/or loss of current housing (debt, restructuring mortgage debt, non-default or delays on mortgage/rent payments, and payment in kind for principal residences)
- -Pre-contractual obligations and abusive clauses in financing, leasing or purchase/sale of housing, with case referral to proper authorities.
- -Renting or buying a home
- -Information on existing housing assistance
- -Supporting, advising and managing maintenance of basic utilities
- -Housing-related financing

The four-year agreement may be annually extended up to four years.

Support services must be enacted within six months from the signing of the collaboration agreement.

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