

At midday today, vice-president of the Govern Balear and regional councillor on affairs of innovation, research and tourism, Biel Barceló, was received by Formentera Council president Jaume Ferrer and local councillors Bartomeu Escandell of the presidential cabinet, the tax office and rural affairs; Alejandra Ferrer of territory and tourism and Rafael González of infrastructure and transport.

Accompanied by director general of tourism Pilar Carbonell, Barceló arrived on his first official visit to Formentera and underscored "the commitment of the newly elected Govern Balear administration to working jointly with the different island councils of the region on those issues that effect them directly". For his part, the president of the Consell Insular de Formentera expressed his pleasure meeting with a new administration that according to President Ferrer "has already demonstrated a different approach to that of its predecessor...they are clearly interested in making progress with all the issues on the table".

## **Tourism**

The transfer of authorities in the promotion of tourism was the central issue at the gathering. Jaume Ferrer indicated "the transfer will be necessary if Formentera is to develop its own brand name". On that matter, Vice-president Barceló committed to working with the Formentera Council to ensure the change be backed by sufficient funding, while noting "we can't change the resources we've got at our disposal".

On the subject of emerging technologies, the Govern vice-president demonstrated his willingness to "chip away at the inequalities that have affected Formentera since day one" and asserted, "there are things that the Formentera Council can be doing right now to make headway".