The Formentera Department of Mobility highlights current mobility demands as the motive behind its appeal to the island's public transport contractor, Autocares Paya S.L., to start operating summer lines from Friday 17 July.

Local government asked the transport company to assure the same routes and timetables as those active in May and October 2019. The department announced that weekly updates from the firm on usage data would be used in once a week stock-takings regarding whether service increases were in order.

The department additionally indicated that, per the terms of the concession contract which was accepted by the firm, extended until 21 December 2020 and still valid today, failure to produce the reports would open the door to fines for the company.

**Unfolding covid-19 crisis**
A scaling back of the service had previously taken place against a backdrop of emergency orders in response to the covid-19 crisis, sagging ridership and the vicissitudes of public health. With the 21 June lifting of the state of exception and the conclusion of phase 3 of the "Plan for Transition towards the New Normality" (Pla per a la Transició cap a una Nova Normalitat), the Consell de Formentera believes that standard service should be progressively reinstated. Today, buses service a route combining lines L1 and L2.

In the words of mobility conseller Rafael González, "immediate improvements of the public transport service are crucial to meeting the mobility needs of islanders and tourists".

**15 July 2020**
**Department of Communications**
**Consell de Formentera**