

The Consell de Formentera president's office reports it has called on the regional government to help finance upgrades in holidaymakers' hub Es Pujols. In correspondence, Consell president Alejandra Ferrer reminded Francina Armengol of support that the Balearic premiere and Spanish tourism ministry pledged to a project "to cement Formentera's status as a tourist destination".

Ferrer reminded Armengol of a presentation that the ministry, local island councils and the Balearic government gave before crowds at last year's World Travel Market in London where details were made public about assorted tourism investment projects in the Balearics. "Formentera was the only island in the region to not receive funding at the time", pointed out the Consell president, "and both the minister and Armengol pledged to budget for it in 2020."

In the letter, President Ferrer also referenced the June 2019 adoption by the Spanish Tourism Ministry Secretary of State's Sectoral Committee of a "Programme of Plans for Sustainable Tourist Destinations". At the time, the Consell de Formentera proposed making Es Pujols the subject of a sustainability-driven image enhancement with water and waste management upgrades and plans to make the town universally accessible.

The project, which sought to transform "pioneer tourist destinations" to maintain their charm and competitiveness, failed to win the ministry's backing.

New plea

On 30 October, the Balearic premiere announced details of a €100M deal with the Spanish Ministry of Tourism to invest in regenerating and improving tourism in the region from 2021 to 2023. "This funding is important our island", said Ferrer, "and we wish to use it for phase two of the Es Pujols improvements project."

President Ferrer asked for a promise from Armengol that Formentera would be given the necessary funding to execute the "crucial economic and tourism recovery project".

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