The Formentera Department of Equality and LGTBI Affairs reports that this Thursday 22 October, the Consell de Formentera invites islanders to a 7.00pm discussion-debate hosted by Lena Castells on the role of public policy in depathologising trans* identities. Castells heads the branch of the Balearic Islands’ Office of Rights and Diversity that is responsible for coordination and support around sexual and gender diversity.

The gathering will take place in the Consell conference hall (sala d’Actes) and is open to all, although space will be limited. A live-casting of the event is also in the works so that politicians and representatives of LGTBIQ+ groups across the Balearics can tune in as well. “Indeed, they’ll have more to say on the subject than anyone”, predicted Formentera equality and LGTBI chief Vanessa Parellada.

The consellera said it would be the first time Formentera became the stage of a debate involving political leaders and LGTBI associations from across the islands. “Government is always one step behind community groups and civil society”, admitted Parellada, who underscored the importance of “spaces like this one so we can find out first hand what’s expected of us, what needs are out there. It’s good because it pushes us and helps us shape strategy collectively so we can move closer to equal rights for everyone, regardless of gender identity.”

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Consell de Formentera