



CiF chief Jaume Ferrer was joined this morning by Joan Gual de Torrella, port authority president of the Balearic Islands, in unveiling the local fire brigade's newest addition—a fire engine. Autoritat Portuària de Balears facilitated the lorry's transfer as part of a deal which, in addition to the fire engine, also includes €20,000 yearly to help train firefighters and purchase firefighting gear.

Ferrer framed the gift as just another sign of the warm relations bonding the administration and APB: “The mutual understanding we have has meant improvements in the port and an upgraded arsenal for the Council fire brigade”. Ferrer framed the acquisition as a “crucial to a decent firefighting service in the port” and said it would be “fundamental to the brigade's work moving forward”.

New vehicle

The fire engine, a six-person, water pump-equipped light lorry with capacity for 1,800L, is designed both for fighting fires and lifesaving and rescue operations. Battery-powered technology even features in an on-board holding cell for traffic accident arrests.

The vehicle's wide-ranging functions, not to mention on-board availability of firefighting, rescue and lifesaving material, make it highly versatile, its size, meanwhile, means there is greater ease of handling. Similar models are already being used on the ground in Murcia, Segovia and Castelló.

Controlled burns

The fire brigade wishes to remind islanders that the fire ban was lifted October 16, meaning outdoor fires are now permitted in the Balearics away from wooded areas, in recreational areas and designated sites. Permission from the Council must be obtained prior to any fires in wooded

areas.

If your home does not have surrounding trees or a safe wooded buffer zone, visit the forest stewardship service's website or speak with an environmental agent of the Govern balear about how to request the necessary permits.