

# Majorca Daily Bulletin

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## NAUTICAL SPOTLIGHT: SEE INSIDE

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## Anne Hathaway shines as she films on Majorca: See P4 and P5

# ECONOMY STILL ON TRACK

**S**PANISH economy minister Luis De Guindos said yesterday he sees economic growth of just above 3 percent this year despite a secession bid by the wealthy northeastern region of Catalonia. The government currently forecasts the euro zone's fourth-largest economy to grow 3 percent this year, but the stand-off with Catalonia over its independence ambitions has prompted Madrid to slash

growth projections for next year. De Guindos told Cadena Ser radio that if the government's plan to impose direct rule in Catalonia went well, he hoped to return to debate and pass the 2018 budget in the next few weeks. The minister added he could not rule out some resistance in Catalonia over the government's plan from the region, but was convinced regional civil servants would collaborate.



**Welsh choir raises cash for local hospital: See Inside**

## Catalan leader says no election

**Barcelona.**—Catalan leader Carles Puigdemont yesterday said he had decided not to call a snap election because he had not obtained enough guarantees from the central government that the move would stop the imposition of direct rule in Catalonia. "I was ready to call an election if guarantees were given. There is no guarantee that justifies calling an election today," Puigdemont said.