

Majorca Daily Bulletin

Thursday, January 27 2022

1.20€ · Founded 1962 · N.17211 · Passeig de Mallorca 9 A, Palma 07011

Johnson refuses to resign but pressure continues to mount

London.—Prime Minister Boris Johnson yesterday rejected opposition calls to resign for attending lockdown parties but accepted that a rule that ministers should lose their jobs if they had knowingly misled parliament applied to him.

Johnson, who in 2019 won the biggest Conservative majority in more than 30 years, is braced for the publication of an official investigation into claims that there were multiple boozy Downing Street parties. He told parliament no rules were broken.

It was not immediately clear when the

results of that investigation by Cabinet Office official Sue Gray would be published, especially as police have opened their own investigation.

Asked by the opposition Labour Party Keir Starmer leader if the ministerial code, which says that ministers who had knowingly misled parliament should offer to resign, applied to him Johnson said: "Of course."

"If he'd misled parliament, he must resign," Starmer told parliament. "Will you now resign?"

"No," Johnson replied.

WE'RE ALL GOING ON A SUMMER HOLIDAY



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London/Palma.—British travel giant Jet2.com and Jet2holidays have reported an increase in demand for flights and holidays following the news that fully vaccinated customers and under 18's will be able to holiday without taking a test or having to self-isolate on their return to Britain.

Steve Heapy, CEO of Jet2.com and Jet2holidays said: "Since the British government announcement, we have seen a notable increase in demand for holidays and flights across all seasons, particularly February half term, the Easter holidays and Summer 22. Before the announcement demand was already strong, however bookings have jumped by another 30 percent when compared with the previous week, demonstrating just how much of a game-changer the removal of all testing is for fully vaccinated holidaymakers. With international travel starting to



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look like it did before the pandemic, customers are jumping at the chance to book their flights and holidays."

Traditional hotspots such as the Canary Islands, Balearic Islands, Mainland Spain, Italy and Portugal are selling strongly, and the Eastern Mediterra-

nean, in particular Greece, Turkey and Cyprus are seeing enormous growth.

Holidaymakers are very much looking to enjoy a post-pandemic treat, with the protection of a package holiday proving to be very popular. In addition, whether it is upgrading the star-rating

of their hotel, upgrading their board basis, selecting a better room, or taking multiple breaks, it is evident that many holiday-makers are really looking to indulge themselves after so long stuck in the cold of the UK.

Heapy added: "The travel update is a real game-changer for the millions of people who simply want to get away to enjoy their well-deserved holidays. It means vaccinated customers can once again book and travel on the normal, hassle-free holidays that they know and love. We applaud the Government for taking meaningful action to end a

set of measures which were not only unnecessary but also ineffective in tackling the spread of the Omicron variant. This should now represent a permanent end to such restrictions, and we know customers will celebrate that news."