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Hopes that vaccine requirement for teenagers will be scrapped: SEE PAGE THREE

Balearic government hints at early withdrawal of Covid passport requirement

Palma.—Balearic government spokesperson Iago Negueruela said yesterday that February 28 was the deadline approved by the Balearic High Court for the latest extension to the Covid passport requirement, but that this didn't mean that the requirement could not be dropped before then.

Negueruela explained that the government, employers groups, unions and health experts will be analysing the possibility of withdrawing the need for the Covid passport before February 28. When the high court was asked for the extension, the request included this possibility.

The opposition Partido Popular has demanded that the need for the passport should be scrapped this week. Responding to this, Negueruela stressed that it was a measure that had been requested by employers. They will therefore be

consulted about dropping it. The minister concluded that the Covid passport "has been positive and has helped to promote vaccination". As to a meeting to discuss its withdrawal, he noted that, in principle, one hasn't been scheduled for this week.

Also yesterday, the Inter-Territorial Council for the National Health System met to approve the ending of the obligatory wearing of masks outdoors and to recommend their use where there are crowds and safe distance cannot be respected. Regarding this decision, Negueruela said that the Balearics have demonstrated consensus on mask-wearing with the other regions. He reiterated the importance of decisions being agreed by the Inter-Territorial Council of regional health ministers.

Negueruela pointed out that "all the measures have been temporary".



End in sight for Covid passport....?



Opposition says that Rafa Nadal airport name change shouldn't be a political football: SEE PAGE FIVE



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