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Majorca Daily Bulletin

Wednesday, May 27 2020

1.20€ · Founded 1962 · N.17226 · Passeig de Mallorca 9 A,

Britons bristle at explanation of Johnson aide's lockdown trip

London.—British Prime Minister Boris Johnson says people should make up their own minds about the decision of his senior aide Dominic Cummings to drive 250 miles (400 km) from London during lockdown. The early evidence is that they have. In a poll conducted after a news conference on Monday where Cummings sought to explain his actions, YouGov found 59% think he should resign and 71% believe he broke lockdown rules. And people echoed that sentiment on the streets of north-west London.

"It feels vindictive to say that he should go, but I do think that you need to feel you've got a government you can trust and that has integrity," said Catherine Andrews, a corporate trainer from London. Cummings sought to defuse the row over his trip to stay on his family's farm, saying his actions were reasonable in the circumstances as he was worried he would not have had childcare options if he and his wife were seriously ill.

He also said he had driven to a beauty spot a further 30 miles away to test his eyesight before driving back to London. Johnson says he is satisfied with his explanation of events.

"It's not reasonable, not at all, it's very unreasonable. I mean what an excuse, who can believe that, you travelled 200 and whatever miles and then you travelled another 30 miles to check your eyesight," Pauline Heward-Mills, who is retired, said.

"WE WANT PHASE 3," SAY BALEARICS



he Balearic government has asked the national ministry of health for the whole of the Balearics to enter de-escalation Phase 3 from this coming

Monday, the first of June. While Formentera can expect to move to Phase 3 on Monday, the schedule for the other islands is 8 June.

The government is also seeking

authorisation for inter-island travel from Monday. This had been requested for the start of Phase 2 but was not acted upon. For the Balearic government, this authorisation would assist in giving some boost to tourism. In Phase 3, as an example, hotels would be able to open communal areas at 50% capac-



mourning for coronavirus victims: P4

Spain seeks highest amount possible from EU emergency funds

pain will seek the highest amount possible in transfers from the European Union's coronavirus emergency funds, government spokeswoman Maria Jesus Montero said yesterday. "We will keep fighting so that the



transfers are the largest possible and so it doesn't mean debt for Spain's government," she told a news conference following the weekly cabinet meeting.

The European Commission will propose today its blueprint for the 27-nation bloc's budget, known as the Multiannual Financial Framework and worth around a trillion euros, and the accompanying coronavirus Recovery Fund.

