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Freedom day chaos

London.—Prime Minister Boris Johnson's 'freedom day' ending over a year of COVID-19 lockdown restrictions in England was marred yesterday by surging infections, warnings of supermarket shortages and his own forced self-isolation.

Johnson's bet that he can get one of Europe's largest economies firing again because so many people are now vaccinated marks a new chapter in the global response to the coronavirus.

If the vaccines prove effective in reducing severe illness and deaths even while infections reach record levels, Johnson's

decision could offer a path out of the worst public health crisis in decades. If not, more lockdowns could loom.

But Johnson's big day was marred by "pingdemic chaos" as a National Health Service app ordered hundreds of thousands of people to self-isolate - prompting warnings supermarket shelves could soon be emptied. "If we don't do it now we've got to ask ourselves, when will we ever do it?" Johnson said just hours after he was forced to abandon a plan to dodge the 10-day quarantine requirement for himself and finance minister Rishi Sunak.



New holiday threat to the Balearics from the British government. Even those who have been vaccinated twice could have to quarantine. Photo: Joan Llado.

Further threat to Balearic holidays from British government

● Britain could add Spain to the **Amber Plus travel** list which would mean that even those who have been vaccinated twice would have to quarantine.

THE Balearics were facing another travel blow last night after reports that Spain could join France on the British government's Amber Plus list which would mean that even people who have been vaccinated twice would have to quarantine

on their return home. According to media reports in Britain both Spain and Greece could be added to the list later this week. The move would be a major blow for the Balearics and the British travel industry. At the moment people who have had both jabs do not need to

quarantine on their return home. Over the weekend thousands of British tourists returned home early after the Balearics was moved from Green to Amber yesterday which means that only those who had been vaccinated twice could avoid quarantine. The deadline was the

early hours of yesterday morning. Even the threat that Spain could be added to the Amber Plus List could mean that Britons will decide not to book their holidays. According to media reports the British government will make a decision this week.