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British sisters claim holiday rip-off in Majorca: See Page 3

Palma offers to help in European migrant crisis



THE Palma city council is offering a helping hand in the migrant crisis which is sweeping Europe. The new city council announced yesterday that they would be willing to house and help migrants.

Neus Truyols, the city council spokesperson, said that the time had come for Spain to show more solidarity with migrants and also called on the Spanish government to take action. The council says that Palma could become a "recep-

tion centre" for migrants. She added that the city social services department was calculating how many migrants they could take and then they would be contacting the various relief agencies. Spain so far has taken a tough line on

the migrant situation and has been accused of turning its back on the crisis by opposition parties. "I feel the Spanish government should be doing more to help," the city council spokesperson said yesterday.



Boat with 40 African migrants arrives on Spanish island

Madrid.—A boat containing around 40 African migrants including a toddler girl landed on a beach on the Spanish island of Gran Canaria, sea rescue services said yesterday.

The Spanish Canary Islands off the Moroccan coast were a key route around 10 years ago for migrants from Africa trying to reach Europe, but their numbers fell after Spain increased patrolling.

Europe is in crisis as hundreds of thousands of refugees fleeing war and economic migrants escaping poverty are arriving on the continent, crossing the

Mediterranean on unsafe boats and over land across the Balkan peninsula.

The group of 33 men, six women and the child, were all in good health when they arrived late on Tuesday, a government official said. One of the women was pregnant, the official said.

Television images showed the migrants huddled on the beach in the dark while Red Cross workers handed out red blankets.

One man lay on the beach covered in a foil blanket to prevent hypothermia.