

The CASS updates the coverage of glasses and contact lenses

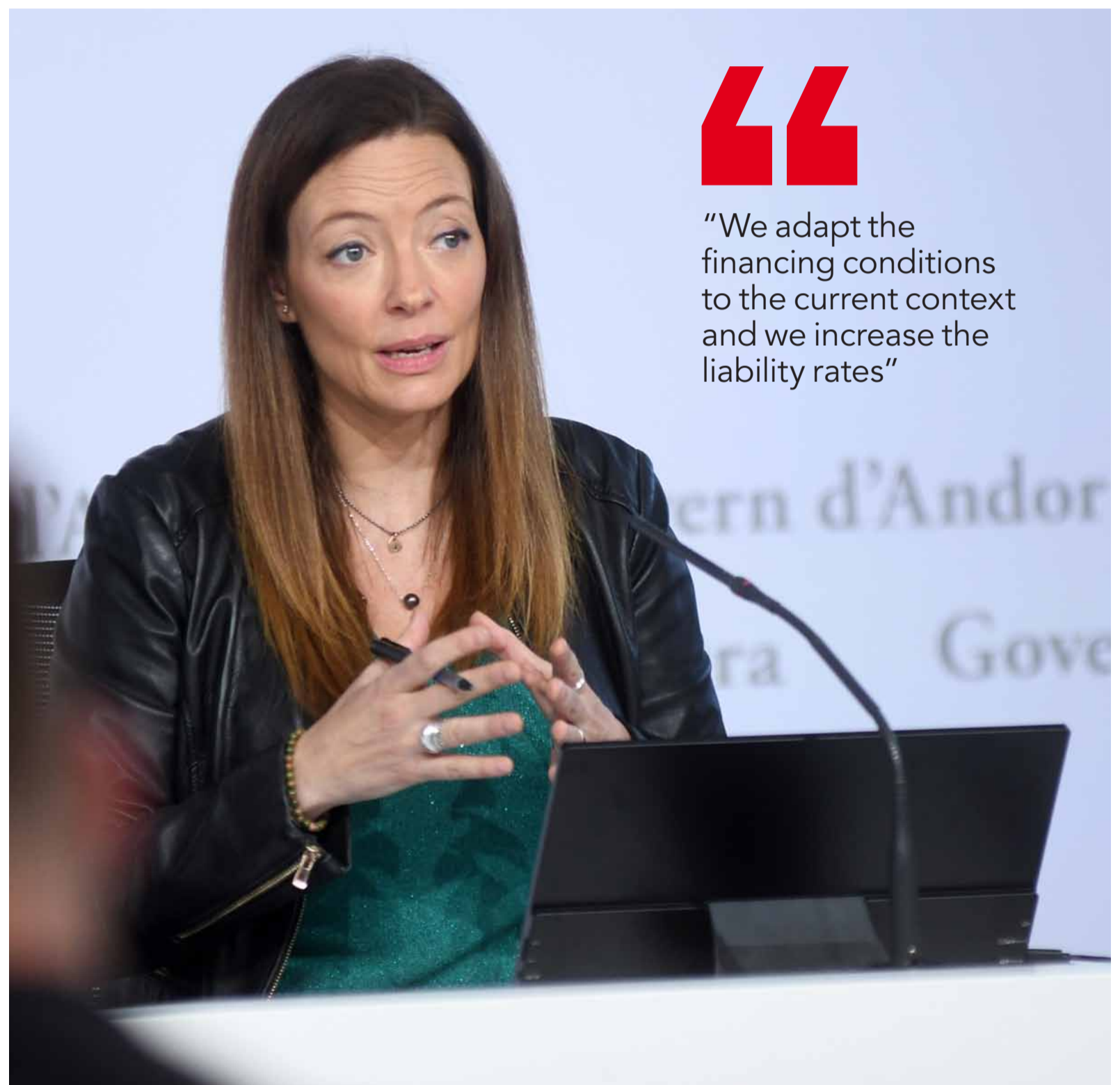
There will be greater funding for children and young people

EL PERIÒDIC
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The Council of Ministers has approved the new regulation that regulates the public financing of glasses and other optical devices by the CASS. The Minister of Health, Helena Mas, explained in a press conference that the regulation will come into force on July, 1st and that it adapts the coverage «to the current context» to improve accessibility to visual correction, especially in the most sensitive stages of development.

With the new regulation, an annual change of glasses will be financed for children under 6 years of age and biannually for young people between 7 and 21 years of age. For those over 21, reimbursement is maintained every five years. However, in any age group, the CASS will cover new glasses whenever an increase of one diopter or more is detected within a period of one year. It also includes coverage for special glasses such as filters, polarized glasses, photochromic glasses or prisms for people with diagnosed pathologies that generate photosensitivity, such as albinism or certain retinal conditions.

Compatibility between the financing of glasses and contact lenses is also contemplated, provided that certain clinical criteria are met, and the reimbursement



“We adapt the financing conditions to the current context and we increase the liability rates”

The Minister of Health, Helena Mas, during the press conference following today's Council of Ministers.

rates for glasses, lenses and special glasses are updated according to current costs, establishing a maximum reference rate depending on the type of glass and diopeters. Regarding the current impact of the benefit, Mas reported

that this year some 3,800 people of all ages have already benefited from optical financing. However, she pointed out that this figure corresponds to the number of people with reimbursements, not the total number of products

financed. Optical benefits currently represent 0.22% of the total reimbursement expenses of the CASS, a proportion that could vary depending on the evolution of demand, especially among children and adolescents. ●

THE GOVERNMENT DISCARDS THE PROPOSAL OF MONTANER

The 'tiny houses' will not be included in the future public housing park

Territory concludes that small-format single-family houses do not fit into the affordable project

PARIS MAMEGHANI / LAURA GÓMEZ
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Given the proposal of the president of the parliamentary group of Andorra Endavant, Carine Montaner, to base the homes of the public housing stock on more innovative alternatives such as modular or small-format houses (the so-called 'tiny houses') and thus have the possibility of shortening the terms "to build two hundred flats in a reasonable period of time", today the minister spokesperson, Guillem Casal, has corroborated the disposition of the Municipality of La Massana to allocate a construction plot to the public park with "preference towards the modular system", as well as the agreement that the corporation will sign next month to ratify the agreement with the Ministry of Territory and Urban Planning.

This location, as reported by Casal himself, «is planned in front of the Fire Station, and at the height of the Rossell Forge, where its architectural viability would be adapted and analyzed in order to later initiate the pertinent administrative procedures.»



The minister spokesperson, Guillem Casal, today ratifying the possibility and viability of modular houses for the public housing park.

The minister thus specified, in response to a question raised at the press conference following the Council of Ministers, that this interest on the part of La Massana corporation in joining the offer of affordable apartments «is there» and that for this reason the Government will be authorized to grant a plot in the indicated location, already preparing its agreement for the month of June.

On whether there was a possibility of introducing the 'tiny houses' modality into the public housing stock, which contemplates

the "construction of around 500 flats as a target", Casal explained that after the feasibility study commissioned and endorsed by the ministry headed by Minister Raúl Ferré, this option was discarded, seeing that its fit "is complicated as it is intended for a single-family model" and that, for this reason, the Executive has opted for the modular system, which will also undergo studies to ensure that it complies with the regulations, and which thus allows a "shorter construction phase than the conventional construction method". ●

Carine Montaner calls the definition of modular houses «misinformation»: «They are not container houses»



The president of AE, Carine Montaner.

►► Montaner has stated to EL PERIÒDIC that she would not rule out filing a complaint against a media outlet in the country «if legal issues did not take so long in this country». The sentencing phrase came after a publication in which the proposal on 'tiny houses' is called «container houses». The AE president has wanted to stretch even further and has taken the opportunity to criticize some actions that are being covered by the media and that are causing polarization in the public opinion landscape: «This is misinforming the public, instead of working for the common good and informing with rigor», mentioning that «our proposal for modular houses has been called in every way except what it really is, houses in easy construction conditions and at a much more affordable price».

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