The Junta says that the homeowner must pay the costs to regularise illegal homes Translated from www.soitu.es, 1st November 2009

Sevilla .- The Minister for Housing and Planning, Juan Espada (right) underlined today in the Andalusian Parliament that each resident should meet the costs to regularise their illegal homes, because "it is not acceptable" that these costs should be bourn by the administration.

In a hearing requested by the Pardido Popular Group to address illegal urbanism in Chiclana de la Frontera (Cadiz), the Minister has reiterated that it is not possible to consider a "general levy", as proposed by the PP, so that the governments can pay the regularisation costs for those who built "without worrying about the paperwork."

"It is not acceptable" nor "will it be tolerated by Andalucians or the Junta" to raise the possibility of payment for those who "took advantage" and made their homes regardless of legality, indicated the Minister, who guaranteed that there will be no "amnesty" for those residents.

*PP* Deputy Teresa Ruiz-Sillero, meanwhile, indicated that residents of Chiclana (where she states there are 40,000 illegal houses) are "up in arms" because they cannot afford the costs of regularisation to obtain services such as water, which is calculated at 24,000 euros.

The minister, meanwhile, said that there are 15,007 buildings in Chiclana on 'suelo no urbanizable', according to a study by the City Council, and said that fieldwork will now be performed to prepare a file on the status of each of them.

The PP deputy proposed that one third of the cost of regularisation of these homes (the proliferation of which she blamed on the PSOE) should be bourn by the council, one third by the Junta and the rest by the residents.

The Minister, meanwhile, said that these residents had money when the illegal houses were built and now they do not have it to pay for regularisation- urging them to "be reasonable" and "ask for credit" to meet the costs assuring them that the administration would not do so.

Espada recalled that the PGOU for Chiclana focuses on normalisation of existing settlements and already provides the infrastructure and facilities so that the town is incorporated into the metropolitan area. Thus, the Chiclana municipality is one of those that addresses the regularization of illegal properties, as proposed by the Andalusian Ombudsman and integrates with the Territorial Plan of the Bahía de Cádiz.

The Minister revealed that 118 Andalusian municipalities have requested the cooperation of the General Directorate of Territorial Inspection, Town Planning and Housing for the approval of their municipal plans of inspection

Original Article in Spanish