

## **PRESS RELEASE**

Sant Cugat (Barcelona), Wednesday 27 October 2010

### ***The Mayor points to the need to modernise administration***

In the framework of the International EPSA 2009 knowledge-transfer workshop, taking place today and tomorrow in Sant Cugat, Barcelona, the Mayor has stated that "nowadays administration makes sense as an entity serving the citizens. Public management should be approximated to private management criteria. Citizens should be able to say whether the services delivered by the Municipality are satisfactory to them, just as if they were in a private company".

This meeting will be closed with the entrepreneurial forum *Santcugatribuna* at the *Teatre-Auditori*. In this edition, the speaker will be the Director-General of the European Institute of Public Administration, Ms Marga Pröhl, who will speak about "Quality of life - An imperative: what development model for the next decade".

The Mayor, Lluís Recoder, accompanied by the Deputy Mayor in charge of the Territory, Mercè Conesa, and the Deputy Mayor in charge of Economy and Organisation, Jordi Joly, has chaired this morning at the *Planta noble* of the Town Hall the inauguration of the International EPSA 2009 knowledge-transfer workshop. The aim of this event, headed by the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA), is to share and debate on the best experiences of public management together with representatives of institutions and administrations from across the European Union. This event will address the best practices recognized by the European Public Sector Award (EPSA) 2009.

During his presentation, the Mayor, Lluís Recoder, expressed his satisfaction for this event and stated that "during two days we will examine the projects submitted by the administrations that won the European Public Sector Awards 2009. These administrations are: the Platform for e-Services e-Bourgogne; The Cologne participatory budget; The project to revive the declining local economy of the British city of Oldham; and the Alignment and Strategic Competitiveness Plan of our own Municipality".

Moreover, the Mayor has indicated that "are present here in Sant Cugat today and tomorrow the best European Public Administrations, and we are delighted about it". The mayor also wanted to remind that "nowadays administration makes sense as an entity serving the citizens. Public management should be approximated to private management criteria. Citizens should be able to say whether the services delivered by the Municipality are satisfactory to them, just as if they were in a private company. Administration is not justified by itself, but as a service to citizens", the mayor added.

In addition, Lluís Recoder also said that "if we want to build a real European Union, all administrations should act in a coordinated manner as if they were a single body. Today we have the local, the regional, the supranational, the state and super-state administration and we have to make sure that all of them evolve at the same pace".

Lastly, the mayor concluded "I am sure that the opinions and reflections during this forum will be useful contributions".