Platform for City Government cooperation between the Labour Party, the Green Party and the Socialist Left Party in Oslo 2015-2019

Negotiations resulting in this document, which provides a basis for the City Government in Oslo, took place between Oslo Labour Party, the Green Party – Oslo and Oslo Socialist Left Party from 25th September to 16th October at Østmarkseteren.

This document constitutes the political platform for City Government cooperation between these three parties for the next four years.

Østmarkseteren, 19th October 2015

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Introduction

The new political majority resulting from Oslo’s election results has formed a City Government drawn from the Labour Party, the Green Party and the Socialist Left Party. This document outlines the City Government’s policy platform which is based on sustainability, fairness and community. As Oslo is the nation’s capital and the largest city in Norway, political decisions have wide-ranging repercussions which affect many people. The policies aim to reduce inequality, and to promote clean air, social inclusion, a safe upbringing for children, and decent care of the elderly. Equal opportunities are to be available to all, regardless of gender, ethnicity, disability, or sexual orientation. We will pursue an active equal opportunities policy in order to combat discrimination in any form.

Oslo boasts unique natural scenery, a vibrant cultural scene, major academic and research institutions, an energetic business sector, and a diverse population from more than 200 countries. The knowledge, diversity, and creativity of the city’s inhabitants provide Oslo with exciting opportunities for employment, cultural and social experiences, and community life. These are qualities we wish to protect and develop. We shall pursue policies that prioritise sustainability, utilise opportunity, reduce inequality, create security, and plan for growth. Our economic policy will be both robust and responsible.

Oslo is facing the mounting challenges of climate change head-on by taking many tough decisions. The policies will provide clear and powerful plans for Oslo’s role in easing the climate crisis and benefiting the environment. Climate action is not something to be left for someone else, some other place, at another time. Oslo is taking responsibility for climate action using all the means the City has at its disposal, whether it is a matter of energy usage, heating, or how citizens move about in the city.

Oslo’s population is set to grow by almost 200,000 over the next 20 years. Large cities have both the power and the opportunity to allow people to live in urban areas while maintaining a more environmentally friendly lifestyle. We aim at policies that will allow us to live closer, better, and greener in the future. We must, additionally, ensure that provision is made for kindergartens, schools, workplaces, and good urban spaces in the local environment. People using public transport, pedestrians, and cyclists are to be prioritised above private cars. We shall become fossil free, offering inhabitants clean air that is safe to breathe while simultaneously increasing people’s quality of life and contributing to green industry. We want Oslo to exhibit leadership, both to Norway and to Europe, in our work towards becoming a sustainable city. This is to be based on close, binding, regional cooperation relating to land use and transport development.

A society and a city with less inequality is a better city to live in for everyone. Towards our goal to reduce inequality, we shall undertake to reduce social and economic inequality. Employment is our most important tool in fighting poverty and inequality. The City Government aims to enable as many people as possible in establishing a firm foothold in the labour market through providing training, language skills development, qualifications, and other initiatives that promote an active work life.

We wish to ensure a good start in life for all children, particularly those in poor families. For this reason, we will strengthen the city districts’ financial latitude as regards children’s issues, remove barriers to children’s attendance of kindergarten or activity school, and ensure that schools with the greatest teaching challenges receive increased resources. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child is to form the basis of the City Government’s work in this area.
We intend to solve the big tasks together, ensuring that everyone has access to good public services at all stages of their lives. Strong public services ensure equal opportunities for all at kindergarten, at school, and in healthcare. The City Government intends to expand publicly organised welfare services with a view to reducing the commercial operators’ share of such services in the long run.

In order to attract the best professional skills at all levels, working for the City of Oslo must be both appealing and challenging. With 53,000 employees, the City is a large and important employer. Close collaboration with employees including building professional skills and communication through assessments lie at the heart of municipal management. We will strengthen efforts to combat work-related crime and social dumping and actively use the City’s influence as an employer and procurer to promote sustainability. We aim to establish a culture encouraging of full-time positions for municipal employees, not least to contribute to the evening out of economic inequalities between women and men.

Knowledge and research are crucial foundations for our society, not least in order to meet future challenges related to the climate crisis, technological development, and Oslo’s place in an international economy. The City Government aims to strengthen Oslo’s schools with more teachers and greater resources. We will pursue policies that give all children over the age of one the opportunity to attend a good kindergarten; that help more students to complete secondary education; and that facilitate development and life-long learning. We aim to strengthen cooperation between the City of Oslo and the academic and research institutions in the city.

The city which recognises the value of a diverse population will be one of globalisation’s winners. Our policy will be to ensure that different people from different backgrounds get to meet and that everyone can fulfil their potential. We will prepare the ground for new businesses, new cultural expressions, and new knowledge. We regard this as one of Oslo’s greatest advantages and wish to build on Oslo’s diverse community. At the same time, good Norwegian skills are important in order for everyone to succeed. We aim to ensure that Norwegian is the common language used in kindergartens and schoolyards.

The world is experiencing the most serious refugee crisis since the Second World War in which millions of people have fled their homes. Many people who need protection will arrive in Norway over the next few years and extraordinary efforts will be necessary to accommodate and integrate them. In partnership with the state, other municipalities, and NGOs the City Government is prepared to assume our share of the responsibility by welcoming refugees who need resettlement. As the host city for the Nobel Peace Prize, we wish to strengthen Oslo’s position as a city of peace and to further develop twin-city cooperation.

In a city such as Oslo, there are a number of tasks that the City is unable to solve alone. Oslo is proud to foster a high sense of civic duty, inclusion, and voluntary activity. Volunteer activities are encouraged at all levels from school up through housing communities encouraging vibrancy, community atmosphere, hobbies and staving off loneliness. Being involved in organisations, sports clubs, cultural activities or the local community is important for all participants. We aim to boost volunteerism and support these positive forces contributing to a better city.

Life expectancy’s rise and elderly people’s increasingly active lives simultaneously contribute to, and place burdens upon, society. There will be more than 10,000 additional 80 to 89-year-olds living in
Oslo in the next 15 years, some of which may have complex health situations. We want people of all ages to be able to live free, independent lives. We thus intend to make considerable investments to ensure that more people can live at home longer and receive the care and support they need.

Feeling safe in public places and in one’s own home is a prerequisite for a feeling of wellbeing and freedom. Oslo is a safe city in which to live and move. The way in which we have organised society – with small social differences and a robust safety net – underpins this priority. There are, nevertheless, times and places in the city that feel, and are, less than safe. We will pursue a policy of safe public spaces so that Oslo’s inhabitants will live free from violence, abuse, and coercion.

Open and accessible political decision-making, which is a precondition of popular democracy, is strong in Norway. As the capital of Norway, Oslo hosts the country’s foremost democratic institutions and national media. In contrast, there is a lack of transparency and debate concerning Oslo as a local community and concerning the decisions made by District Councils and the City Council. The City Government, therefore, finds it important to strengthen the districts as political arenas, to make information about political processes more open and widely available, and to promote a broader political debate.
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1. Economic policy

A sustainable, social and responsible economic policy

Oslo’s diverse and welcoming character provides the city with many opportunities. This is reflected in the fact that very many people wish to move to Oslo and that the population is growing rapidly. This means that the City will be called upon to invest heavily in, for example: kindergartens and schools, public transport, housing and infrastructure, healthcare and care for the elderly. Welfare provision must be developed and the quality of services improved.

In this declaration, we put forward our shared policy objectives for the four coming years. The extent to which we will succeed in attaining our goals, the shared policy objectives of this document, will depend on the financial room for manoeuvre. This, in turn, depends on factors that are difficult to forecast. National government transfers and tax revenues are factors over which the City of Oslo has relatively little influence. Taking this into account, the City Government will pursue a sustainable and responsible economic policy. Large investments imply that the City’s debt will grow, resulting in increased interest payments. The City’s pension obligations will also increase thus, a far greater percentage of the distributable income will be spent on financial costs such as interest and pensions. Orderly city finances and a solid overview will ensure the economic scope required to implement both desired and necessary initiatives.

Sustainability and quality of life are the foremost considerations of the City Government’s economic policy. Modern city development encompasses providing good services, designing urban and meeting spaces which improve life quality, ensuring an ecological footprint within the planet’s limitations, and levelling out economic inequality. Sustainability is a responsibility that runs right through the entire City; not least, sustainability goals and indicators play a key role in the budgeting process, where many important prioritisations occur.

The UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has ruled that 80% of coal, oil, and gas that we have already found must be left in the ground in order to avoid the dangerous effects of climate change. At the same time, there is increasing risk associated with investments in fossil fuels. Oslo Pension Fund (OPF) has already started divesting from coal-mining companies and the City Government has started work to ensure that the OPF’s investment strategy maintains a high ethical profile in consideration of the environment, human rights, and international law.

The City Government will introduce a property tax in Oslo. This will provide the City with the increase in income necessary to strengthen welfare provision in prioritised areas. From 2016, Oslo will introduce a property tax on private housing in Oslo. Starting in 2017, we intend to conduct a valuation of commercial properties and, thereafter, introduce a property tax on such properties. The rate for the initial year will be 2 per thousand; the rate for the remainder of the period will be 3 per thousand. A basic tax allowance will be set at 4 million Norwegian kroner. Property tax exemptions will apply in accordance with relevant regulations.

The City Government will:

- Pursue a sustainable and responsible economic policy
- Introduce property taxes in Oslo
- Present sustainability goals in the annual budgets for the City of Oslo and make these the basis for
policy development, including climate budgets and emission ceilings by sector
• Evaluate the climate relevant consequences of all issues that come before the City Council

• Ensure that the City of Oslo maintains and exercises sound, active ownership in important companies such as Oslo Sporveier, Hafslund and ECO
• Ensure public management and operation of important infrastructure, including the Oslo Port Authority and other municipal undertakings
• Work actively to combat work-related crime, reduce tax evasion and unregistered labour
• Secure the strongest ethical and sustainable municipal investment profile
• Begin, in collaboration with OPF, divesting from companies producing energy from fossil fuels
• Encourage OPF to work in close collaboration with Norges Bank and KLP on sound, ethical pension fund management and to make use of their exclusion lists
2. A better local authority

A New Direction for the City

Citizens’ needs are the main focus for the Oslo City Government and its new policies. We will provide the best possible services, irrespective of who you are, where you live, or your financial situation. Oslo is to be an open, democratic, un-bureaucratic authority that is characterised by trust and close proximity between citizens and the City itself.

The City of Oslo is one of the country’s largest employers, property owners and developers. More than 53,000 people work for the City of Oslo. This places great demands on sustainable financial governance, responsibility, and professionalism. The City Government will work closely with municipal employees and their representative organisations to ensure that the City is a sought-after workplace which attracts, develops, and retains good employees.

Trust underlies governance of the City of Oslo. For the City Government, increased trust in managers and employees means transferring professional authority and responsibility and ensuring adequate staffing, openness, dialogue, and skills.

The City Government intends to expand publicly organised welfare services, thus reducing commercial operators’ share of such services in the long run. The City Government does not intend to make use of public-private-partnerships (PPP) in the rehabilitation or construction of municipal buildings. The City Government will work to reduce the use of external consultants within municipal affairs and ensure that the City itself retains the relevant expertise. The City Government will embrace new technology and smart solutions in order to make work processes more efficient, improve municipal services, and create new markets for the private business.

Openness and local democracy

Because the City of Oslo exists for the sake of its citizens, it is important that the City becomes more open and transparent. Openness provides citizens with insight into how the City manages the community’s assets and is crucial in safeguarding minority interests. Budgets and municipal documents are to be readily available so that people have access to the issues upon which their democratic bodies work. The City Government will strengthen public arenas for debate.

The City Government is committed to strengthening local democracy in Oslo. As the financial room for manoeuvre of the Districts is extremely restricted, the District Councils are, to a great extent, unable to function as proper arenas for local democracy. The fact that very few elected District Council Members stand for re-election bears evidence of this.

Therefore, the City Government intends to review and strengthen the districts’ financial room for manoeuvre and the criteria system for the distribution of economic resources. This will ensure that the balance between demography and socio-economic criteria is fixed at a representative level and is in line with the needs of service provisions. We believe this will enable the District Councils to function better.

For the sake of greater clarity at the democratically elected local level, the City Government proposes changing the terms ‘bydelsutvalgsleder’ (District Council Leader) and ‘bydelsutvalg’ (District Council) to ‘bydelsordfører’ (District Mayor) and ‘bydelsstyre’ (District Board). The City Government also
suggests changing the name of the city’s highest governing body from ‘byråd’ (literally City Council) to ‘byregjering’ (literally City Government).

The City Government will:
• Strengthen the districts’ financial room for manoeuvre
• Make all correspondence in City agencies and undertakings that is not exempt from public disclosure generally available on the Internet
• Consider the introduction of a lobby register of businesses or organisations that meet with City Council party groups or the City Government at Oslo City Hall
• Create grants for journalists and bloggers who write about the work of the City Council and City Districts
• Make information about issues, proposals and voting in the City Council readily available
• Implement a ‘Plain Language’ project in the City of Oslo
• Strengthen work to make municipal information available using universal design
• Assess on a case-by-case basis if the work of the City Advocate should be publicly disclosed
• Make it clear that municipal staff have the opportunity to publicly comment on conditions at their own workplace
• Prioritize that municipal companies, enterprises and partnerships, fully owned by the City of Oslo, exercise openness, as far as possible, in accordance with the City’s own practices
• Apply to become a ‘pilot municipality’ for extending voting rights to 16-year-olds

The City as employer

More than 53,000 people work for the City of Oslo. The City Government will work closely with municipal employees and their organisations to ensure that the City is an attractive workplace which attracts, develops, and retains good employees.

Heavy, bureaucratic systems have been built up in the City of Oslo over the course of many years. We want to see an open, trust-based culture in which it is easier to take decisions and where there are shorter distances between city management, municipal officers, and employees in municipal operations. Increased trust in managers and employees means shared professional authority and responsibility and adequate staffing, openness, dialogue, and skills.

The City Government will implement a reform to secure better interaction between management and staff, better use of employees’ skills, greater user participation, better services, and more efficient use of municipal resources. The overall reporting requirements in various sectors are to be examined with a view to the de-bureaucratisation of service production.

The City Government will reduce the extent of temporary and part-time employment and establish a culture of full-time positions. As an employer, the City of Oslo shall follow the provisions of the previous Working Environment Act and City of Oslo agreements concerning temporary employment.

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1 City Government has already been adopted in the City of Oslo official English terms to distinguish ‘byråd’ from ‘bystyre’, which also translates as City Council. The Official terms are used in this translation.
The City Government will:
• Ensure that the City of Oslo is a long-term, motivating, predictable employer
• Secure good, predictable wage and pension conditions for municipal employees
• Offer as many full-time, permanent positions as possible while trying to minimize the number of part time, temporary positions
• Make it possible for more people with disabilities to work for the City of Oslo
• Make sure that employees have good Norwegian skills by offering language training
• Take on more apprentices in municipal services
• Secure better gender, disability, and ethnicity representation when recruiting for managerial positions within the City

**Competitive tendering**
Privatisation and competitive tendering, purchaser-and-performer functions, and a public-private-partnership philosophy have long dominated the City of Oslo. The City Government wishes to introduce stronger political governance and a City that ensures openness and elected management. The City Government will, therefore, reduce the use of competitive tendering.

The City Government places great importance on fighting social dumping and will ensure that all companies which are part or majority owned by the City of Oslo maintain proper working conditions. In public procurement, the City of Oslo has an important role in making sure that suppliers perform responsibly. Where tendering is necessary, employees’ wages and working conditions shall remain unaffected by the competitive process.

The City Government will:
• Not privatise or expose municipal kindergartens to competitive tendering
• Not invite tenders for nursing homes from commercial operators when the current contracts expire
• Ensure that all municipal contracts require good wages, pensions, and working conditions
• Introduce clear rules for exclusion from future and ongoing commissions in the event of serious violation of purchase agreements or the Working Environment Act

**A digital city**
In order for the City of Oslo to be open and accessible it must communicate in a clear, understandable and modern way. Therefore, Oslo’s citizens will have a digitalised interface with the City through smarter, more coordinated, universally designed services. Increased productivity as a result of digitalisation will benefit Oslo citizens. The City Government is committed to creating an up-to-date digital structure which will benefit the citizens. This will simultaneously ensure that the City remains an attractive IT employer.

The City Government will:
• Digitalise citizen services where it facilitates use and keep non-digital services otherwise (keeping citizens’ needs as the guiding principle for development)
• Offer more digital services – using SMS alerts, e-mail, and citizens’ applications – in order to provide a better, more effective user experience
• In order promote innovation, make valuable data from all City departments available to the public via the Agency for Public Management and eGovernment’s (DIFI’s) open data platform
• Work for more open wireless networks in cooperation with the tourist industry and business community
3. Climate, environment and transport

Europe’s environmental capital

We aim to make Oslo Europe’s environmental capital. Limiting the effects of climate change and developing a sustainable society are two great challenges of our time. Today, large numbers of Oslo’s citizens regularly experience harmful air quality and people with asthma and respiratory conditions are forced to stay indoors. People in Oslo deserve a more vibrant city life, cleaner air, more cycle routes, and even better public transport.

The City Government wishes to see Oslo lead by example and inspire cities around the world and will, consequently, step up the level of ambition in its climate policy. We will make Oslo a fossil free city by 2030.

City Government goals:

• By 2030 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 95% compared with 1990
• By 2020 to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 50% compared with 1990 (given the completion, in collaboration with the national government, of the carbon capture facilities at the Klemetsrud plant)
• By 2022 to reduce nitrogen oxide emissions by 60% compared with 2013 and to ensure that local emissions such as particulates are kept within the health authorities’ recommended levels

Making Oslo fossil free is a huge shared project which will only succeed through close collaboration between citizens, businesses, organisations, the state, and the City. At the same time, there are few cities which are better placed to create a fossil-free future faster than Oslo. The City Government will readily test new ideas and solutions and counts upon public involvement. The City Government will base new initiatives on the Climate and Energy Strategy.

Safe, clean air

In order to achieve the ambitious climate and environment goals, the City Government is focusing on improving the way we move around the city. Oslo is one of Europe’s fastest growing cities and this provides us with good opportunities to develop solutions that benefit both the climate and the environment. The City Government intends to densify the city around public transport hubs and to heavily invest in public transport and bicycle projects rather than new motorways. A new metro line in the inner city, expansion of the bicycle route network, and a tram line along Ring 2 are City Government prioritised projects.

Car traffic is the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions and harmful air pollution in Oslo. Beyond the pollution advantages associated with reducing car traffic, this step will make space for bicycle routes and improve traffic flow for public transport. The City Government’s goal is to reduce all car traffic in Oslo by 20% during the term of office and by one third by 2030 in comparison with 2015 levels. In order to achieve these targets, the City Government is reliant on collaboration with the national government and the County of Akershus.

The City Government prioritises city life, pedestrians, cyclists, and users of public transport before private cars, both in use of public space and in financing, planning, and execution of new projects. Residents-only parking in all inner city districts shall be brought forward.
The city will be more pleasant and accessible without car traffic. The City Government will make the city centre car free within Ring 1 in the course of its term in office. Special considerations will be maintained for persons with impaired mobility, transport of goods, public transport, residents, and transport necessary for important social functions. The City Government will invite businesses, residents and other interested parties to take part in a dialogue on the implementation of the policy. Throughout, the City Government will draw on knowledge and skills from other cities and gather experience by means of pilot projects.

The City Government will:
- Make the city centre car free within Ring 1 in the course of its term of office
- Establish a network of car-free streets across the entire inner city
- Remove parking spaces that conflict with bicycle route expansion
- Delegate authority to remove parking spaces to the City Government
- Introduce residents-only parking or fees for all municipal parking spaces within Ring 2, and increase such fees
- Tighten parking standards for all new buildings

**Bicycles**

Oslo has great potential as a bicycle city. It must be safe for all to bicycle everywhere in the city. The City Government will review the bicycle plan, significantly increasing the rate of construction and quickly completing prioritised routes in the inner city.

Electric bicycles make it easy to bicycle to work, even up hills and over longer distances. Electric bicycles, which reduce the use of private cars and public transport, are increasingly popular. In order to get more people to use electric bicycles rather than private cars, the City Government will introduce a support scheme for the purchase of electric bicycles by residents.

The City Government will involve both citizens and districts in finding good local solutions and will base its work on best practice from countries such as the Netherlands and Denmark. Bicycle routes must be integrated in all road planning, not least at junctions and roundabouts. As a general rule, all bicycle routes should be physically separate. More parking spaces for bicycles are to be established and the City Government will work to extend the City Bike scheme.

Responsibility for bicycling is currently shared across a number of municipal bodies. In order to secure more effective implementation, the City Government will review this organisation, make sure that bicycling is prioritised in planning processes, and ensure that the bicycle project is given a permanent place in the municipal organisation.

The City Government will:
- Increase the share of daily journeys made by bicycle to 25% by 2025
- Build at least 60 km of bicycle routes, bicycle lanes, and car-free streets during the term of office
- Complete the following inner city routes by the end of 2017:
  - Rådhusplassen to Grünerløkka via Torggata
  - Rådhusplassen to Grünerløkka via Universitetsgata
  - Rådhusplassen to Grønland
  - Sofienberg to Tøyen via Helgesensgate and Finnmarksgate
• Blindernveien to Frogner plass
• Secure better mobility for bicyclists in Bjørvika in collaboration with national authorities
• Prioritise maintenance of bicycle routes in both summer and winter
• Establish a support scheme for electric bicycles for residents
• Ask the districts to prepare proposals that will promote bicycling and walking locally and to establish an annual line in the budget for the implementation of such initiatives

Massive investment in public transport and bicycling through ‘Oslopakke 3’

Expected population growth and goals for car traffic reductions make large-scale investment in public transport in the Oslo region an absolute necessity. The City Government will base its work on the transport agencies’ study of the Oslo hub and Ruter’s mobility strategy (M2016). However, plans must be updated and expanded in line with the City Government’s new climate and environment targets.

According to the transport agencies: Ruter, the Norwegian National Rail Administration, and the Norwegian Public Roads Administration a new metro line through the inner city is the most important public transport project in Norway. This project will have far-reaching effects for the whole region and will not only dramatically increase the capacity of the entire metro system, but will also facilitate new line extensions in the future.

Close, collaboration with the state and the county of Akershus concerning the financing of large public transport projects is vital. The plan for this collaboration is called ‘Oslopakke 3’. The main objectives of the ‘Oslopakke 3’ collaboration must be: to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases in Oslo by 50% by 2020; and 95% by 2030 in comparison with 1990 levels; and to reduce all car traffic in Oslo by one third by 2030 compared with 2015. All projects must be reassessed on the basis of these objectives.

The City Government will prioritise:
• A new metro line through the inner city
• Express bicycle routes between Oslo and Akershus and a network of bicycle routes in Oslo
• The replacement of buses with trams on bus routes with the highest numbers of passengers, notably Ring 2

The City Government will further prioritise the Lørensvingen extension, a new signalling system for the metro, initiatives to provide improved traffic flow for public transport, the Fornebu line, the A-hus line, cross connection in Groruddalen, improvement of current infrastructure, and increased funding for public transport operations.

In order to improve traffic flow for public transport, commercial traffic, zero-emission vehicles, carpooling, and persons with mobility impairment the City Government will introduce environmental lanes and public transport lanes on existing roads in the E18 Western Corridor, the E6 in Groruddalen, and Ring 3 as well as on other routes where this is possible without widening the roads.

‘Oslopakke 3’ is currently financed through a combination of road tolls, national government grants, and local contributions from Akershus and Oslo as well as funds from new urban environment

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2 The Oslo Package was introduced in 1990 and concerns the toll ring and the Master transport plan for Oslo and Akershus. The Oslo Package describes the use of revenues from the toll ring which prioritizes infrastructure and public transport investments. The current Oslo Package 3 will be revised in fall of 2016.
agreements. New objectives for, and developments of, the project portfolio trigger a need for changes to the financing model in order to ensure that goals for car traffic reductions do not result in a halt to financing of public transport projects.

In order to increase income from the Oslo toll ring (and reduce car traffic), the City Government aims to introduce environmental and time-differentiated tariffs in Oslo. The number and placement of toll plazas must be re-examined with a view to increase income.

Oslo’s targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and car traffic support national climate objectives and obligations concerning air pollution. The City Government envisages Oslo taking on a large part of this responsibility itself while inviting the national government to join in a national effort. The City Government believes that it should be possible to finance a new metro line and other large railway projects with at least 70% state funding.

**E18 Western Corridor**

On the basis of climate and environment objectives, the City Government will oppose projects that increase the physical road capacity within and into Oslo. This means that the physical road capacity of the E18 Western Corridor cannot be increased. Planning, regulation, and land acquisition aimed at increasing road capacity must be halted. The City Government is willing to discuss initiatives to reduce traffic loads, noise, and pollution from the E18 as it is today, including urban development solutions in Sandvika, Asker, and Filipstad. However, this is conditional on environmentally-friendly, hub-based development and that road capacity is not increased.

**Operation of public transport**

Public transport must be accessible, quick, reliable, and affordable. In order to secure the most efficient operation possible, the City Government will review how public transport is organised in Oslo. The City Government will not increase the price of monthly passes for young persons and students during the term of office.

The City Government will strengthen initiatives to ensure public transport is universally designed. The facilitated transport service (TT-tjenesten) is part of Oslo’s public transport system and is to be managed by Ruter. Oslo shall maintain a generous scheme supporting the transport system to ensure that everyone can participate in the labour market and have meaningful, social leisure time, wherever they live in the city.

**Zero emission transport**

In order to achieve our climate and environment objectives, the City Government wishes to see fossil-fuelled vehicles phased out by 2030 and replaced by zero emission vehicles. The City Government will introduce low and zero emissions zones as soon as the necessary legislation is in place as well as environmental and time-differentiated tolls in consultation with the national government and the county of Akershus.

In addition, the City Government will continue electric vehicle benefits in Oslo during the term of office and increase the number of fast chargers and filling stations for bio-fuels and hydrogen. The City Government will ensure that Ruter’s public transport services are fossil free by 2020.
An important source of air pollution is emissions from vessels docking in Oslo. The City Government will endeavour to ensure that all vessels which dock regularly in Oslo use onshore power supplies and will advocate a common international standard for onshore power supplies for larger vessels.

The City Government will:
- Introduce low emissions zones as soon as the necessary legislation is in place, gradually expanding them to make the centre of the city within Ring 3 fossil free by 2024
- In consultation with the national government and the county of Akershus, introduce environmental and time-differentiated tariffs on the Oslo toll ring as soon as the necessary clarifications concerning ‘Oslopakke 3’ and the legal provisions are in place
- Initiate a coordinated delivery terminal for the efficient delivery of goods to the City of Oslo operations and centrally located businesses
- Collaborate with the taxi industry towards making all taxis in Oslo zero emission during the term of office
- Work towards all Oslo Port Authority operations becoming free of emissions during the term of office

Buildings
Around 20% of all greenhouse gas emissions from Oslo still come from stationary energy use. The City Government will phase out all fossil energy based heating by means of targeted measures and campaigns. New technology provides possibilities for improved comfort and energy reduction. The City Government has high ambitions to create even greater energy efficiency with strict requirements for new buildings, renovated municipal buildings, targeted support schemes, and smart technological solutions. It will become easier for Oslo citizens to choose climate-smart solutions in their daily life and to exploit the potential of green energy.

The City Government will:
- Reduce energy use in existing buildings by 1.5 TWh by 2020 compared to 2010 levels
- Make use of life cycle assessments as the basis for calculating costs for new public construction projects
- Advocate more environmentally friendly buildings and ensure that new public buildings are generally energy positive
- Make the district heating network wholly fossil free and make it easier for existing buildings with fossil-fuel heating to connect to the district heating network
- Increase the capital in Oslo’s Climate and Energy Fund and continue the scheme of granting 40% support to solar panels on private buildings
- Introduce green lease agreements both internally within the City and also as a tenant
- Designate an annual pot of 20 million Norwegian kroner to construct solar energy facilities on public buildings

Carbon capture at Klemetsrud
The largest single source of emissions in the City of Oslo is the waste incineration plant at Klemetsrud. The National Parliament has adopted an ambition to realise at least one full-scale plant for carbon capture by 2020 and, in their 2015 feasibility study, Gassnova identified Klemetsrud as a
potential site. The City Government will endeavour to make Klemetsrud a national industrial pilot. It is our ambition that Klemetsrud should be equipped with carbon capture facilities by 2020. This, however, depends on state implementation. The City Government assumes that an open competition concerning choice of technology and solution will be held.

**Lower consumption and ecological footprint**

Reduced consumption is one of the most important measures recommended for rich countries by the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Reduced material consumption will reduce Oslo’s global ecological footprint and greenhouse gas emissions. The City Government’s vision is for 100% materials recovery in Oslo and we will thus facilitate ever more recycling, re-use, and sharing.

The City Government will:

- Develop a strategy for reducing consumption in Oslo, including initiatives for increased sharing, sorting of waste, consumption-minimising public procurement, more second-hand markets, and less food waste
- Set up more permanent, public barbecues and introduce further schemes for the lending of barbecues and sports equipment in the city’s parks
- Serve only vegetarian food at least one day a week in City canteens
4. Green urban development

A Growing City
Oslo is one of Europe’s fastest growing cities and is set to undergo considerable population growth in the years to come. It is very positive that the city is growing and this provides exciting opportunities. Our ambition is to see a climate-smart, socially inclusive, diverse city that is a good place for everyone to live. The City Government aims for green urban development through close, binding, regional collaboration in land use and transport development.

The City Government will work for comprehensive, long-term urban development in which increased housing construction and business development are facilitated by solutions which benefit both the climate and the environment. The City Government will maintain firm control of the city’s urban development and be stronger and clearer in setting the agenda. The City Government will review the City’s organisation to ensure that planning, construction, operating, and maintenance tasks are viewed in context.

Oslo consists of many smaller communities with their own identity and specific character. It is important that this is preserved. The City Government wishes to secure good local participation, strengthen the Districts’ role in local planning, and extend their responsibility for the management and maintenance of public spaces. The City Government is committed to Oslo being a predictable, reliable partner for business and industry.

More and better housing
Oslo’s greatest urban development task is to ensure that there is enough housing for a growing population while simultaneously reducing social inequality in the city. Today, Oslo lacks 20,000 housing units. The City Government will ensure progress, firstly, by making sure that there is a large volume of zoning processes in order to secure a sufficient number of construction-ready sites. The City Government wants the City to purchase strategic sites across the city in order to kick-start the development of new areas – areas for which there is no current market basis for developing.

To make sure Oslo does not become a city where only the financially well-off can afford to live, the construction of more housing is essential. Sizes and types of housing must vary so that people from different backgrounds are able to live across the whole city. The City Government will work for greater security in the housing market whether you are an owner or a tenant.

This housing development goes hand-in-hand with public transport, public spaces, and public facilities development. Good neighbourhoods depend on the presence of social infrastructure such as schools, kindergartens, nursing homes, public spaces, and playgrounds. At the same time, car traffic reduction objectives will be a central basis for municipal planning.

The City Government wishes to see Oslo develop organically from within growing by means of a close-knit, urban network based on local hubs. Plans for smaller-scale housing should not amount to a large densification programme but should preserve historical and green qualities. Reasonable densification should nevertheless be made possible by means of separate plans for specific areas. The City Government will undertake a review of areas close to stations along current train and metro lines to assess opportunities for quality densification.
The City Government will:
• Ensure a rapid development rate for new housing in Oslo, build up larger planning reserves, and employ a site purchase and sales strategy to help shape city development
• Densify the city around public transport hubs
• Plan new, extensive residential areas in such a way that public transport, schools, kindergartens, sports facilities, urban spaces, and other infrastructure are already in place before people take up residence
• Increase the number of municipal housing units for rent, making sure they are distributed across the city
• Work in close collaboration with the student welfare organisation and the national government so as to increase construction of student accommodation
• Review tenancy and profit-taking practice for rented municipal housing
• Explore the possibilities of building and establishing non-commercial rental accommodation

Architecture, densification, and urban spaces
The City Government will pursue a municipal architecture policy which allows for experimental, challenging architecture projects and urban space development which have clear objectives relating to climate, aesthetics, and quality of life. The City Government will allow the use of public spaces for art and culture projects in both organised and unorganised forms and actively make use of impermanence as a tool for city development. Oslo’s high-rise strategy remains untouched. Given high architectural quality and taking surroundings into account, high-rise building over 12 storeys may be permitted at selected hubs or in areas where a landmark building is deemed necessary.

The City Government will ensure people-friendly urban spaces and socially inclusive architecture so that the city is available to all irrespective of income. Public health is to be given great emphasis in the developing and upgrading parks and other green areas so that they invite physical activity for all age groups.

The City Government will:
• Establish a municipal architecture policy
• Encourage new, sustainable architecture which experiments with types of housing, heights, new technologies, building traditions, and materials
• Develop an ambitious green roof strategy, inspired by Copenhagen
• Make active use of impermanence and art to initiate development
• Strengthen the Cultural Heritage Management Office to ensure that Oslo’s historic qualities are carried further into the future
• Make housing, buildings, and indoor and outdoor facilities more accessible through universal design
• Review Oslo’s outdoor advertising strategy with the objective of reducing exposure to outdoors advertising and labelling airbrushed advertisements

Area development
Oslo’s major land reserves are available through transformation and the City Government will realise the majority of new housing in the designated ‘transformation areas’.
The City Government will invest in Groruddalen as Oslo’s most interesting area for urban development, develop Hovinbyen as a pioneer project for climate-smart urban development, and, in collaboration with the national government, secure the current Veterinary College site as a transformation area for the future. The City Government will extend, strengthen, and renew the district-by-district neighbourhood regeneration scheme focussing on local volunteerism, culture, and participation while promoting social equality and a sustainable city.

The City Government believes that good regeneration initiatives in vulnerable areas constitute an important tool in promoting social inclusion. The primary arenas for good social inclusion are kindergartens, schools, and housing environments.

The City Government will:
- In collaboration with the national government, prolong and strengthen regeneration initiatives in Groruddalen and Oslo South for a further 10 years
- In collaboration with the national government, expand the scheme for free-of-charge core time in kindergartens to all 4 and 5-year-olds in districts with regeneration initiatives and, in the longer term, extend the scheme to additionally cover 3-year-olds
- Extend the Tøyen regeneration scheme to Vaterland, Grønland, and Hausmannskvartalet
- Work together with local parties and owners to renew suburban centres

Nature protection and biological diversity
Oslo’s location between the forest and the fjord makes it a unique capital city with plentiful access to outdoor pursuits and exciting, close-up natural experiences for the city’s entire population.

A greener city
The City Government wants everyone to have access to quality green spaces and recreational areas in their own neighbourhoods. Oslo’s growth will be used to enhance these qualities. The City Government will provide more stringent protection for the city’s green spaces and ensure further spaces by means of clear, structured green planning. A separate standard is to be developed for the safeguarding of green and blue qualities. Biological diversity will carry great weight when the City Government considers construction projects.

Oslo will provide a coherent botanical perspective for choice of plants and design for all large urban development projects. Oslo also has great potential for urban agriculture. Working together with experts in the field, the City Government will establish a centre for urban ecological innovation, invest in urban cultivation and grow-boxes in collaboration with housing associations and housing cooperatives, and preserve school gardens, allotments, and smallholdings.

The City Government will implement the Fjordbyen (‘Fjord City’) plan and give high priority to green areas and public access to the fjord. These developments will be tied in with the inner city in all outstanding plans.

The City Government will:
- Establish a centre for urban ecological innovation
- Invest in urban cultivation and grow-boxes across the city
- Encourage the return of hayfield-influenced biodiversity in Oslo by using central reservations, ‘waste areas’, and road shoulders as ‘flower meadows’
• Establish new and current ecological housing projects, in terms of new construction methods, technologies, and housing forms
• Protect Ravnkollen from development
• Register outdoor areas close to housing (‘green lungs’) and protect areas that are important for unorganised outdoor activities
• Put forward an updated local plan for sports and recreational areas at Ekeberg preserving open grassland public use, sports, and future generations
• Preserve Oslo’s most important cultural landscapes, both in the city and outlying areas

Oslomarka forests
The City Government will pursue a pro-active policy for long-term, far-sighted management of the Oslomarka forests. In close partnership with outdoor activities organisations as well as environmental organisations and sports clubs, Oslo will restore valuable natural resources while protecting and strengthening the assets Oslomarka offers in terms of natural experiences, outdoor activities, and sports. The Oslomarka forest boundary will remain untouched.

The City Government will:
• Develop a strategy to re-establish larger contiguous wilderness areas and intact ecosystems in the Oslomarka forests
• Remove the activity zones from City plans
• Facilitate the maintenance and development of the Oslomarka forests’ unique network of trails, paths, and bicycle routes
• In partnership with the national government and neighbouring municipalities, continue work to establish a national park in Østmarka (the Eastern Forest)
• Work to bring better protection to a larger area of Lillomarka and protect remaining ancient forest in Oslo’s parts of the forests
• Not allow for larger forest roads and prevent the construction of new commercial roads

The fjord
The Oslo Fjord is a fantastic resource for the entire population and must be clean, accessible, and organised for active use without compromising biodiversity. The City Government will protect public rights of access and ensure that islands, beaches, and shorelines are available to all.

The City Government will:
• Complete the coastal path along the fjord
• Endeavour to establish more harbour spaces and laying-up areas for small vessels, kayaks, and canoes and develop a separate strategy for small boats/vessels
• Work to make the fjord cleaner and free of toxins
• Better equip Oslo beaches with more public toilets and changing facilities
• Encourage bathing options by developing areas alongside the waterfront, such as at Filipstad, as well as by rivers and lakes

Animal protection
Oslo wishes to be a pioneering city for animal welfare. We plan to raise awareness of animals’ intrinsic value among the population. The City Government will contribute to the spreading of knowledge, interest, and consideration for animals in their natural environment.
The City Government will:

• In partnership with the Animal Protection Agency and other bodies, help establish a new rescue centre for small animals in Oslo
• Work to establish an animal welfare police unit in Oslo and increase healthcare professionals’ competence concerning animal abuse
• Encourage cat and dog owners to mark their animals with ID information
• Establish more dog-walking parks
5. Business and work

A business-friendly city
As the capital, Oslo must be an engine for economic growth and development of technology. It must also be a good place to set up and run a business. The City Government will embrace business and industry and be an active advocate for Oslo businesses to lead the way in the ‘green transformation’.

Our city hosts some of the most dynamic and innovative communities in Norway engaged in developing services and products from which we can make a living in the future. The City Government will ensure good start-up services and help to develop professional fora, local funds for entrepreneurs, start-up labs, and networks. The City, universities, and colleges must all work together to prepare the ground for new businesses. The City Government will also facilitate creative industries and brand Oslo as a destination for international congresses and events.

Business and industry are dependent on efficient City administration. Small and medium-sized businesses, in particular, require rapid case management. The City of Oslo must be an active partner and involve businesses in any changes to regulations and systems that affect them. In addition, we must also maintain a close dialogue with businesses concerning opportunities for simplification and efficiency improvements.

The private service sector is strong and growing. It employs the greatest numbers of workers in Oslo. This is a positive economic structure upon which to lay the groundwork for future growth. The City of Oslo must stimulate the establishment of more serious companies in the service sector.

The City Government will:
• Set up a business development fund to promote the establishment of business projects through partnership between technical institutions, companies, and entrepreneurs in Oslo
• Invest in young entrepreneurship in schools, with the goal of spreading the programme to all schools in Oslo
• Work for a greater percentage of Innovation Norway’s funds to go to companies in Oslo
• Serve as a good host city for the city’s knowledge communities and will encourage more commercialisation of research
• Continue work to brand Oslo as a tourist destination through Visit Oslo and by highlighting the opportunities of being a tourist in one’s own city
• Establish better business policy cooperation within the Oslo region and extend the Oslo Business Region to include more local authorities and counties
• Have Oslo develop global knowledge hubs in business sectors where we currently lead
• Establish a city centre partnership between property owners, the City, and the retail and service industry sectors in order to raise Oslo city centre’s profile, coordinate activities, and secure better goods delivery for retailers
• Ensure that business’ needs for goods deliveries is safeguarded in pedestrianised city centre areas

Oslo as knowledge capital
Oslo is a university and research city housing over 70,000 students. The City Government seeks close cooperation with university colleges and the University of Oslo to develop the city into a national and
international capital for knowledge and students. The ground must be properly prepared so that researchers and foreign students are attracted to Oslo and then settle in the city.

The last few years have seen the emergence of new, world-class entrepreneurial clusters in Oslo within such areas as health technology (Med-tech), educational technology (Ed-tech), and environmental technology (Clean-tech). The City Government will both support and contribute to more creative, innovative work communities.

The City Government will:
• Maintain and develop collaboration with the University in the Tøyen regeneration project concerning Tøyen school, as well as the science centre, climate centre, and greenhouse
• Prepare, along the lines of the Trondheim model, a campus strategy for Oslo in collaboration with the educational institutions, students, and the Oslo student welfare organisation
• Strengthen collaboration with knowledge communities and contribute to innovative green urban development
• Support Oslo and Akershus University College’s ambition to become a professions-oriented university
• Strengthen public transport provisions and bicycle routes between the educational institutions, student housing areas, and the city centre
• Improve points of contact between basic education and university or college

Welfare technology
The use of welfare technology cannot replace human contact. It may, however, provide people with the opportunity to manage living at home longer and to feel safe doing so. Welfare technology can provide follow-up and treatment for chronic illnesses and help with rehabilitation as well as necessary healthcare when travelling.

The City Government will:
• Establish a technology fund for private homes
• Establish a start-up fund for entrepreneurial companies engaged in care technology
• Conduct trials of welfare technology in sheltered housing with a view to becoming leaders in welfare technology

Responsible business and working life
Oslo prioritizes work because it brings individual freedom and financial security and allows the individual to realise his or her potential. To this end, the City of Oslo shall ensure a decent working life making sure that Health, Safety, and Environmental (HSE) considerations are prioritized. We shall also lead the fight against work-related crime and prevent illegal activities that distort competition.

As a significant developer and purchaser, the City of Oslo can both influence and make demands of the companies that deliver products and services to the City. The City Government will encourage responsible construction companies and will introduce the ‘Skien model’ in Oslo. A maximum of two contractor levels will be permitted in City construction projects where the primary contractor will be the first level. Similarly, the City will require a significant amount of work to be undertaken by the contractor’s own employees. The hire of any further manpower is to be agreed with the developer ensuring proper wage and working conditions.
Oslo’s nightlife industry employs many people and is an important contributor to vibrant city life. It is essential that the industry performs responsibly and that the damages often associated with alcohol, both to individuals and to society at large, are avoided. Equally essential is increased trust between the industry and the City of Oslo as the licensing authority and supervisory body. The City Government will establish fora for partnership between the nightlife and restaurant industries, the licensing authorities, the Agency for Food and Alcohol Licensing and Inspections, and the police.

The taxi industry in Oslo is to be a modern, environmentally-friendly supplier of a safe, reasonably-priced, and efficient service. The industry shall maintain good working conditions for drivers and reasonable prices for customers. The taxi industry is to work within a sound, predictable framework and the City Government will assess the number of taxi licenses in order to maintain economic sustainability in the industry. The City Government would like to see tougher controls on illegal practices within the taxi industry.

The City Government will:
• Not extend the scheme allowing shops to open on Sundays
• Take the initiative for a cross-departmental project to combat work-related crime which will involve national and City control bodies in joint operations and the coordination of inspections
• Have strict requirements as to internal control, common language, and HSE in City of Oslo construction projects
• Introduce regulations concerning exclusion or dismissal from future projects in the event of serious breaches of contract or of the provisions of the Working Environment Act
• Ensure that the requirement pertaining to apprentices also applies to sub-contractors
• Assess how the City may be able to introduce joint liability
• Impose fines for smaller breaches of the licensing laws as a warning prior to licence withdrawal
• Introduce quarantine for licenced premises in the event of irregularities relating to bankruptcy fraud, tax fraud, money laundering, discrimination, and other criminal acts
• Breaches of the regulations can to lead to inspections by other supervisory bodies such as the tax collector’s office, for example
• Maintain the current licensing provisions which mandate a 3 a.m. latest closing time and make use of more differentiated opening times

Green innovative procurement
Oslo wishes to lead in using public procurement as a strategic tool in the ‘green transformation’. This is to be firmly rooted at management level in all departments. The City of Oslo’s purchasing power is to be used to encourage innovation and to create a market for more environmentally-friendly products and services. A multitude of methods, innovation and creativity will help to further develop services within the City. We welcome the contribution of social entrepreneurs who may bring new experiences and perspectives that can supplement or renew public services.

The City Government will:
• Impose stricter requirements relating to the environment, professional training, and social responsibility in the purchase of goods and services
• Impose stricter emissions limits in relation to goods delivery, construction machinery, and equipment aiming at zero emissions as technological development progresses
• Raise competence of environmentally-friendly procurement among City procurement officers
• Facilitate smaller local businesses’ delivery of services
• Increase the percentage of innovative procurement
• Increase the percentage of organic food purchased by City units to 50%
6. Knowledge and education

New approach in Oslo’s schools
The City Government wishes to see greater learning in Oslo’s schools. This means more teachers, greater trust in teachers as professional practitioners, more time for learning in depth, and less learning by rote. The City Government will develop Oslo’s schools based on research and knowledge.

Pupils in Oslo’s schools will develop both academic and practical skills. The schools must be places that stimulate children’s curiosity and desire to learn, provide the basis for critical and creative thinking, and give young people the ability to take responsibility for their own lives. Oslo’s schools should have high ambitions and expectations for each individual pupil’s academic and social development. Schools must also contribute to building a democratic, sustainable society. Oslo’s schools shall discourage class divides and segregation by offering equal educational provision to all.

Education must prepare pupils for all kinds of jobs including those that do not yet exist. We wish to build on expertise and upon the expectation that education will produce creative, independent individuals. We will make solid investments in vocational training and the sciences so that Norway can succeed in creating green business and industry and good welfare services. Each pupil is to receive personalised follow-up so as to master the subject matter. Talented pupils are to be given challenges appropriate to their level. Alongside these academic measures, the City Government will strengthen student democracy.

One of the greatest challenges for Oslo is to ensure that there are sufficient school places for all children of school age. Our goals are to remain in advance of population growth; to avoid rapid changes to school catchment areas; and to avoid splitting siblings between different schools.

Sound language skills are a key to success in society. The City Government will strengthen work with Norwegian language tuition in kindergartens, schools, qualification programmes, the local community and working life. Competent language training and language stimulation is to be raised so that the quality of work may be improved. Norwegian is to be the common language used in schoolyards.

The City Government will:
• Increase remuneration given to schools for the number of pupils from 80% to 100%
• Improve the resource allocation model for primary and lower secondary schools in order to meet real school needs
• Review foreign pupil placement in schools to ensure a spread across the city
• Increase schools’ competence in both socio-educational and vocational counselling services
• Prevent bullying by further educating staff at schools, kindergartens, and activity schools and by building up research-based competence relating to bullying prevention in the City administration
• Require that all schools have access to school libraries
• Require that all primary and lower secondary schools have the opportunity to use school gardens
• Allow approved absence for political work at lower secondary school level
• Encourage schools to offer self-defence classes to girls

More teachers and investment at an early stage
Oslo schools’ greatest advantage is the large number of highly qualified teachers. The City
Government wishes to further develop their competence. We are particularly committed to recruiting and retaining new teachers and will provide close supervision and good working conditions to encourage more teachers to remain in the profession. With enhanced teaching, we will be able to improve pupils’ levels of learning in areas where there are obvious challenges such as in Norwegian and the sciences.

The City Government will invest in the early stages of education. The youngest schoolchildren are to be given more time and closer supervision by teachers. During our term of office, we wish to employ at least 200 new teachers over and above the number necessary to cover the growing number of pupils. We wish to channel these teachers towards children in primary schools. The City Government will also build up special-needs competence in schools so as to identify and help challenged children as quickly as possible. We wish to strengthen professional cooperation across our schools and maintain the option of sending in additional professional resources in the event of schools’ specific needs.

The City Government will:
• Invest in building a strong foundation by strengthening grades 1 to 4 with at least 200 new teachers
• Strengthen special needs education

Knowledge and trust
One of the City Government’s most important tasks to ensure that teachers have competence, time, and trust to spend on each individual pupil. We will free up time so that teachers can concentrate on supervising pupils’ learning. To reach this goal, we will reduce administrative requirements in Oslo schools. Schools shall enjoy greater freedom to evaluate which methods and assessments are most suitable for their educational work. We will launch a research-based evaluation of the assessment and documentation requirements in Oslo schools.

The City Government will:
• Provide in-service training and further educational opportunities to teachers
• Provide parents and guardians with proper feedback concerning pupils’ learning and well-being; review the way the written six-month assessment at primary school works
• Make ‘Oslo tests’ voluntary for schools, with the exception of the natural science test
• Withdraw Oslo’s participation in the PISA-for-cities tests
• Experiment with alternative forms of assessment and other ways of organising homework
• Not introduce grading to primary schools
• Evaluate principals’ contracts
• Not introduce performance-based wages for teachers

After school activity programme
The After School Activity Programme (AKS) is an important provision for children in grades 1 to 4. By means of games and activities conducive to learning, AKS helps strengthen children’s competence and knowledge. Many Oslo children do not currently attend AKS and there are considerable differences in attendance from district to district and from school to school. The City Government will increase both participation in, and quality of, AKS.

The City Government will:
• Gradually introduce free half-day places at AKS for grades 1 to 4 in Alna, Grorud, Bjerke, Sagene,
Gamle Oslo, Grünerløkka, Stovner and Søndre Nordstrand districts, as well as at selected schools in Østensjø and St. Hanshaugen districts by 2018

- Consider further escalation during the term of office
- Undertake a quality review of AKS with a view, among other objectives, to even out financial frameworks
- In partnership with non-profit organisations such as 'Lær Kidsa Koding’, offer all 4th grade pupils an introduction to simple computer programming (such provision shall be made through AKS)

**Upper secondary school**

Too many students drop out from upper secondary school, particularly from vocational programmes. The City Government will pursue more learning and better completion rates at upper secondary level. Therefore, we will invest in a solid educational background from primary and lower secondary school and encourage the use of varied tuition methods to stimulate students’ curiosity and desire to learn. The earliest years of education are the most important factor effecting a student’s likelihood of completing his or her educational programme.

Vocational programmes must be made more attractive and better completion rates must be achieved. Oslo needs skilled workers in the future and more students must be given the opportunity to complete certificates of apprenticeship. All students choosing vocational programmes shall have apprenticeship options or be able to complete their education at school.

The City Government will:
- Improve the transition between mandatory schooling and upper secondary education
- Work to provide more students with the background and motivation to take subjects at a higher level
- Put forward a comprehensive plan to ensure that more students complete upper secondary education, particularly from vocational programmes
- Improve follow-up of students in danger of dropping out by means of faster interaction between schools, the Follow-up Service, and the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration (NAV)
- Assess the financing model for upper secondary schools with the purpose of giving schools greater opportunities to follow up students who drop out
- Facilitate adult learning opportunities to complete upper secondary education in order to obtain formal qualifications for work
- Require City of Oslo operating units to take on more apprentices
- Work to make sure that more City of Oslo construction projects become so-called ‘Beacon projects’
- Offer alternative courses through upper secondary education such as the 0+4 model, the ‘Y-route’, and practical training certifications to contribute to higher completion rates

**Oslo’s kindergartens**

The first years of a child’s life set important foundations for learning and development throughout life. The City Government wishes to offer all children a place in kindergarten with an experience informed by learning, play, and care. Kindergartens shall have highly competent staff who have time for each individual child. Our kindergarten policy aims to develop the Nordic kindergarten model.

Kindergarten should be a place where the child learns and interacts through play and activities with other children. It is a City Government goal that kindergartens lay the groundwork for equality and inclusion. We wish to offer personalised provision for each child based on the individual child’s
capabilities. 6000 children of kindergarten age do not attend kindergarten in Oslo despite kindergarten being one of the most important measures for social inclusion at a young age. Therefore, the City Government will encourage more children to attend kindergarten. Oslo’s kindergartens shall work systematically to improve language skills and use language mapping tools to identify and help children at risk. Norwegian is to be the common language of use in kindergartens.

Kindergartens’ most important resource is the quality and quantity of their staff. Good, competent kindergarten teachers and staff are essential for the development of kindergartens into good educational and social arenas for each individual child. The precondition for providing adequate care in the kindergarten’s educational environment is sufficient staff.

To ensure high quality and proper competences among staff, the City Government will ensure that kindergartens are an open arena for research and development. We will commit considerable resources to developing the professional skills of kindergarten staff and employing adequate numbers. The City Government emphasises the partnerships between kindergartens, parents, and guardians. Close contact between kindergartens and schools is to be organised to ease the transition between the two. The City Government will make strict demands for quality of both City and private kindergartens.

The City of Oslo shall ensure full kindergarten coverage through the City building and running kindergartens to a greater extent. Our goal is that, following application, all one-year-olds will be offered a place within two months.

Oslo shall not privatise or expose City kindergartens to competitive tendering.

The City Government will:

• Introduce two kindergarten intakes per year with a guaranteed place
• Increase kindergarten capacity by at least 3000 new places
• Have the City take over the primary responsibility for building new kindergartens and work in close collaboration with non-profit organisations and private bodies to establish new places
• Systematise and strengthen in-service training and further education of kindergarten staff by, among other measures, improving grant schemes for all the occupational groups concerned
• Overturn the decision that all kindergartens shall be built as so-called ‘basebarnehager’
• Put districts in the position to provide stand-in staff at kindergartens when necessary
• Provide Norwegian tuition to all staff with inadequate Norwegian skills
• Ensure that private kindergartens follow the municipal minimum level of staffing agreement; maintain wage levels and conditions corresponding to those in City kindergartens; and fulfil minimum quality requirements
• Improve opportunities for early intervention by special needs educational centres
• Provide kindergartens with freedom of choice between relevant assessment tools
• Evaluate integration of children who receive core time free of charge as an intake criterion for kindergartens
• Undertake pilot projects with kindergartens that are open in the evening, at weekends, and at night to cover the needs of parents and guardians who work outside normal working hours

3 Organization model for kindergartens with flexible groupings as opposed to a more traditional model with fixed groups.
7. Health and social care provision

Health in all policies
Working for good public health is fundamental to the City Government. Therefore, there should be a health perspective to all policies. Both municipal services and urban development should encourage free and active lives for all its citizens.

The City Government will emphasise prevention and prioritise easily accessible services. Efforts made by volunteer organisations are crucial to making health for all a priority. There are great social and health related differences in Oslo and it is one of the City Government’s key objectives to level out these differences. Many people still feel excluded. A sense of exclusion and lack of community may lead to loneliness, failed integration, and diminished physical and mental health. It is important that warning signals are detected as soon as possible. Carers’ health is to be a guiding element in the city’s health and social care policy. The City Government will initiate constructive, predictable, long-term collaboration with volunteers and non-profit organisations in the health and social sector.

Public health
The City Government will help lay the foundations for a healthier city by making it easier for citizens to choose healthier options and to protect their own health by, for example, bicycling to work and being physically active in their leisure time. There is an increased risk of lifestyle diseases in the years to come but prevention in this area is also possible by means of investment in various public health initiatives. Community Health Centres are an important contributor to good public health.

The City Government will:
- In collaboration with volunteer organisations, prepare walking trails across the city along the lines of the Stavanger model
- Reintroduce fruit and vegetables in schools at lower secondary level
- In the event of upgrading or establishing new parks and meeting places, place or update exercise apparatuses and other activity inducing elements
- Carry out a pilot school meals project at selected schools as a key element in preventive health work

Health services
Access to health services is a basic right. Health services shall prevent and treat illness and provide nursing, care, and rehabilitation following illness or injury. The national government and the City share the responsibility for providing good health services to the city’s residents.

The City of Oslo has health responsibilities for everyone in the city. The City Government will work to ensure good medical services and equally good health provisions wherever you live in the city irrespective of your own, or your family's, financial situation. Some groups require particular help or special services to ensure equality of service. It is essential that the City takes care of fundamental health provision for refugees and ensures that the national government fulfils its obligations towards paperless persons. These groups include many children who have particular rights to protection and assistance. We also wish to offer health provisions which are suitably adapted for people with immigrant backgrounds.
The City Government will work to ensure the health sector meets LHBT+ persons with knowledge, respect, and care at all phases of their lives.

The City Government will:
• Start construction of a new city A&E unit
• Call upon Oslo University Hospital to open more local hospital functions at Aker Hospital as soon as possible for the population of Groruddalen while the collaborative arena at Aker is to be maintained and developed further
• Strengthen the development of patient-centred, ambulatory services in collaboration with the City health service and hospitals

Mental health
Many people will experience mental illness in the course of their lives. Mental problems are one of the most common reasons given for sick leave and an important source of drop-out from upper secondary school.

Children and adolescents suffer mental problems to a larger extent than before. Children with mental ailments must not be left standing in health queues. Schools’ approach to children with mental problems must improve; knowledge concerning children and mental health must be expanded; and the various bodies that collaborate in the field of children’s mental health must be well co-ordinated.

Many mental disorders can be prevented while early intervention may ensure others are returned to health faster. General Practitioners must maintain high mental health competence. For many people, loneliness is the greatest threat to good mental health. The LHBT population is more prone to loneliness than the majority population. Students are also at risk. Proper information and safe meeting places can reduce fear of isolation and contribute to improved life quality.

The City Government will:
• Extend low threshold services to persons with less severe mental problems in the shape of «Fast Mental Health Assistance» and support activity centres such as Fontenehus (Clubhouse International)
• Strengthen the development of patient-oriented, ambulatory services in collaboration with the City health service and hospitals
• Increase competence concerning crisis and trauma among City employees
• Improve follow-up for carers and children of persons suffering from mental illness

Child health clinics and the school health service
Child health clinics provide local, readily accessible health assistance and are an important resource for children and families. By being readily accessible and supplying safe information and answers to health questions at an early stage, Child health clinics ensure better conditions for growing up and preventing what otherwise could become problems later in life. The City Government believes it is important to undertake extensive outreach work and strengthen maternity care by paying home visits to all new parents.

All children and adolescents should have easy access to qualified health personnel. School health services will be well placed to prevent bullying, drop-out, and lifestyle diseases. Mental illness and
the use of new synthetic drugs are both on the increase in this age group. It is, therefore, essential that these challenges are met by a more open, qualifies school health service.

The City Government will:
- Strengthen collaboration between Child health clinics and other relevant services
- Ensure immediate follow-up when children fail to attend health centre check-ups
- Expand school health services so that they fulfil nationally recommended staffing levels and are open at all schools every day
- Strengthen mental health provision in the school health service
- Pursue low threshold health provision for young people such as Youth health centres and ‘Sex and society’ clinics

**Drug treatment**
Oslo’s policy on substance dependency should be knowledge-based and free of prejudice. The main objectives are to improve health and lives of addicts; to offer proper healthcare and easy access to social and medical services; to prevent overdoses; and reduce harm. Substance dependency must primarily be treated as a health issue, not as a crime.

Services shall be offered without making abstinence a requirement while abstinence must remain an objective. Addicts should not experience lengthy administrative processes or long waiting times before treatment. They should not find themselves shuttled back and forth between various public bodies.

We will collaborate with schools and parents as partners to prevent drug use. Educational programmes on substance use in Oslo’s schools must be strengthened and cover more than just alcohol. Preventive work at schools must also involve parents. Children of addicts must have a safe upbringing and family environments must be given greater attention.

The City Government will:
- Put forward a revised substance dependence care plan in which prevention, harm reduction, aftercare, and specialised services are key elements (these will have separate initiatives aimed specifically at young addicts)
- Offer assessment and early intervention through the primary health service in order to prevent alcohol-related damage and problems
- Apply to become a pilot municipality for heroin assisted treatment
- Set up a separate overdose team in Oslo and consider a specialised health centre for addicts
- Extend the “injection room scheme” and apply to the national government to undertake a pilot scheme for a heroin smoking room
- Allow a broader spectrum of substitute drugs within medication assisted rehabilitation
- Strengthen aftercare for addicts
- Redirect efforts from temporary housing provision to safe, permanent accommodation with follow-up programmes

**Child protection**
Child protection shall ensure that children and adolescents living under harmful conditions get necessary assistance and care. Children and adolescents shall grow up in safe conditions and the public authorities must intervene when needed to secure the child’s best interest. Child protection in
Oslo is becoming an ever more complex issue and many cases are extremely demanding and difficult. This places great demands on the proper use of resources and relevant competence development within the child protection service. Oslo shall have a Child Protection Service (CPS) that has time for children and families; that listens to children’s experiences; and that is visible to children. In recent years, the City of Oslo has required considerable help from private service providers. During its term of office, the City Government will strengthen municipal services and develop City competence in the field.

The City Government will:

• Lower the threshold for sending notifications of concern to the CPS by developing initiatives that strengthen collaboration between the CPS and other bodies which have report obligations to the CPS
• Strengthen the CPS’s cultural competence and multicultural understanding by means of increased dialogue with immigrant communities
• Strengthen children’s knowledge of the CPS through presence in schools, kindergartens, and youth clubs
• Review the status of assistance measures the CPS has at its disposal
• Ensure that the CPS cares for the child’s right to be heard and informed at all stages of proceedings

Active lives and safe care services
In the years to come, the number of elderly people will increase and they will live longer. We want Oslo to be a city in which its residents have the opportunity to remain active as they become older regardless of whether they periodically need extra support nursing and care. We want elderly people to be able to choose to live at home as long as they wish to do so and to be able to choose between different types of housing according to need and desire. Many more sheltered accommodation units must be built; private homes must be adapted to meet a new phase of life; and new technology must be taken into use.

Oslo’s home care services require change. Focus has shifted from professional assessments and collaboration between staff and those receiving services to a system of bureaucracy and stopwatches resulting in less comprehensive care. These bureaucratic methods will be replaced by a confidence reform with needs-tested care plans where the patient and the provider work out the care package together. Services for those suffering from dementia shall be improved with an outreach dementia team in all districts and broader, more varied daytime activities.

Everyone should receive a place in a nursing home when required. Homes are to have well-qualified staff, increased doctor’s attendance, and more geriatric nurses. Nursing shall satisfy the individual’s healthcare needs. There shall be full disclosure of information at nursing homes – including staffing levels, operational irregularities, and wage conditions. The same reporting requirements shall apply to both private and public service providers.

Welfare technology will provide many functions including security in daily life for both elderly people and younger persons with impaired functions. New solutions can provide elderly persons, whether healthy or suffering from dementia, with the safety and freedom to move around outside the home. They can also provide practical help and new opportunities to communicate with family, the health service, and society at large.
The City Government will:
• Consider setting up a supply pool for health and care services
• Maintain freedom of choice for users in home-based services and establish the same practice in relation to housing and care provision for disabled persons and others granted entitlement to such services
• Complete trials in selected districts testing alternatives to the provider-performer model
• Establish a so-called ‘time account’, inspired by experience in Copenhagen, under which individuals receive one additional half-hour per week to be used as desired
• Increase the number of staff in the home care service by 500 full-time positions so that more people can receive help and more time will be available for care services
• Organise a pilot project involving a city-wide team of specialists within home nursing
• Consider alternative organisation of home help services and care for the elderly
• Ensure all employees engaged in care for the elderly shall receive training in the use of new technology

The way out of poverty
The City Government will prioritise supporting people whose economic situation means that they are unable to provide for their own, or their family’s, livelihood by means of initiatives such as training and certification. Work is our most important means of combatting poverty, securing equality, succeeding with social inclusion, and ensuring sufficient income to finance welfare services and pensions. We also know that work is important for public health and that there is a clear link between participation in working life and successful integration.

The City Government aims to enable a solid foothold in the labour market for as many people as possible. Some groups struggle more with participation in working life than others. The City Government will make particular efforts on their behalf. For some people, income security in the form of economic assistance is important. Benefits must be kept at a prudent level to avoid making such problems worse.

All children should have a good upbringing. Oslo’s percentage of poor children is double the average for the rest of the country. Children of parents who are in and out of work and have low income mobility over the course of time may experience considerable welfare problems. The City Government will contribute to work on poverty prevention; reduction of poverty; and social exclusion among children, adolescents, and young families.

Children living in poor families do not receive the same opportunities for participation and safety as other children. The City of Oslo shall contribute to children feeling safe and free. We will help as many children as possible avoid growing up in poverty. In Oslo, children shall be met with dignity and respect. We will also respect their right to be listened.

The City Government will:
• Better facilitate participation in organised activities during school holidays
• Introduce a support scheme to pay for more leisure-time activities for all children in areas with many children from low-income families, as well as introduce an activity support scheme specifically for children from poor families
• Strengthen consideration of children and family work in that part of NAV for which the City has responsibility
• Expand qualification opportunities so that immigrant women can enter the labour market
• Offer rehabilitation, qualification, work experience, and facilitation to recipients of social assistance; because participation in work or qualification is a right
• Develop suitable offers for those subject to activity obligations (obligation for people on sickness benefits)
• Ensure continued operation of important programmes such as the Salvation Army’s ‘Jobben’ and Church City Mission’s ‘Lønn som fortjent’ and strengthen district initiatives to get young people into work
• Strengthen the Introduction programme (for recently arrived refugees) and ensure closer follow-up and work orientation for each individual participant
• Increase the number of places to sleep and sanitary options for homeless people
• Not ban begging
• Increase the quality of the «Exit»-programme for prostitutes, including offers relating to detoxification, housing, Norwegian tuition, study programmes, and help to find other work
8. Culture

Culture for all
As the nation’s capital and the host city to many of Norway’s artists, Oslo holds a particular responsibility for Norwegian art and culture. Oslo should use the many cultural resources at its disposal to strengthen its position as an international city of culture. A well-established cultural life provides people with pleasure and well-being. In Oslo, as many people as possible should be able to practice and experience art and culture irrespective of their financial situation, where they live, or their age. Art and culture in public spaces and where people live shall receive a boost as will other cultural infrastructure in the City.

Children and young people need arenas in which they can express themselves creatively and artistically. The City Government wishes to see increased investment in culture for children and young people.

Art has a value in itself but also creates jobs. The City Government will facilitate more culture-based business development. We will strengthen the cultural axis along Akerselva River in partnership with private bodies, public institutions, and the independent art scene.

A robust, accessible cultural sector means important fora for cultural exchange and creativity are given extra strength. Oslo shall be a generous, socially inclusive city. Art and culture shall provoke, challenge, and engage. Freedom of expression must be given wide rein and we must tolerate statements that may be perceived as insulting and provocative. The City of Oslo will work actively to combat internet hate and to support free, independent voices.

Culture is important to us at all stages of our lives and for our health. A healthy, socially inclusive cultural life does not come easily. Culture must be invested in, cultivated, and prioritised.

Cultural infrastructure
For Oslo to provide the best framework for its professional artists, increased investment in suitable workshops, ateliers, and rehearsal rooms is necessary. Oslo will make particular efforts to encourage the film industry and to safeguard its important cultural and business roles.

The City Government will:
• Ensure that public premises and spaces across the city are available for cultural activity, rehearsals, festivals, and concerts and facilitate affordable premises for professional artists
• Support the voluntary music and culture sector in the City Districts
• Support local cultural events and prioritise initiatives that include young leadership development
• Increase support to bodies providing professional art in the field of independent performing arts
• Maintain an active arts deployment policy for the city’s parks and public spaces
• Set up a separate festival office to assist and facilitate the city’s various festivals
• Support the continuation of already established festivals
• Support the completion of the new Munch museum
• Strengthen and develop Oslo Nye Teater as the city’s own theatre
• Support the Mela festival and other organisations in the field of culture and diversity
• Ensure that practitioners in the arts are given better accessibility to municipal locations
• Establish a regional film fund and a regional film centre
• In collaboration with the film community, support the establishment of a dedicated cinema for performing arts and documentary film

**Culture for children and young people**
Children and young people need arenas for creative expression and experience in their local communities. The City Government will increase investment in diverse cultural provisions for children and young people. We will expand the culture school scheme in order to shorten waiting lists.

The City Government will:
• Strengthen the Oslo school for music and culture (OMK) by ensuring support and availability at more locations around the city
• Enter into binding agreements with all districts to provide cultural school activities, including the establishment of rehearsal rooms when building multi-purpose premises or schools
• Facilitate recreational clubs in all city districts
• Continue support to local festivals for children and young people
• Support free festivals and alcohol-free festivals and events
• Give kindergartens and schools free entry to museums during school hours
• Improve facilities for children’s theatre
• Re-introduce culture classes at primary schools
• Allow kindergartens, activity schools, and school classes to travel free of charge on public transport during the day outside peak times

**Libraries**
Libraries are a source of knowledge, culture and literature for all irrespective of social, economic, and geographical dividing lines. Libraries perform an important function as gathering places, quiet places of reflection, and local arenas for debate and culture. The City Government will safeguard the library service and strengthen public libraries.

The City Government will:
• Provide at least one library branch in all city districts
• Provide the city’s libraries with increased cultural support and develop them as fora for literature, debate, and cultural experiences
• Introduce more self-service libraries open on Sundays
• Offer citizens tuition in the use of digital services and social media at libraries
9. The voluntary sector and sports

A boost for the voluntary sector
The voluntary sector in Oslo provides a diverse and valuable contribution to our city. It renders important assistance to Oslo both in collaboration with the City and on its own. Volunteerism also has tremendous value in and of itself in terms of health and social interaction for each and every participant.

The City Government believes it is important to strengthen and facilitate voluntary activities. We will pursue close collaboration with the voluntary community in the city. We will examine how we can best facilitate the voluntary sector by various means including grant schemes and non-bureaucratic processes as well as making municipal land and premises more readily available.

There are many voluntary organisations and religious communities which make invaluable contributions to creating a socially inclusive society. The City Government will join forces with such groups and help them by providing a predictable framework for the future. The City Government will lay down clear requirements to promote equality, openness, and community arenas across social, religious, and ethnic lines.

Through their diversity, cities provide people with opportunities for community participation and self-realisation. At the same time, it is in cities that many people feel excluded. Loneliness and lack of participation, even in a diverse city like Oslo, will be a large challenge in the future. Facilitating participation and social meeting points for all will be one of the City Government’s prioritised areas. We will thus take the initiative to act jointly with Oslo’s voluntary organisations to ensure broad citizen participation.

Oslo acknowledges that the voluntary sector provides society with free manpower but it is not free to organise. We are conscious that volunteer centres possess great competence and connect those who need help and those wishing to help.

The City Government will:
• Take the initiative to develop a separate volunteer manifesto for Oslo in partnership with Frivillighet Norge (The association of volunteer organisations in Norway)
• Invite volunteer organisations to participate in joint efforts to establish an ‘Oslo model’ for the battle against loneliness and social exclusion
• Make municipal land and premises available for activities run by the voluntary sector
• Facilitate increased voluntary action under the auspices of libraries as arenas for cultural interaction
• Strengthen ‘UngInfo’ with the goal of increasing volunteerism and participation among young people
• Establish an LHBT+ advisory body for Oslo in partnership with the LHBT+ civil society in Oslo, on the lines of the Gothenburg model

Sports in the city
Sports and other physical activities in Oslo make an important contribution to public health. Oslo is one of Europe’s fastest growing cities and new buildings and infrastructure are constantly being built. The kind of growth Oslo peruses must ensure that people in Oslo are able to continue to live active
Facilities for physical activity must be strengthened in the years to come by the preservation of green spaces, building more sports facilities, and expanding swimming options.

More sports facilities and greater participation
The City Government has inherited a city with very low coverage of sports facilities. Oslo currently needs an additional 500 sports facilities to reach the national average. Sports projects approved by the Oslo City Council have accumulated without ever being completed. The City Government will prioritise the completion of already planned projects namely Jordal Amfi, facilities at Voldsløkka, Lillomarka arena, Daalenenga sports facility, Åsland rifle range, and multi-purpose facilities at Lambertseter, Grorud, Årvoll, and Korsvoll.

In partnership with sports organisations, the City Government will ensure that all citizens have equal opportunities to participate in sports irrespective of age, gender, or the size of their wallet. Good municipal support schemes are a precondition of a diverse, active sports movement. Free hire of halls and sports pitches for children and young people shall be maintained.

The City Government will:
• On the basis of the sports community’s own prioritisation list, work to complete sports projects that have long been planned but not completed
• Prioritise initiatives such as such as ‘Aktiv på dagtid’, ‘60pluss’, and ‘Treningskontakt’ which inspire more people to become active
• Carry out an analysis to identify the future needs for sports facilities in Oslo (the analysis will include facilities for independently organised sports and, in dialogue with the sports community, arrive at a progress plan for their completion)
• As a general rule, build multi-purpose facilities when building new or rehabilitating schools
• Establish more small-scale sports facilities such as climbing walls, outdoor basketball facilities, skating ramps, Frisbee-golf courses, and cricket pitches
• Support the sports community in its work of recruiting and educating sports leaders

Better swimming provision
Holmlia swimming pool is the most recent of the Oslo pools and was opened in September 1983. Since that time, the population of Oslo has grown by over 200,000 citizens. The City Government has high ambitions on behalf of families who enjoy swimming, the sport itself, and pupils at Oslo’s schools.

Swimming abilities are far too low in Oslo. The City Government will ensure more skilled swimming instructors in Oslo’s schools preferably in partnership with sports clubs. During the term of office, all schools are to have the number of mandatory swimming lessons doubled from 10 to 20. We must also make more swimming facilities available to schools. In so doing, more children will learn to swim and we will prevent drowning accidents.

The City Government will:
• Continue work with projects included in the swimming facilities report including new facilities at

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4 Aktiv på dagtid, program allowing access to gyms, health studios and other physical activities at a low rate for people on short or long term welfare benefits.
60pluss, program of activity groups for people, previously inactive, aged 60 and over.
Treningskontakt – a contact person or assistant that supports someone through physical activities.
Tøyen and new baths at Manglerud and Stovner

- Start the project to turn the baths at Frogner (‘Frognerbadet’) into year-round facilities
- Put forward a plan for the upgrading or renovation of existing baths which are falling into disrepair
- Extend opening times at Oslo pools particularly on Saturdays and Sundays
- Ensure, where possible, that the general public, swimming clubs, and schools are given access to privately owned baths in Oslo
- Continue our dialogue with the owners of the Sagene Bath to ensure its reopening
10. Safety

A safer city

In an international perspective, Oslo is a very safe place to live and move about. The way in which we have organised society – with small social differences and a good safety net – is a significant factor in this respect.

There are nevertheless times and places in the city that feel, and are, less than safe. Far too many people feel unsafe at home. Being and feeling unsafe reduce life quality and the feeling of being free. The City Government wants Oslo to be a generous, socially inclusive, egalitarian city. Violence, crime, discrimination, and harassment will not be accepted.

The City Government believes that the City can contribute to preventing crime and insecurity in many ways. We will establish a partnership with the police in order to facilitate tasks in which the police depend on the preventive efforts of the City and the City Districts.

Oslo will prioritize prevention and management of radicalisation and violent extremism. Creating a safer city requires that many different bodies work together. The City Government will pursue close cooperation with the police, voluntary organisations, and dedicated citizens and carefully consider all concerns and proposals.

The City Government will:

- Establish collaborative groups between schools, youth clubs, outreach services, voluntary organisations, and mosques to prevent radicalisation and recruitment to violent extremism
- Strengthen the action plan against radicalisation and violent extremism
- Strengthen SaLTo ('Together we make Oslo a safer city') and extend its area of responsibility to include prevention of radicalisation
- Follow up all first time offenders among children and young people to prevent them falling into a criminal career
- Combat the sale of drugs to children and young people and strengthen prevention in schools and other relevant environments

Domestic violence

All have the right to a safe life without violence and oppression. Women and children in particular are exposed to insecurity including sexualised violence and harassment. The community at large must intervene and prevent this. The City Government will initiate improved collaboration between the police and the justice system, schools, district administration, NAV, and civil society to increase knowledge about domestic violence. We hope this will ensure that cases are more rapidly identified and people receive the help they need.

All people have the right to a safe life free from violence. Women are more exposed to domestic and relational violence than men. They are also more exposed to sexualised violence and harassment in the public space. At the same time, more atypical victims of violence, LHB+ persons and abused men, for example, are often ignored or stigmatised and thus suffer a double burden.

Many children experience violence and abuse either as witnesses to acts of violence or as direct victims of physical or psychological abuse. Thus, all persons working with children have a special
responsibility to contribute to prevention and disclosure and to ensure that children get the help they need.

The City Government will:
• Collaborate with the police to prevent repeated incidents of domestic violence
• Safeguard support to crisis centres, Dixi resource centres (against sexual assault), rape crisis centres, and other assistance and support initiatives for people who experience physical violence or mental abuse
• Evaluate how the City can improve prevention and help children who are exposed to violence and sexual abuse or who experience violence against their closest relations
• Strengthen sexual education at school including topics such as setting limits and relational violence
• Increase awareness in the health services – as well as among service providers for children and young people – about rape and relational violence particularly where vulnerable groups such as prostitutes and LHBT+ persons are concerned

Safe public space
It should be safe to move around the whole city. City lighting systems are to be renovated with environmentally friendly lighting. As the city is developed and public spaces are upgraded, initiatives that create safety will be prioritised. The City Government will develop the public safety index so that it may be used to channel efforts towards those areas of the city which are felt to be least safe.

We shall make public transport available through the evening and at night so it will be easier to get home safely.

The City Government will:
• Upgrade and extend the city’s lighting systems with new, environmentally friendly lighting
• Develop the public safety index as a basis for coordinated efforts
• Work for more visible policing in streets across the city

Civil protection and emergency planning
Although Norway is largely a stable society, Oslo must be well prepared to manage both disasters and smaller crises. The City Government will ensure that emergency planning is well founded in all of the City’s bodies. Work towards more stringent information security is important, particularly in relation to socially critical infrastructure.

The City Government will prioritise the undertaking of risk analyses and ensure that the Fire and Rescue Services are strengthened in line with the needs that arise from population growth and new challenges.

Civil protection is to form a part of City planning at all levels. This includes protection linked to nature, the environment, or particular incidents. Where there is a need for special security measures, these should not, as far as it is possible, block citizens’ access to important civic institutions. Instead they should be integrated into city development so that public spaces requiring special provisions appear safe.

The consequences of climate change mean considerable changes in the way we plan, develop, and run the city. Climate change adaptation must be integral to all municipal work. The City Government will initiate a climate change adaptation programme in order to develop an Oslo standard in the field.
Important elements in this work include managing surface water, the choice of materials, using of roof surfaces, and the opening of rivers.

The City Government will:
• Scrutinise the Gjørv Commission’s report to ensure follow up of the recommendations
• Strengthen emergency preparedness in relation to large events
• Prepare an Oslo standard for the management of climate change
• Facilitate an increase in green roofing for buildings to contribute to improved air quality, management of surface water, biological diversity, and visual upgrading of the city
• Increase investment in the water and drainage network in order to increase capacity, prevent leaks, and secure safe drinking water
• Work to restore more waterways