

ELECTION MANIFESTO FOR 2017

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GRÉNG WIERKT

GREEN WORKS

MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS
2017



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GRÉNG WIERKT : GREEN WORKS

Affordable housing, good childcare, protecting our environment, social cohesion and social justice: these are just a handful of the various issues that municipalities will have to address to a greater degree in coming years. On top of this are also the major challenges of the 21st century – a fair distribution of resources, climate protection and the energy shift –, which are only able to be met as part of a joint effort. Municipalities play a key role in really tackling these challenges, since they shape the immediate environment of their citizens. It is here that contact between residents and those in politics is easiest to establish and this makes it possible to reach political decisions adapted to the respective local situation.

With our framework programme for the municipal elections 2017, we present strategies as well as many specific proposals with a view to facing up to future challenges at municipal level in a positive manner. Green municipal policy is underpinned by the equal interaction of the three pillars of sustainability that encompass ecological, economic and social aspects. Green municipal politics is consequently sometimes rather more complex, since many different aspects need to be considered in order to deliver sustainable policies. Our solutions are frequently intertwined complementary and focused on the big picture and long-term objectives:

Working together with citizens to shape the future is an undertaking that can easily be achieved particularly at the municipal level. Citizen participation offers many advantages. It brings about greater acceptance for projects and the specific collaboration of different population groups, it leads to time savings in politics and administration and boosts practical competences and expertise.

As municipalities become active in the construction of housing and the mobilisation of empty homes and sites, housing will become affordable to all. At the same time, municipalities can ensure that housing, work and leisure are once again brought together, that less land is used and that lively villages and town centres remain.

Towns and municipalities will be able to give something back to their inhabitants by promoting sustainable mobility and through spatial planning for a high quality of life. This reduces noise and emissions, affords children and young people greater security and generally improves quality of life.

The use of regional organic products in school canteens boosts children's health, protects the environment, secures jobs in the national food production sector and strengthens the regional economy.

Optimum childcare provision, of a high quality and teamed with a comprehensive range of extra-curricular services, offers children an ideal environment in their municipality, boosts their language and social skills and promotes integration and participation. It also supports parents, brings about more equal opportunities and better equips children for the challenges of today and of the future.

Ambitious climate protection efforts are good for our environment, generate municipal added value and create regional and secure jobs. Energy that we save and energy that we sustainably produce ourselves, if possible in energy cooperatives, benefits both citizens and the planet.

All local Green politicians will draw their inspiration for their political agenda for 2017-2023 from our framework programme for the municipal elections 2017. Here, in keeping with the motto "green works", we present green concepts and specific proposals for municipalities, which are clearly sustainable ones. In recent years, Green elected officials have successfully implemented countless measures and have demonstrated that it is possible to make a difference and have an impact, especially at municipal level.

Françoise Folmer, Party President

Christian Kmiotek, Party President

I. Children/School - The best opportunities for all children

1. Our aim: High quality childcare – school as an attractive place to live and to learn

A range of high-quality childcare facilities in each municipality is key to boosting equal opportunities, both for children and for parents. Close coordination and strong links between childcare and schools are indispensable, as is the involvement of parents and children. Municipalities have considerable influence on optimal development prospects for all children via their annual school organisation approval, support of extracurricular measures and, above all, their responsibility for municipal school buildings.

Our measures:

- We will get rid of waiting lists for childcare facilities by creating sufficient public childcare structures. There will be a diverse range of childcare available (e.g. crèches located in forests) and this will be flexible, of a high quality and remain open all day for children of all ages. Each institution will be expected to develop and publish its vision.
- In order to offer children the best developmental prospects within childcare structures, we will seek to collaborate with local associations (sports, music clubs) and municipal bodies in order to guarantee close cooperation between childcare staff, social services and parents.
- On the basis of the *Plan d'encadrement périscolaire* (PEP, Plan for Extracurricular Education), we will foster close cooperation between the *Maisons Relais* and schools.
- The municipality will support and promote, beyond school organisations themselves, additional educational initiatives and projects in the fields of sport, culture, the environment, the media etc.
- The municipality will accompany and support teaching staff as they implement the School Development Plan (*PDS Plan de développement scolaire*) and will assist teaching staff with further training.
- The municipality will foster close dialogue with parents and will facilitate the work of parents' associations.
- The municipality will make spacious and well-equipped facilities available to primary schools and childcare bodies. It will create the conditions required for children with special needs (behavioural problems, learning difficulties, disabilities, etc.) to enjoy equal access to all institutions. Municipalities will support work with children with special needs and will make specific rooms (e.g. psychomotor skills rooms, Snoezel (controlled multisensory environment) or Airtramp facilities) and material available, either alone or in cooperation with other municipalities. The municipality will actively work towards the inclusion of children, by ensuring that all children, irrespective of their social and national background, are in a position to participate in regular lessons (School for All).
- Upon new construction or the renovation of school and childcare facilities, environmentally-friendly construction materials will be used and a consistent approach to saving energy and water will be followed. A particular focus will be placed on acoustical design.
- Schoolyards and playgrounds will be designed or converted to be varied and in harmony with nature so that they provide children with optimal development opportunities.
- In the immediate vicinity of schools and childcare facilities, traffic-calming measures will be taken (car-free and 30 km/h zones).

- In cooperation with specialised structures, we will offer services to care for children in the event of illness.
- We want to support and coordinate initiatives to provide support and advice to parents regarding educational issues.
- The inclusion of children with disabilities will be guaranteed by means of appropriate infrastructure as well as through needs-oriented training. We will account for the needs of these children when planning leisure and holiday activities.
- In cooperation with sports and cultural associations, we will offer a wide range of sports and leisure activities during the school holidays too
- déi gréng want to undertake projects involving all generations in the different care structures (SEA – *Services Education et Accueil; Maisons Relais*), which will bring together children, young people and the elderly.
- In order to simplify the integration of refugee children, we will make the necessary facilities available and recruit additional staff.
- The municipality will support measures for preventive health education. This includes, for instance:
 - o healthy food in school canteens, with lots of fruit and vegetables as well as high-quality vegetarian food offered on a daily basis,
 - o a minimum quota set for the procurement of food for school canteens and *Maisons Relais* to ensure increased use of seasonal organic products, as well as fair-trade and regional products,
 - o plenty of opportunities for children to move around e.g. in the school playground and by going to school on foot or by bike/scooter,
 - o the creation of sufficient and modern infrastructure for school sport in the local area
- We will foster sustainable development education to show how to manage the environment and natural resources responsibly. Schools will employ exemplary waste avoidance and refuse separation policies, introduce energy- and water-saving concepts, set up school gardens and support fair trade and North-South projects. In addition, the participation of pupils will be encouraged. The municipality will create new municipal and regional places of learning, i.e. nature schools.
- The municipality will guarantee safe routes to school so that all children are able to walk to school. If school transport is provided then this shall be free of charge.

II. Social policy - Living together: A municipality for all

1. Our aim: Making child- and youth-specific infrastructure available

The municipality's child and youth policy shall have multiple objectives: to create an appropriate environment for young people's well-being in their local area, to promote participation, engagement and social integration and to assist disadvantaged children and young people. By creating opportunities for children and young people to participate, their desires and interests will flow into the development of municipal projects and their participation and social and political engagement will be encouraged from an early age.

Our measures:

- Children and young people will actively be involved in municipal policy decisions:
 - o Children's municipal councils and youth forums will be set up.
 - o Children and young people will be involved in urban and transport development as well as planning work for green and play areas or sports facilities in a timely fashion.
 - o Before any youth policy decision is made, young people, youth centres and youth associations will be specifically involved.
 - o Care will be taken here to ensure that the proportion of girls and boys is well-balanced and that there is social diversity present in the group, i.e. a balanced participation of young people from different backgrounds.
- The municipality will set up youth clubs or youth centres. Local youth organisations will be included in the administration and use of these structures.
- The municipality will offer a wide range of leisure, holiday, sport and cultural activities and will install playgrounds, sports areas and recreational areas for children and young people.
 - o These will correspond to the specific needs of the different age groups and will be attractive to both girls and boys.
 - o They will also be designed with young people with special needs in mind and will be accessible to all.
- In order to guarantee the autonomous mobility of children and young people, municipalities will create a safe network of footpaths and cycle paths, will ensure safe ways to school and will offer them optimum conditions when they use public transport, as well as late-night buses or special buses.
- The municipality will establish alternative housing projects where young people can live in shared accommodation.
- A local youth plan will be drafted and implemented in collaboration with young people.
- The municipality shall adopt a strategy to tackle youth unemployment locally:
 - o It will work together with the employment agency ADEM and the regional office of *Service national de la jeunesse*, will form synergies with local businesses and commerce and will integrate the social and solidarity economy.
 - o In cooperation with the competent bodies, it will create training places for young people who would like to complete an apprenticeship and who have poor job prospects.
 - o It will create holiday jobs in the administration, technical services and the *Maisons Relais* for students.

- It will hire young job seekers within the framework of employment support contracts (*Contrat d'appui-emploi*, CAE) and employment initiation contracts (*Contrat d'initiation à l'emploi*, CIE), with a view to facilitating their incorporation into the labour market.
- Larger municipalities will create a local employment agency as a municipal point of contact for job seekers.
- With respect to the subsidies granted to social, cultural and sports associations, the municipality shall introduce transparent criteria, which will particularly promote social and development work with children and young people.

2. Our aim: A diverse local cultural programme

Culture improves quality of life and promotes integration and social cohesion within the municipality. The municipal culture policy must be multi-faceted and take account of the different cultural interests of the population. Cultural life should be accessible to everyone.

Our measures:

- As part of the cultural policy the municipality will ensure that all sections of society as well as schools, care structures, youth centres and creative artists are involved. We will consistently focus on inter-municipal cooperation and regional exchange in order to guarantee a diverse range of cultural activities and to use resources efficiently. The municipality will provide comprehensive information about the cultural activities on offer in the municipality and the region.
- The fostering of culture, art and creativity in children and young people will take priority. déi gréng will support the opening of a public library and of rehearsal, performance and exhibition rooms for young people. The municipality will provide subsidies to support cultural activities in primary schools, childcare facilities and youth centres, such as visits to cultural events and libraries. Active and creative participation in cultural projects will be promoted.
- The municipality will systematically promote cultural associations and creative artists committed to the participation of children and young people as well as intercultural and/or intergenerational exchange and integration. Adequate infrastructure will be made available to cultural associations.
- The municipality will make sure that there is appropriate archiving and processing for local contemporary historical events (*mémoire collective*) as well as for the history of various different places, districts or historical buildings. Together with local associations, it will help to bring local history to life. This will also include indications and inscriptions in public spaces.

3. Our aim: Sport for All

By offering and supporting sporting activities, the municipality will assume an important role in boosting the health of its population. Sport assumes a range of functions that have a positive impact on social cohesion in society, individual well-being, education and learning. There must be as wide an array as possible of sports on offer and the different needs of the population accounted for.

Our measures:

- The municipality will offer a broad range of sporting activities and courses, which will target different population and age groups. A municipal sports service, the *Service des sports* will organise and coordinate the activities offered.

- When public spaces, forest paths, parks and green spaces are designed, care will be taken to make sure that sports activities in the open air are possible.
- We will specifically promote development work with children and young people and account for gender-specific requirements.
- The granting of subsidies to sports associations will be linked to criteria such as the recruitment of qualified trainers, common sports activities for people with specific needs and/or the elderly, as well as the consideration of environmentally-friendly criteria for public events.
- It will be ensured that children in primary schools and childcare structures are active and that they have a wide range of sporting activities offered to them.
- In order to support grassroots sports, (year-round) access to sports infrastructure will also be made available to anybody who is not an active member of a club.
- Efficient use of sports infrastructure can mostly only be achieved within a regional context. Therefore, we will organise the planning, construction and use of sports infrastructure together with neighbouring municipalities and when possible also incorporate state infrastructure (e.g. secondary schools).

4. Our aim: Preventing poverty

One of the main tasks of the municipality is to prevent and to tackle poverty. Municipalities know the needs of their citizens best and see social problems first. As a result, they play a central role in maintaining social cohesion. Municipalities must thus ensure that everyone has the same access to societal life, whether people find themselves in difficulty or not. Ensuring equal opportunities is the only way to effectively prevent and tackle exclusion and poverty. Those who rely on social support and assistance should not be stigmatised. The aim is that they gradually become less dependent on social welfare and can take on responsibility for their own lives.

Our measures:

- We will design a municipal social plan with a view to preventing social exclusion and poverty. This social plan will define the priorities and political instruments of municipal social policy. It will be revised on a regular basis and adapted to respond emerging needs and dealt with regularly in the municipal council. This social plan will particularly include:
 - o an assessment of the social situation and the specific needs of the different neighbourhoods and localities,
 - o instruments and support measures to be provided to people in difficult situations,
 - o a comprehensive information policy regarding social welfare in the municipality,
 - o a municipal programme that prevents, combats and averts poverty.
- The municipality will deploy outreach work in a targeted manner. Initiatives such as 'Baby plus' will comprise assistance and healthcare for children and at the same time advice for parents. 'Senior plus' will help to tackle isolation in old age and prevent old-age poverty.
- The municipality will support preventive and support services such as the *Eltereschool* (school for parents).
- The municipality will help to establish *Epicerie sociale* or *Cent Buttek* social grocery stores in the region.
- Low-income households will receive assistance supplementary to the cost-of-living allowance in order, to, amongst other things, partially offset the cost of energy, water, wastewater and refuse charges.

- Special emphasis is placed on preventing energy poverty.
 - o Here the municipality will draw on the state programme to support households suffering from energy poverty (*Programme Assistance aux ménages en situation de précarité énergétique*).
 - o The social welfare office and the municipal/regional energy consulting services will work closely together and will offer low-income households a targeted advisory programme to help them save energy and water and to reduce waste at home.
 - o The municipality will subsidise low-consumption household appliances and will provide grants for insulation works.
 - o The municipality will organise an information and awareness-raising campaign that will help to implement the state funding and investment programme for the energy renovation of old buildings for low-income households. This programme also encompasses rented accommodation.
- The municipality shall assist with the allocation of housing and will work together with the AIS (*Agence immobilière sociale*) agency and other bodies, such as 'housing first' institutions active in the field of housing assistance. In parallel to this, the municipality will produce an inventory of all empty housing and refer the owners to the AIS.
- By playing an active role in rented social housing construction, it will ensure a sufficient supply of affordable and adequate housing, which will be adapted to the different personal and economic situations of the population.
- The municipality will stand in solidarity with refugees and will foster tolerance for the acceptance of refugees among the population and associations.
- The municipality will ensure transparent, unbureaucratic and coherent social welfare. As part of its citizens' office, it will create a central and simple access to social services (one stop shop, social information centre). Close cooperation between the different municipal services and social welfare offices will guarantee coordinated social welfare services. The municipality will provide comprehensive information, in various languages and in easy-to-understand language about the services it provides and the important points of contact in the region and at national level too.
- The municipality will offer unemployment services in structures within the solidarity and social economy, as well as careers advice and employment services for early school leavers. Through cooperation with the competent bodies, it will create training places for young people with poor career prospects.
- The municipality will play a part in the decentralised design of social assistance structures and measures and will provide, for instance, emergency accommodation for the homeless.
- It will create an independent social commission, which will be involved in the creation and implementation of the social plan or social policy within the municipality.

5. Our aim: Gender policy as a guiding principle

The municipality will adopt a strategy to promote gender equality and will actively play its part to tackle gender based discrimination and inequality. This also includes protection against discrimination and the promotion of the social acceptability of gay people and transgender people.

Our measures:

- The municipality will set up a body for gender and equality policy. Alongside the equality of women and men, this department/office will address the topics of sexual orientation and gender identity. Smaller municipalities will work together with other municipalities in order to create a department/office at regional level. This body will have its own budget and sufficient and qualified staff.

- déi gréng will set up a municipal commission for equal opportunities.
- The municipality will sign the European Charter for Equality of Women and Men at municipal and regional level.
 - o The municipality will implement the EU-charter as part of an equality plan (*Plan d'action communal de l'égalité entre femmes et hommes*), which will define objectives and priorities and stipulate the measures to be implemented within a certain timeframe.
 - o This action plan promotes equality both inside and outside the municipal administration.
 - o Gender mainstreaming will be made an instrument of municipal policy. More specifically, this means that all municipal projects and services must take into account the different life situations and interests of women and men.
 - o The municipality will involve the various municipal services and consultative commissions, as well as local organisations, in the drafting of the action plan.
 - o The Equal Opportunities Officer shall coordinate the implementation of the action plan.
- The municipality will ensure that there is a balanced employment structure between men and women in its administration and services:
 - o The proportion of women and men will be examined and measures will be taken to remedy any imbalances. This will also be the case with regard to the selection process for management positions in the administration and for board of directors posts in inter-municipal or other bodies to which municipal representatives are appointed.
 - o Developments to the local employment structure will be published on a regular basis.
 - o The municipality will endeavour to break down traditional gender roles and stereotypes and put measures into practice in order to facilitate the reconciliation of work and family life by, for instance, encouraging fathers to take family leave.
 - o Young women and men will be encouraged to opt for a non-traditional profession as they make their career choices.
 - o The municipality will take part in the Girls' Day - Boys' Day each year.
- The municipality will actively promote the equality of women and men when making appointments to commissions and working groups. It will encourage and support women to play an active role in local politics and to stand as candidates in municipal elections.
- The municipality will increase the wider public's awareness of the issue through information campaigns about discrimination and homophobic violence and by informing the population of the implementation of its equality policy.
- The municipality will carry out training and awareness-raising campaigns among its staff regarding gender and equality issues.
- It will promote projects and activities concerning information about gender identity, sexual orientation and gender equality in schools, *Maisons Relais* and youth centres, such as:
 - o tackling discrimination on the basis of gender,
 - o the elimination of gender roles and stereotypes,
 - o the elimination of inequalities on gender grounds and the recognition of differences between individuals.
- Addressing intimate partner violence is also a matter for the municipality. The municipality will support women's refuges and advisory centres and will raise public awareness of domestic violence.
- Street, building and infrastructure names etc. will also be named after women.

6. Our aim: Design for All - Putting people first

Design for All has the objective of allowing all people to enjoy free and self-determined participation within life in society. Products, infrastructure and services must be designed in such a way that they are able to be used by all irrespective of age, ability and lifestyle and without any particular individual customisation. In order for the Design for All strategy to be a success, it must be developed in collaboration with the wider public. The implementation of a Design for All action plan will be an ongoing task for the municipality and must systematically be accounted for as part of all political decisions as well as those relating to large- and small-scale infrastructure.

Our measures:

- We will develop an action plan that will implement the Design for All concept within the municipality. A budget item will be defined for the implementation of the action plan. The action plan will primarily encompass:
 - o the consistent removal or avoidance of structural barriers in public spaces, buildings and housing,
 - o barrier-free websites, with documents, forms and information edited in an accessible, easy-to-understand manner and easy-to-read information tables in various languages.
 - o a varied array of leisure, sport and cultural activities as well as an adjusted tourism package,
 - o uniform signposting in the municipality with simplified icons (pictograms) and clear and easily understandable information and aids to orientation in public spaces.
 - o barrier-free access to public transport.

- A post will be created within the municipal administration whose responsibility will be the coordination and continuity of the action plan.
- The drafting of the action plan will be undertaken in close cooperation with the various municipal offices and consultative commissions, but will also incorporate external partners such as representatives from parents' associations, schools, *Maisons Relais*, disability organisations, 'Info-Handicap' and senior citizens' groups.
- The municipality will provide communications about its commitment to and continuous information regarding the various stages and implemented measures of the action plan.
- The municipality will provide further training programmes for its employees, in particular for those working in technical services.
- The municipality will put into practice statutory requirements concerning the recruitment of job seekers with a disability and will create jobs within its administration and its technical services for these people.

7. Our aim: Maintaining the independence and autonomy of the elderly

The range of ages within the elderly is growing. The composition of this age group is extremely heterogeneous and its needs vary accordingly. Many people remain healthy and active in old age. Others are restricted by their level of mobility, or reliant on assistance to some extent for a variety of reasons. Also, the proportion of foreign senior citizens is growing. Social networking remains the most important challenge to address in order to take action against isolation in old age. The municipality must help the elderly to remain active and independent for as long as possible. A

further goal is the promotion of intergenerational exchange and coexistence. Municipal ageing policies will address many different areas and therefore must be planned in partnership with public authorities, local associations and those affected. The elderly possess skills, knowledge and experience that must be tapped into.

Our measures:

- We will implement a municipal plan for the elderly that will involve the various municipal and private actors in the local area and that will be drafted together with senior citizens. This plan will take account of the diversity of this older population group. It will encompass measures to counter loneliness in old age and it will foster the autonomy and active participation of senior citizens in social, cultural and political life.
- For those whose mobility is restricted, a range of services and shopping possibilities close to where they live is important. In order for them to be able to participate in the social life of the community, a fully-accessible, pedestrian-friendly environment is vital. In practice, this means that there must be good lighting on public roads and paths, clear signposting, safe footpaths and small green spaces and parks with places to sit down.
- The mobility of older people will be improved by means of bus services that are available not only for day-to-day errands but also for trips to cultural and sporting events. This range of buses will be completed by a dial-a-ride bus system.
- In cooperation with the commission for senior citizens, the commission for integration and with local associations, leisure, sporting and cultural activities will be offered to senior citizens from different cultural and social backgrounds and intercultural exchange will be promoted. Special attention will be paid to foreign senior citizens who live alone and who do not speak the local languages (very well).
- The municipality will establish a meet-up for senior citizens.
- The municipality will ensure that there is a wide range of assistance available in their homes, such as meals on wheels, local *services de proximité* that help with day-to-day activities, TeleAlarm and outreach work such as 'Senior plus'.
- As part of a 'Senior Guide' in various languages, information will be provided about the cultural, sport and leisure activities on offer. The municipality will regularly seek to enter into dialogue with senior citizens, for example in senior forums or by way of surveys.
- In town and village centres, new types of housing, such as multi-generational residences and assisted living will be promoted. Mixed housing types that serve as a link between generations will be preferred. The Design for All concept will be implemented.

8. Our aim: Social cohesion and respect for cultural diversity

The aim of the municipal integration policy is to afford all citizens, irrespective of their origin and culture, the same chance to participate in social life. By promoting integration, the municipality contributes to making social and cultural diversity something that enriches society. The result of this must be coexistence based on mutual understanding and respect. Integration is a permanent process in which all must play a part for it to succeed.

Our measures:

- We will implement a municipal integration plan (PCI - *Plan communal d'intégration*).
- We will publish information from the municipalities in various languages and provide simultaneous interpretation at public events.

- Newly-arrived citizens will receive sufficient information about the municipal administration and the services that it provides, as well as about local sports and leisure opportunities and local clubs, so that they get off to a good start within the community and quickly settle in. They can be supported by citizens of various nationalities (ambassadors), who provide them with guidance as they get settled.
- In order to foster mutual acceptance as well as intercultural dialogue, the municipality shall initiate a systematic exchange between Luxembourgish and non-Luxembourgish citizens, for instance as part of cultural visits and local festivities or by creating meeting points, such as regular meet-ups or language cafés. As part of open policy regarding information and encounters between people, the municipality will foster tolerance among the population for the acceptance of those who have fled their homes. The municipality will involve the commission for integration, local associations, schools and childcare structures, refugee structures, youth centres and senior citizens' groups and provide language courses and training.
- The municipality will assist the state authorities to find suitable spaces for the construction of facilities for the initial reception of asylum seekers (*Accueil d'urgence* or *Primo-accueil*).
- By becoming active in the construction of social (rented) accommodation, the municipality will ensure that there is affordable and adequate housing available, which is adapted to the different personal and economic situations of the population. At the same time, this will also guarantee social diversity.
- With a view to facilitating the integration of refugee children, we will create the right facilities within support institutions and recruit additional staff.
- In order to guarantee the quality of political decisions, the political participation of the non-Luxembourgish population must be encouraged. The municipality will carry out campaigns to encourage them to register to vote and will systematically integrate non-Luxembourgish citizens into different forums, public exchanges and discussion evenings.

9. Our aim: An ideologically open and pluralistic society

At the municipal level, it is possible to adjust the relationship between the state and church(es) to meet today's social realities. Municipalities must extend the services on offer to non-religious people and make these services more attractive.

Our measures:

- The municipality will create infrastructure and provide a range of options which guarantee that secular ceremonies (e.g. wedding celebrations and funerals) can take place in a pleasant and dignified manner. It shall allow these ceremonies to be held on Saturdays and Sundays. The Municipal Executive Board and the municipal authorities will receive training in order to hold such ceremonies. Citizens will be informed of this range of options, the different formats and the possible variations.
- With the forest cemetery (tree burial) and the scattering of ashes in nature, new forms of burials will be introduced and developed.
- Structures will be established to enable, for instance, that secular rites and those of the different religions are able to take place in the funeral home.
- The municipality will also allow those church buildings in its possession to be used for non-religious events. This will be done with respect shown to the original religious use.

III. Democracy and administration: An open municipality

1. Our aim: Comprehensive information, transparency and accessibility

Political disenchantment and a loss of confidence in politicians can only be countered with information and transparency. The democratic forces must continually convey and explain what they do to citizens. The targeted preparation of information for the different population groups and the use of new technologies will become increasingly important.

Our measures:

- The municipality will grant wide-reaching access to information concerning the documents underpinning the decisions made at local level.
- In order to improve their understanding of the way in which the municipality and its services function, citizens will regularly be provided with general information in an accessible form and language about the management and decision-making processes of the municipality.
- Information about the activities, projects and political decisions of the municipality will be made available to all population groups via different channels of communication. Alongside traditional printed material and information meetings, the electronic media (internet, sms2citizen) and social networks shall also be used. With this in mind we will:
 - o Regularly publish an information sheet, which will also be available on the internet and as an electronic newsletter.
 - o Investigate the possibility of creating a municipal app (for Apple and Android).
 - o Expand the municipality's website by introducing a 'Virtual Raider' section where all notices will also be made available in electronic form.
 - o Create a website, on which all municipal rules and regulations are made available and ordered by topic and in an up-to-date/consolidated form.
 - o Inform the population in a timely manner of construction sites and diversions, as well as the effect of these on public transport and possible alternatives.
 - o Create an intranet for the staff of the Municipal Council in order to facilitate its work and the utilisation of the necessary documents.
- With regard to publications and information meetings, the linguistic situation among the local population will be considered and municipal notifications will be published in various languages.
- The municipality will provide swift and comprehensive information in the case of any incident that presents a danger to public health and that falls within its area of responsibility, such as, for example, the breaching of limit values for drinking water. It will pass on information from other fields to residents e.g. information about air pollutants.
- In order to provide the population with the possibility to participate in public municipal meetings, these will preferably take place outside of usual office hours.
- Public municipal meetings will be live streamed on the internet and archived and made accessible on the municipal website.
- For larger-scale projects, such as building plans or new regulatory provisions, meetings for citizens will be organised at an early stage. Important documents will be published on the internet site of the municipality.
- The Municipal Executive Board will listen to the concerns of citizens as part of public surgery hours and public question time will be introduced as part of municipal council meetings. The fields of competence of the members of the Municipal Executive Board will be made transparent.

- Regular balance sheets across various fields (social affairs, the environment, gender etc.) will be presented to the municipal council and discussed.
- The municipal budget and multi-annual financial plan will be published.

2. Our aim: A vast array of ways to have a say

Citizens must be involved in political decisions since local-level decisions shape their immediate environment and social cohesion in the community. The political decision-making process must be transparent and the participation of all population groups must be guaranteed.

Our measures:

- déi gréng will proactively seek out exchange with citizens by utilising advisory commissions, public meetings and hearings in order to better prepare and discuss important decisions taken in the municipality. The general approach will be to ensure the involvement of even those population groups who do not usually participate in the decision-making process, such as the socially-disadvantaged, migrants and single parents.
- Alongside provisions on the functioning of the municipal council, the internal rules of procedure of the municipal council will provide detailed information about how it operates, its composition and the powers of the advisory commissions. These will also stipulate that municipal representatives in municipal *syndicat* associations and other bodies must report back to the municipal council at least once a year and that prior to important decisions the municipal council must provide them with a corresponding mandate.
- An advisory commission will be filled with parity between women and men; care will be taken to ensure that non-Luxembourgish citizens are also involved. Alongside political representatives, local associations and interested citizens will also be consulted.
- In addition to the legally stipulated municipal commissions, i.e. the school and integration commissions, the municipality will instate other supplementary commissions, for instance in the following areas: construction, the environment, finance, social matters, gender issues, mobility, culture, sport, young people, the elderly, energy and climate etc.
- When planning large-scale projects and resolving problems or conflict, it is these competent commissions that will be consulted.
- Projects that shape public spaces will be discussed and planned with the affected citizens locally. Documents will be made available on the internet and the right to have a say via an electronic exchange of views will also be envisaged.
- Awareness raising will be carried out among the non-Luxembourgish population so that they register to vote and become politically active.
- By means of children's and youth municipal councils or other democratic processes, children and young people will participate actively in local life.
- The Municipal Executive Board and the Municipal Council will hold annual (or in times of increased or acute need, more frequent) consultations with citizens in the various districts or neighbourhoods.
- On a trial basis, a cultural citizen's budget will be granted to districts or neighbourhoods and interested parties will receive professional guidance to assist with their decision-making and implementation.

3. Our aim: Serving citizens

déi gréng want to offer citizens optimal municipal services. Simplified administrative procedures, citizen-friendly public offices and a wide range of administrative formalities available online will bring the municipality closer to citizens and lead to greater efficiency and acceptance. Part of citizens' well-being is also the sense that their municipality is a safe environment.

Our measures:

- The municipality will establish a single point of contact or a citizens' office that will make the different administrative and social services and all necessary information available from one single place.
- Many administrative formalities will be able to be undertaken on the internet. Straightforward forms and extensive information will be available online. An electronic information service such as *sms2citizen* will be set up.
- The opening hours of the administration will be extended and adapted to the needs of the population.
- The municipality will ensure that its information and communication is also accessible to those with a disability, e.g. with disability-appropriate access to the municipality's own websites.
- The municipality will facilitate broad access to the digital media. In addition, it will offer introductory and advanced training courses aimed at the different population and age groups.
- With a specific view to making online information and services accessible to all in the easiest possible manner and free of charge, the municipality will promote the use of free and open source software and standards.
- To reinforce social cohesion, the municipality will promote initiatives in the voluntary sector and support associations and organisations in their work. Alongside conventional subsidies and meeting rooms made available free of charge, these may include special grants for bus journeys, printing costs, translation costs, childcare etc. As part of an active exchange with associations, further assistance e.g. professional support may be discussed. Likewise, new forms of citizen initiatives such as transition or community initiatives will be supported.
- The municipality will make mediators available for the resolution of disputes in neighbourhoods.
- A clear organisational chart detailing the competences of the municipal services and administration will be made publicly available.
- The municipality will commit to providing its employees with further training, as well as training in customer service.
- Administrative procedures will be analysed and optimised where appropriate.
- The municipality will invoice its deliveries and services in a transparent manner and will provide its customers with the opportunity to compare with average expenditure as well as guidance on how to reduce costs.
- Together with government bodies, the municipality will provide information about aspects relating to public security, e.g. the prevention of violence, de-escalation training, cybercrime, building security and the use of CCTV cameras etc.

IV. Urban and municipal development: Better planning and an increased quality of life

1. Our aim: Optimal municipal development planning

Alongside the state, it is also municipalities that hold responsibility for the resolution of current problems relating to mobility, the construction of housing, energy consumption and urban sprawl. It is vital that municipal planning (PAG – *Plan d'aménagement général* or General Development Plan, PAP – *Plan d'aménagement particulier* or Special Development Plan) are aligned with national sustainable development requirements (regional planning laws, sectoral plans, POS – *Plans d'occupation du sol* or land use plans) with regard to the mix of different functions (employment, residential, shopping and leisure aspects), land use, short routes, local recreation and energy consumption.

Our fundamental principles for a green PAG:

- The General Development Plan (PAG, *Plan d'aménagement général*) will be drafted in such a way as to ensure that first land within the building perimeter is used optimally (internal concentration, vacant lots) before any further building land is identified. déi gréng shall only extend the building perimeter in specific circumstances and with restraint.
- We will generally design the PAG (*Plan d'aménagement général*) in such a way as to ensure that journeys made to everyday destinations for shopping, services, recreation, school, leisure or administrative purposes can be made as far as possible on foot, by bike or by public transport.
- The municipality will undertake to conserve and develop historical buildings and long-established structures e.g. town centres.
- déi gréng will – where appropriate in cooperation with the *Fonds du Logement* fund or the SNHBM (*Société Nationale des Habitations à Bon Marché*, National Affordable Housing Company) - utilise all the legal means available to it in order to act as a municipality to acquire building land and create new housing on the basis of social and ecological criteria.
- Housing construction areas and public building projects will be identified and planned according to transportation aspects (short distances, links to public transport, low-impact mobility), social criteria (social housing construction) and energy-related criteria (district heating networks, south-facing buildings).
- For all road-building projects and the planning of public places, there will be systematic incorporation of cycle paths, wide footpaths and lowered kerbstones to give increased focus to non-motorised transport and the less-mobile in accordance with the Design for All strategy.
- We will develop a cycling concept for the entire municipality and anchor this within the PAG (*Plan d'aménagement général*). This concept will both provide for safe cycle paths for day-to-day use as well as for secure parking places for bicycles.
- Based on pilot projects, we will promote new living arrangements such as community residences (potentially with cross-generational aspects), car-free residential developments, concentrated living spaces, etc.
- Building regulations will no longer include car parking places as a requisite, for instance by means of cut-backs to parking places for office buildings (rural/urban areas: one parking place per 45/70 m² gross office surface area). Parking places for bicycles will be provided in all business premises and housing.
- The construction plans and building regulations of the larger municipalities will earmark areas for allotment gardens (*cités jardinières*) as well as community gardens.

- déi gréng will design local regulation concerning advertising spaces in such a way to make adjusted advertising possible yet without creating disturbance. As a result, we will be very restrictive regarding neon advertising and will prevent large screens.
- déi gréng will tackle light pollution, adapt public lighting and also discretely arrange the illumination of public buildings.

2. Our aim: Smarter construction and the creation of affordable housing

As part of the municipality's active role in the housing sector, it shall ensure affordable housing for different population groups. Moreover, the municipality can contribute with appropriate measures to reducing household energy and living costs and to also keeping these affordable in the future. The prerequisite for this is that the municipality have a reserve of building plots.

Our housing policy tools:

- For the municipality to be able to play an active role in the construction of housing, it must itself acquire building plots within and outside of the building perimeter. It can have recourse to state assistance as it does this.
- The municipality will be active in the construction of social (rental) housing and promote social housing construction projects through cooperation with national actors (*Fonds du Logement*, SNHBM - *Société Nationale des Habitations à Bon Marché*). The municipality will invest above all in rented social housing and will thereby have recourse to state assistance.
- The municipality takes on an active role in the renovation of the existing building stock and the mobilisation of empty dwellings. Both state programmes and assistance as well as the (regional) *Agence immobilière sociale* will be drawn upon here. Council taxes are to only come into play when all other possibilities fail.
- Based on the model of other regions, we want to establish a regional office of the *Agence immobilière sociale* social accommodation agency.
- In order to counter land speculation, the municipality will avail itself of the legal possibilities within the development plan (priority zones, building land contracts, urban reparcelling) and the *Pacte Logement* law such as the first right of refusal and leasehold contracts (*bail emphythéotique*).
- By means of a reform of municipal building regulations, we will enable concentration within existing residential districts. For instance, additional housing will thus be created in existing buildings such as self-contained annexes for the elderly (granny flats) or students and shared accommodation.
- For new housing developments, we will draw up guidelines for the drafting of special development plans (PAP – *Plans d'aménagement particuliers*). With this in mind, criteria for social and sustainable living will be set from the outset. By way of example, this will address a well-balanced mix of different population groups and social classes (different price brackets), healthy and recyclable building materials, the use of renewable energies, transport planning and building density.
- The municipality will promote ecological housing development projects whereby energy consumption and supply will be given special consideration. It will deploy an investment programme that will help low-income families to carry out energy-based refurbishment.
- We will promote and encourage new living arrangements: e.g. intergenerational living, shared accommodation etc.
- Upon the sale of municipal social housing, we will ensure that the municipality retains the right of first refusal for such housing.

3. Our aim: Better service thanks to regional cooperation

Besides municipal mergers, inter-municipal cooperation provides many smaller municipalities with the only possibility to offer their population a wide array of high-quality infrastructure and services. However, such cooperation also makes sense if overlapping tasks and problems are to be resolved and a smarter and more sustainable use of public funds is to be pursued.

Our measures for regional cooperation:

- As part of its decision-making, the municipality will always think regionally by systematically bearing in mind the option of inter-municipal planning as part of larger projects, for instance sports and cultural facilities, childcare, music schools or business parks, as well as regional service providers such as the regional building authority, the regional *Agence immobilière sociale*, tourism development or the regional office for gender policy.
- Priority is given to regional mobility planning for public transport (regional bus service), cycle paths and parking management.
- Companies will preferably be established in regional industrial zones and business parks.
- A regular exchange of views with other municipalities from the region - including those from neighbouring countries - will be initiated and maintained.
- We will regularly address regional cooperation in the municipal council and, prior to important decisions to be taken by municipal representatives, we will provide the corresponding mandate.

4. Our aim: Optimal range of choices for improved mobility

Mobility for all calls for a broad range of different means of transport. The MoDu (Comprehensive Sustainable Mobility Strategy) applies both at national and municipal level and is based on an interconnected mobility system, with the objective of a significant increase in the proportion of pedestrians and cyclists (25%), as well as for public transport (25%). It will be matter of assuring a comfortable and quick combination of different means of transport such as the bike, bus, tram, train and car between the point of departure and the destination. Moreover, the focus will no longer be the possession of a means of transport, but instead its use. Municipalities play an important role here.

Our measures:

- In order to reach the targets set out in the MoDu strategy (Comprehensive Sustainable Mobility Strategy), we will develop a regional mobility strategy in cooperation with neighbouring municipalities in the region and with the state administration, which will account for all forms of mobility.
- *déi gréng* will actively collaborate in the implementation of national strategies for public transport within the municipality. Where appropriate, city buses, night and special buses, as well as on-demand buses, will be introduced. We will design public transport in a customer-friendly manner, for example by means of attractive and safe bus stops and with bicycle parking spaces at the stops.
- Since 40% of day-to-day trips are under 3 km, we will draw up a municipal/regional strategy for active mobility (for cycling, pedestrians etc.). Thanks to good infrastructure, continuous communication and regular monitoring, the bike will be promoted as the day-to-day means of transportation in local transport. All public buildings and institutions, train stations and bus stops will be equipped with secure and covered bicycle parking places or bike boxes.
- Within the field of land-use planning, the organisational and technical conditions required for the mobility of tomorrow will be put into place, such as bus and tram corridors, parking spaces for car-sharing

initiatives, e-mobility, fast cycle paths in the region etc. We will pay particular attention to making public spaces accessible to all as well as to traffic avoidance and calming measures: car-free residential areas, area-wide 30 km/h zones, shared-space zones etc. Parking spaces in the centre of the town will be reserved for short-term parking.

- For new housing developments, a traffic strategy will be designed that places people's quality of life in the foreground and makes active mobility a priority. We will check on a case-by-case basis whether private parking garages can be built and will correspondingly restrict the number of parking spaces available in public areas and adapt residents' parking accordingly. A car-sharing scheme can add to this strategy.
- The municipality will carry out a campaign for sustainable mobility and will inform residents about the range of public transport available to them (clear and up-to-date timetables, free tickets for new residents etc.). We will provide municipal employees with bus and rail tickets as well as (electric) service bicycles.
- *déi gréng* will ensure that there are safe footpaths and cycle paths. This will be discussed and planned together with affected citizens from the local area. Awareness-raising measures will encourage parents and children to avoid the car for the school run. In addition to this, other measures will be initiated such as a walking school bus (*Pedibus*) and a broad range of bus services.
- There will not be a blanket ban on bypasses round settlements. However, these may only be the last measure considered after prior traffic avoidance measures have not achieved the outcome desired.

5. Our aim: Sustainable use of municipally-owned resources

The municipality's operations will consistently abide by sustainability principles. This is applicable both regarding the quality of life of the population and the challenges of the future, but also with regard to sound finances and the creation of secure jobs.

Our measures:

- The municipality will invest in people and their know-how by ensuring that they receive consistent further training.
- The municipality will avoid outsourcing its service provision. If this is not possible, the capacity of the municipality to influence and steer this must remain intact.
- Over the long term, the municipality will keep its ongoing expenditure in check by reducing its energy and water use, renovating its buildings and acquiring a low-emission fleet of vehicles.
- The municipal council will discuss the multi-annual financing plan on an annual basis (*Programme pluriannuel d'investissement et de financement*) and when undertaking new borrowing, it will make sure that the yearly expenditure accrued when repaying the debt does not exceed 20% of its ordinary revenues.
- When decisions for new projects are taken, the municipality will take into consideration the associated and follow-up environmental costs that might arise over a longer time period.
- As part of its decision-making, the municipality will think regionally by systematically considering the possibility for inter-municipal planning on projects such as sports, cultural and leisure facilities, music schools, bus transport, cycle paths and industrial estates..
- The municipality will make consistent efforts across all areas of the climate package. Specifically in the field of energy, we will reduce consumption and use the possibilities represented by local energy production. As part of this, all renewable energies will be assessed: Wind and solar energy, wood, biomass, etc.

V. Health, the environment and nature conservation:

A healthy environment – a biodiverse natural world

1. Our aim: Preserving natural diversity and a healthy environment

Municipalities can make a significant contribution to conserving biodiversity and to environmental and nature protection at the local level. Biodiversity is the basis for a stable ecosystem and the basis for life for plants, animals and people. Clean air and calm surroundings also help to protect health. Through preventive measures, such as near-natural green spaces, low-impact mobility (*mobilité douce*), limited traffic zones and ecological building materials and foodstuffs, the municipality will ensure a healthy environment and a high quality of life.

Our measures:

- Municipal nature protection zones will be designated in addition to those foreseen at national level. As part of this process, the municipality will work together with the competent state authorities and environmental organisations. In order to implement nature protection measures in green zones, i.e. the protection of water sources and waters, the municipality will seek solutions with land owners regarding the purchase or exchange of land. To this end, the municipality will build up a pool of potential areas.
- The various built-up and residential quarters will systematically be planted with trees and greened by means of green areas and parking areas that blend into nature. Near-natural green spaces in towns and villages assume a range of functions: they influence the local microclimate, afford local recreational possibilities and ensure numerous types of habitats. Moreover, they play a key role concerning adaptation to the extreme weather conditions brought about by climate change:
 - o Green spaces will be managed in harmony with nature.
 - o The municipality will raise awareness among private households and businesses active in industrial or business parks with targeted public relations work concerning near-natural green spaces, and will provide expert advice.
 - o Waterways and bodies of standing water within the local area will also be renaturalised.
 - o A tree register will record and manage the trees in the urban area. The municipality will provide interested citizens with the possibility to care for trees by 'adopting' a tree.
 - o The municipality will promote the greening of roofs and *façades*.
 - o Green spaces will be linked up with one another and linked to the green areas outside the locality. This will improve the quality of life and living and create important habitats for numerous animals and plants.
- FSC certification will be the guiding principle for the management of municipally-owned forests. The FSC - Forest Stewardship Council - Certification attests that certain ecological, social and economic aspects are considered as part of the management of forests. Ten-year forestry plans will be drafted and implemented in collaboration with the forestry administration.
- Nature and cultural paths will be created, along which information and signs will explain the specific history and nature of the municipality.
- The municipality will actively participate in the nature protection syndicate.
- The municipality will carry out awareness-raising campaigns as to the most appropriate way to keep different species of pets.
- It will not authorise any circus performances involving animals.

- The municipality will be declared GMO- and pesticide-free, will carry out information campaigns and will refrain from using GM products in its market gardens, when purchasing foodstuffs and in school canteens.
- By means of a minimum quota set for the procurement of food to be offered to children in school canteens and *Maisons Relais*, there will be increased use of seasonal organic products, as well as fair-trade and regional products.
- The municipality will inform private households of the dangers of pesticide use and will highlight alternatives to the use of pesticides.
- Allotment gardens (*cités jardinières*), community gardens and school gardens will be established and cultivated according to ecological criteria.
- The municipality will ensure better air quality and less noise pollution, by endeavouring to reduce motorised private transport and by promoting environmentally-friendly mobility. It will actively participate in the 'car-free day'. It will implement traffic-calming measures, such as the designation of 30 km/h zones or shared-space areas.
- The municipality will actively support the implementation of the national action plans to tackle noise (*Plans d'action de lutte contre le bruit*) and the national programme for air quality (*Programme national de la qualité de l'air*).
- In areas with high volumes of traffic, as well as in industrial zones with high levels of emissions, regular measurements of emissions will be carried out, using methods such as bio-monitoring. The population will be swiftly and comprehensively informed about the results of these measurements, for instance by means of scoreboards.
- In the case of municipally-owned buildings and technical facilities, measures will be designed for optimal noise abatement, noise control and architectural acoustics or they will be retrofitted as part of upgrading measures. The municipality will suggest that, as part of its building regulations and for those buildings that are located alongside busy national roads, additional noise control measures, such as triple-glazing, should be implemented.
- Upon the construction or renovation of municipally-owned buildings, housing, crèches, schools etc., bio-construction measures will be considered concerning the avoidance of chemical, biological or physical sources of hazards and risks to health (indoor pollution).
- In order to tackle light pollution, in public spaces there will be systematic use of warm LED lighting (<3.000k), the use of which will be time-limited, and whose light sources will be intelligently directed and shielded. *déi gréng* will design the local regulations concerning advertising spaces in such a way to make adjusted advertising possible but yet without creating disturbance. As a result, we will be very restrictive regarding neon advertising and will prohibit large screens.

2. Our aim: High water quality

Municipalities must guarantee a high level of drinking water quality for their population and contribute to the protection of waters and the safeguarding of local drinking water sources. Cost-covering water prices provide municipalities with the necessary financial means to achieve these objectives since this is an important guidance instrument to promote the responsible use of the precious resource that is drinking water. Climate change and associated extreme weather, as well as demographic changes, require adjustments to be made to local infrastructure in order to protect the population and to preserve nature and the environment.

Our measures:

- The municipality will develop a water-saving plan.

- It will carry out campaigns regarding saving water that involve households and businesses and will inform them by means of data provided on water bills about their real consumption.
- There will be regular campaigns to raise awareness among the population of how to save water e.g. with tips on appropriate behaviour and the right techniques.
- Those who rely on social welfare will receive advice and assistance from the social welfare office regarding how to save water at home.
- Rain water use in private and commercial premises will be fostered by means of municipal subsidies supplementary to state-provided assistance.
- The municipality will reduce water use in its own buildings and facilities. The municipal water supply network will be rehabilitated and properly maintained. The installation of an electronic system to monitor the pipeline network will provide continuous information about any potential water leaks. Pilot projects using grey water (lightly contaminated water) and rainwater will be implemented in public infrastructure.
- The municipality will ensure a cost-covering water price that makes saving water attractive. In parallel to the cost-covering water price, we will introduce a social adjustment subsidy (*allocation de vie chère*) for low-income households.
- Water quality, drinking water and the protection of waters:
 - The municipality will safeguard its own sources of drinking water. In order to preserve the quality of drinking and surface water, it will implement the measures laid down in the Water Framework Directive.
 - The municipality will define its drinking water protection areas and will implement the necessary measures for the protection and use of its sources together with the state administration bodies, the companies concerned and the neighbouring municipalities.
 - The municipality will carry out analyses of the drinking water quality at least twice a year and will publish the results in language that is clear to understand.
 - With a view to guaranteeing a high quality of drinking water, regional cooperation with regards to drinking water supply will be sought in those municipalities that are not linked up to the Sebes distribution network.
 - The municipality will actively contribute towards the conclusion of 'river partnerships' i.e. contracts between public administrations and agricultural holdings with a view to protecting watercourses (*contrat de rivières*).
 - As part of its waste water syndicate, the municipality will ensure that sewage treatment plants are adapted to the requirements of the Water Framework Directive.
 - The municipality will inform citizens and raise their awareness of the input of pollutants into rainwater and their avoidability.
- Measures to counter flooding and high water:
 - By means of a separate discharge of rainwater and dirty water, less wastewater must be treated.
 - The risk of floods will be mitigated by means of
 - i) systematic drainage possibilities for rainwater,
 - ii) the unsealing of surfaces,
 - iii) the restoration of water courses to their natural state,
 - iv) the restoration of natural flood plains as well as the construction of retention basins.
 - Flood protection measures are nevertheless only efficient if they are implemented on a trans-regional basis – consequently, regional cooperation between municipalities is indispensable.

3. Our aim: Waste management– from the linear to the circular economy

Avoiding waste takes highest priority, since any waste not produced in the first place helps to take the strain off nature and the environment. Developing a local and sustainable circular economy seeks to use fewer resources through systematic reutilisation of waste or items that are no longer used. To effectively address waste avoidance and reutilisation, everyone must play their part: municipalities must generate the required levels of awareness among private households and firms and provide adequate incentives.

Our measures:

- The municipality shall establish a waste management strategy. Priority will be placed on the avoidance of waste, the provision of a separate organic waste collection and a price scale for refuse collection fees based on a polluter pays principle. In parallel to this, it will provide the population with tips on how to reduce waste and on private composting. The municipality will consider the possibility of separating green waste and cut wood for further use as energy.
- In order to create a general awareness among the population and companies regarding the avoidance of waste, the municipality will carry out comprehensive public relations work for a resource-conserving purchasing approach and responsible use of resources.
- In the municipal administration and in local bodies such as schools and *Maisons Relais*, as well as at town festivities and sporting events, an exemplary approach to waste avoidance and sorting will be implemented. As part of this approach, focus will systematically be placed on alternatives to single-use glasses and tableware and a commitment will be made to counter food wastage. The municipality will encourage associations to organise their public events with a view to creating as little waste as possible.
- The municipality will support the fight against food wastage and will take particular care to ensure that its school canteens use foodstuffs in a responsible manner.
- The municipality will draw up a strategy to tackle littering in public spaces, will offer environmental lessons in schools and will support litter-picking activities undertaken by volunteers.
- The municipality will develop its own policy for the recycling and reuse of objects. It will support or launch exchange platforms, repair cafés and second hand markets, develop a municipal or regional repair workshop and, when constructing new infrastructure, it will systematically opt for the construction type that uses fewest resources.
- When constructing or renovating municipally-owned buildings or housing, attention will be paid to the use of recyclable or ecological building materials.
- The municipality will raise businesses' and the populations' awareness surrounding avoiding construction waste to the greatest extent possible.

VI. Local impetus for social transformation

1. Our aim: The municipality as the driving force for transformations within society and as a responsible consumer

The municipality can create an environment within its confines that is attractive to trade and commerce and that satisfies the basic needs of people living in the region. By promoting the establishment of innovative small- and medium-sized enterprises, it will help the economy to diversify and create additional jobs. Here there will be specific emphasis placed on the targeted establishment of companies from which future-proof and environmentally friendly products or manufacturing processes are expected.

After the state, municipalities are the biggest contracting authorities and employers. In this respect, through public procurement and the allocation of public money, they play a decisive role in working towards a new type of economy as well as a new way of living together. Within their own buildings and through their behaviour, they can serve as an example and encourage the population to get involved.

Our measures:

- The municipality will carry out a SWOT analysis of the local economic, social and tourism potential and will support the local business association.
- A well-balanced range of economic structures will be established, whereby the municipality specifically promotes a mixture of food retailers and small-scale crafts and services businesses.
- The municipality shall bring together the various different local and regional commercial, craft, farming and industrial operations with a view to encouraging synergies between actors and boosting product sales in the region.
- As part of the climate package, the municipality will organise regular exchanges with local businesses and firms. Potential environmental protection and energy-saving measures for industrial and business zones will be determined jointly and by mutual agreement. To this end, the municipality will offer expert advice.
- The municipality will itself be active as an economic actor and will implement innovative and sustainable projects, potentially in partnership with private economic actors, for instance eco-villages, community residential complexes, district heating networks, solar panels, rideshare or car-sharing initiatives and regional currencies (such as the Beki in the Redange canton).
- Favourable premises - *Pépinières d'entreprises* - will be made available to young companies to help them with the initial start-up problems that they encounter.
- *déi gréng*, following the model 'transition towns', will promote local and regional initiatives for different living arrangements (living cooperatives), new economic systems (circular economy through repair), decentralised energy production (energy cooperatives) and local food production (community gardens). Municipal property and buildings will be made available for these innovative projects and for decentralised energy production.
- The municipality will respect ecological, social and ethical criteria when consuming goods and products as well as services. These criteria will have an influence on any allocation of public money (municipal procurement), for instance in specifications for calls for tender, the awarding of contracts and the purchase of goods, the investment of money and grants awarded to associations etc.
- By means of a minimum quota set for the procurement of food for municipal bodies, the municipality will promote increased use of seasonal organic products, as well as fair-trade and regional products.

- déi gréng seek to make municipalities stand out in the context of the climate package. The municipality will play its part in achieving the goals that were set at the COP21 climate change negotiations in Paris by participating actively in national programmes for climate action and accession to the Climate Alliance. Municipal actions will be taken to reduce CO₂ emissions and corresponding projects carried out. Municipal CO₂ reduction targets will be set and a carbon footprint summary will be introduced and regularly updated.
- The municipality is aware of its exemplary role and will endeavour to include the population by way of specific programmes (M-Pass for municipal staff, (electric) service bikes, waste avoidance etc.) and by providing information (conferences on environmental matters, distributive justice etc.) and thereby influence consumer behaviour.
- Local projects in developing countries will be supported and established together with the parties concerned. In order to raise awareness of the problem and increase understanding for the culture of these countries, the population of the municipality will be involved in these projects.
- The municipality will play its part towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and will regularly organise campaigns and information evenings regarding the North-South issue.
- The municipality will lease out its own land in accordance with ecological and social criteria and will be a consumer of the products produced on this land, e.g. in school restaurants.
- Municipal twinning partnerships (*jumelages*) with local authorities and cities in foreign countries will be established in such a way as to foster real contact and partnerships between citizens as part of specific exchange measures. By means of such partnerships, networks for innovation and creativity will be developed in municipalities.

2. Our aim: A complete switch to renewable energies

déi gréng will strive to meet the goal of meeting 100% of total energy consumption needs with renewable energy. The departure from oil dependency and nuclear power must consequently be commenced immediately at local level too. Using local renewable energy locally, generating municipal added value and creating regional jobs pursues one and the same objective.

Our measures:

- The municipal energy strategy will be updated and aligned with the objectives of the Paris Agreement on climate change (COP21) and the Third Industrial Revolution as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals. A corresponding catalogue of measures will be drawn up and implemented on a continuous basis.
- As part of the climate package, the municipality will adopt an energy-saving and energy efficiency strategy. It will actively promote this and advise households and companies regarding energy saving. By means of monitoring, total energy consumption will be checked and the energy-saving strategy fine-tuned.
- The entire municipal area will systematically be analysed for renewable energy production and use and any potential identified (windy sites, wood production, solar land register, agricultural biomass etc.) will be tapped into. The municipality will launch photovoltaic community installations on municipal roof surfaces.
- The municipality will adopt energy accounting for municipal buildings, which will allow it to analyse municipal energy consumption and strategies in order to achieve greater energy efficiency.
- Municipal new constructions will be designed to have the best possible energy class and will be equipped with energy-saving technology (lighting, electronic equipment etc.). Attention will be paid to

ecological and bio-construction building materials. Subsequent change of use of buildings should be made possible and the recyclability of building materials must be borne in mind.

- As part of the climate package, we will advise households concerning the new state instruments available (climate bank and sustainable construction) for the renovation of private residences.
- The municipality will promote e-mobility by purchasing electric cars for the municipal fleet of vehicles and setting up charging stations for private e-mobility.
- When new business areas and residential projects are designed, focus will be on energy-efficient planning (orientation of the building, shadows cast, district heating networks etc.).
- The municipality participates in anti-nuclear initiatives and supports legal measures against nuclear power.

3. Our aim: Sustainable tourism as an economic and cultural factor

As part of a national tourism strategy, good development prospects are provided to the local and regional economy. It is especially in rural areas and the natural parks where existing potential can be far better tapped into. The attractions on offer to tourists are also of benefit to the local population and extend the range of cultural and leisure opportunities in the municipality.

Our measures:

- In line with national provisions, the municipality, together with local associations and neighbouring municipalities, will initiate the development of a tourism strategy for the region. A priority will be the conservation and low-impact use of natural, cultural and historical heritage.
- The municipality will draw up an inventory of the buildings, places and landscapes that merit protection and will develop a strategy to preserve and enhance them. A subsequent step is to extend this inventory with upgraded infrastructure and to market this with appealing information publications.
- The municipality will work closely together with neighbouring municipalities (in the ORT – the regional tourism office) and structures of the wider region and will ensure that there is a broad link-up between everything on offer.
- New local services and infrastructures will be set up so as to benefit both the local population as well as tourism.
- The municipality will make sure that the region is marketed professionally, whereby it is especially those forms of tourism infrastructure that satisfy environmental sustainability criteria that will be in the foreground (such as cycle and walking routes or Ecolabel and Bed&Bike). This also includes a good link-up between tourism infrastructure and public transport.
- The tourist offer will be improved through the creation and further development of thematic cycle and walking routes, guided tours, information centres, youth hostels and rural houses and lodges (*gîtes ruraux* and *gîtes d'étapes*).
- The municipality will take care of well-signposted walking and cycling routes and will maintain the corresponding infrastructure.
- Nature and cultural paths will be created, along which information and signs will explain the specific history and nature of the municipality.