



Esch-Uelzecht

Lëscht

## No bei dir.



### FIR ESCH-UELZECHT: DALIAH SCHOLL & PIM KNAFF



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### A CITY FOR EVERYONE

The DP Esch wants a city where everyone feels safe and comfortable, a city where people are happy to live and develop freely.

### Children and youth

We must ensure that our children and young people have a healthy, varied, fair, inclusive and peaceful environment in which to live.

All children in Esch must be cared for from an early age. Every new school building must include a crèche, a pre-school and an afterschool day care centre. The DP also supports the provision of day care by mothers and fathers and day care centres in business areas. In order to help parents with irregular working hours, the DP is committed to more flexible opening hours.

The DP Esch is committed to expanding the offer of the forest day care and school, so that more children in Esch can benefit from an education in close proximity to nature.

The path to school for our children should

always be short and safe. The use of the Pedibus, where children gather in one place to go to school, accompanied by a responsible adult, should be generalised. This possibility should be extended to the bicycle through the use of a velobus. Furthermore, we are committed to reviewing the distribution of the bus stops between the childcare facilities and the after-school activities. We believe that the Ruffbus (on-demand bus service) should be available in the community for our children.

There is a need for meeting places for the youth of Esch. The DP is committed to creating multisports fields accessible to young people as well as a roller rink so that our young people can meet outdoors.

### Accessibility and inclusion

The public domain should be brought into conformity with the provisions of the new law on accessibility as soon as possible.

In order to make life easier for people with reduced mobility, we want to keep the autonomous bus service on the rue de l'Alzette in service, or even extend it. The DP still supports the bus on demand service and is considering an extension of the offer. In addition, the DP is committed to having all street furniture checked to make it accessible and, if necessary, to add armrests.

In each neighbourhood, we demand a study on the creation of playgrounds that are interesting, safe, inclusive and well located.

### Hoplr neighbourhood network

In order to promote living together and exchange in Esch's neighbourhoods, the DP proposes the use of the Hoplr neighbourhood network, a platform for communication between people from the same neighbourhood,

which would also allow associations to report on events taking place in the neighbourhood.



The DP is proud to have been able to participate in the creation of the den BiBS (Bureau d'information Besoins Spécifiques et Séniors).

Older people are in every aspect an enrichment for everyone through their life experience. The DP is therefore committed to creating a contact point where the elderly can find help in their daily lives. The programme of activities offered by the city should be enriched and more varied to combat loneliness. Associations working in this field should be supported.

The DP Esch is still committed to the opening of an intergenerational house.

### Safe Spaces

The DP Esch is clearly committed to Safe Spaces in our city. These are places, physical or virtual, where people with similar experiences of discrimination or marginalisation can meet to exchange, organise and support each other. In this way we create a shelter from physical attacks. A Safe Space should be a kind of refuge from marginalisation, discrimination or any other form of social exclusion such as sexism, racism, homophobia or transphobia.



### LGBTIQ+

Thanks to the DP, the general assembly of Rainbow Cities or the biggest Pride ever organised in Luxembourg took place in Eschsur-Alzette, a Freedom Zone was created, a House of Diversity opened and a charity evening organised at the Ariston by Rosa Lëtzebuerg.

We want to continue to support the organisation of Pride Week and increase the

budget considerably. The DP will ensure that LGBTQI+ rights organisations find their place in the House of Diversity.

Furthermore, training on LGBTIQ+ rights for city staff but also for all citizens should be organised to promote respect and tolerance.



### An animal-friendly city

Pets make a valuable contribution to us humans and to our society. That is why they deserve our respect.

The DP Esch is committed to:

- developing a modern and attractive animal shelter
- better cooperation between public and private

actors in the field of animal protection and placement

- more green spaces for animals in the city
- a pet cemetery
- an animal-friendly label for e.g. restaurants, cafés or buildings.

### Volunteering

Volunteering is crucial for the sustainable development of our society, whether it is the protection of nature or the support of vulnerable people.

We are committed to having the city of Esch set up a network of volunteers to promote volunteering in Esch's associations. A platform should guarantee contact between associations and volunteers. The commitment of such volunteers is decisive for social cohesion, the environment and health.

In this sense, the city of Esch-sur-Alzette should award a prize for volunteer work.

# 2

### MOBILITY

The DP Esch is in favour of a paradigm shift in the way we move in and out of the municipality. This means promoting active mobility (e.g. pedestrians, bicycles) and devoting as much of the public space as possible to people and nature in addition to the car.



### The renaissance of the bicycle

With the longest bicycle and pedestrian bridge in Europe, which runs from Belval to Esch via the Arcelor-Mittal site, and the fast bicycle path that continues to Luxembourg City, the black-greenblue coalition, in collaboration with the Ministry of Mobility and Public Works, has succeeded in bringing the bicycle back to the forefront in Esch and its surroundings.

From this crucial axis for cycling, we will work to ensure that the municipal cycle paths have their own path with a specific colour coating and that they are linked to the national cycle path network. Thanks to large-scale protection, it should be possible to travel safely through Esch.

The space for these cycle paths is created by systematically grouping parking spaces and creating one-way streets. This creates more space for cycling, green spaces or terraces.

In addition to the continuous expansion of bicycle boxes (e.g. mBOX), bicycle parking spaces are to be integrated throughout the municipality.

For new neighbourhood areas, a parking key of one bicycle per person or per workstation should be defined. This is to ensure that new building projects provide sufficient space for bicycles. Bicycles often fail to be used because it is too difficult to get them out of the basement. Bicycle boxes could be installed in front of buildings or on the ground floor of buildings, which would make access easier.

In our opinion, the municipality of Esch should set an example and provide changing rooms with showers and a bicycle service for municipal and inter-municipal staff.



### The tram arrives in Esch

In addition to the cycle path from Esch to the capital, the tram will also come to Esch. It is important to us that it is equipped with mobility hubs that make it easy to switch to car, bike or bus. In this way, the tram should not only contribute to an improvement in the public transport offer, but also to a reduction in bus traffic, noise and air pollution.

### New forms of mobility

As DP Esch, we want to offer the use of mobility services in addition to the use of mobility (bicycle, car, etc.). This is why we are in favour of the development of the inter-municipal service "Vël'ok" or of car-sharing services such as "Flex" from CFL. In the future, we want to gradually expand the offer by also offering transport bikes for hire. These bicycles are equipped with large bodies that are suitable for shopping or for excursions with small children.

### Park & Ride

Following the example of many European cities, we are committed to the creation of free car parks on the outskirts of the city, linked to the network of cycle paths and public transport. This would considerably reduce congestion in the city centre.

# Free short-term parking

In order to support the retail trade in Esch, we are committed to a system of free short-term parking (max. 30 minutes) near the shops. These parking spaces should be equipped with a digital parking meter to ensure that they are only used for shopping.



The implementation of the above measures requires a short, medium and long-term strategy. For this reason, a Local Mobility Plan 2035 has been drawn up.

As the future will bring its own challenges, such as the decarbonisation of the road sector or mobility innovations such as autonomous driving, we are committed to further developing this plan in cooperation with professional actors from the world of research, politics and civil society. A permanent committee should ensure that the implementation and adaptation of the plan is guaranteed in the years to come. 3

### CLIMATE AND ENVIRONMENT

A clean environment is important for the health and well-being of our citizens. We have a range of ideas to make our city (even) more ecological and sustainable and thus make our contribution to meeting Paris' climate protection targets.

#### Renewable energy

The municipality of Esch must assume its role as a model for renewable energy and energy efficiency and switch to the corresponding technologies. In this way, we hope to give a boost to the production and research of renewable energies. Every public building should be supplied with locally produced electricity as soon as possible. To this end, we will systematically develop the installation and use of photovoltaic panels on the roofs of municipal buildings. We also support partnerships with local and regional energy cooperatives that promote energy change. The municipality's car fleet is also to be gradually made completely CO2-neutral and public buildings are to be renovated in terms of energy efficiency.

# Greening and drinking fountains

We want to create even more green spaces in public areas. For example, streets in new districts should be planted with trees. Roofs and facades of buildings should also be greened. The city could offer workshops on how to make gardens and balconies greener. The DP of Esch will install free drinking water fountains in the most frequented places. We want to make these green spaces and infrastructures accessible to partnerships. On the one hand, people, schools or companies should be given the opportunity to volunteer for the planting and maintenance of these areas. On the other hand, water fountains should be sponsored by companies, for example.

#### Circular economy

The DP Esch proposes to build Esch's public buildings in a sustainable and innovative way, namely according to the principle of the circular economy. These are buildings that are not only

energy efficient, but also constructed from natural materials that are low in pollutants and can be recycled.

#### Public consultation

As is the case with the Klima-Biergerrot (Citizen's Climate Office), the DP of Esch also wants to better involve its population at local level in the development of concrete climate policy measures. We will regularly organise information and awareness campaigns for adults, young people and children and develop energy saving advice for individuals and companies. In addition to the usual financial conditions imposed in a public tender, factors such as environmental compatibility, water consumption and energy efficiency must be

#### added.

Every event organised in the city must meet sustainability criteria and satisfy the requirements of the Superdreckskëscht's Green event label. Esch should accompany and support local associations in this process. The city could possibly support sustainable events financially or link its support to corresponding criteria.

### Esch as an anti-waste city

One third of the world's food ends up in the bin, while millions of people around the world suffer from hunger and there are wheat shortages. In addition to our ethical commitment, we must not forget the ecological dimension of the problem. The DP Esch will ensure that the municipality is made aware of this issue by means of a campaign on antigaspi.lu. In addition, we call for the city to work with foodsharing actors.

# Soil protection, biodiversity and rainwater use

Active soil protection is one of the top environmental priorities. The DP Esch will not only prevent the deterioration of our soils, but also the remediation of polluted soils. In order to guarantee a good quality drinking water supply, effective source protection is absolutely necessary.

The DP Esch will also limit the use of plant protection products, use late mowing of meadows and green areas along the roads and protect and renaturalise local biotopes, such as wet meadows. We also want to renounce as much as possible the sealing of surfaces and promote alternatives such as water infiltration facilities or ecological car parks. The DP supports the concept of a Sponge-City, i.e. a city where rainwater is collected and stored locally instead of ending up in the sewers. This makes it possible to water trees in the public space, among other things.

# 4 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM



At the beginning of the legislature, an extensive survey of the city centre was carried out among the population, shopkeepers and customers in order to propose ideas for improving the city centre. Based on the findings of this survey, many changes were made, the city centre was made greener, new seating areas were created, new rubbish bins were installed, public and supervised toilets were created in the city centre for customers.

New instruments have been developed and implemented to address the vacancies that affect Esch, as well as all other cities in the country and abroad.

The CLAIRE project is representative of all these projects: it is a mediation between the owners of commercial premises and potential investors or traders.

In addition, 2 pop-up stores have been opened in the centre under the management of the DP and have welcomed numerous businesses over the last 4 years, 2 of which have been set up in the rue de l'Alzette.

A commercial premises exchange has been set up to present the offer of vacant premises to potential investors in a simple manner. In order to facilitate the creation of a business in Esch, the town council has voted to grant an opening bonus for each new business. In return, a tax will be levied on long-vacant commercial premises used for speculative purposes.

The specially created Department of Economic Affairs and its employees are working hard every day to make the business environment in Esch more attractive. In addition, the ESCH BLOG has been set up to present our shops and their employees to the public via social media.

The DP is committed to strengthening existing structures to help traders set up new projects.

We will also promote further pop-up concepts and ensure that concept stores find their place in Esch, as they offer retailers the opportunity to share retail space and thus promote synergies between different customer groups, which is beneficial to trade.

The DP will continue to advocate that the city of Esch rents out commercial premises that have been empty for a long period of time in order to re-let them to attractive new businesses and thus offer the owner of the business the guarantee of receiving rent over a long period of time. In return, the landlord should receive lower rents. The DP will also work to ensure that premises that are still closed today because they do not meet the requirements of the CGDIS or the ITM are renovated and can thus be put back on the market.

It is also very important that the city centre is made more attractive through a wide range of events.

In collaboration with the Esch traders' association, the DP will try to reorganise the Esch street markets.

The dynamics created by the European Capital of Culture in the field of culture should also benefit the trade and cultural events in free space should be organised in the centre of Esch as a priority.

The renovation and refurbishment of the Rue de l'Alzette, which was supported and encouraged by the DP, will result in our city centre shining again.

The DP is convinced that once the international and energy crisis is over, the city of Esch will be able, thanks to the instruments developed since 2017, to make the most of its considerable potential.

### Municipal business tax (ICC)

In the field of economic development, the current majority has, at the beginning of the mandate, adapted downwards, and not only symbolically, the rate of the communal commercial tax for companies. This adaptation has had the positive consequence of the establishment of several companies in Esch, some of which have created numerous jobs on our territory. According to the latest report of the Social Observatory, 20% more jobs have been created in the territory of the city of Esch in recent years.

This is why the DP Esch proposes to adapt the rate of the municipal business tax to the rate of the city of Luxembourg, in order to give the economic development of our city a better chance of attracting new companies.



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Economic development goes hand in hand with tourism.

In this area, many achievements have been made with the participation of the DP.

The City Tourist Office has moved to a new location in the middle of the Rue de l'Alzette and now also houses the Economic Development Department.

In addition, a tourism strategy has been drawn up, which is intended to present Esch as the centre of the southern region and to attract visitors from home and abroad to Esch.

With the new website EXPLORE ESCH, an

instrument has been developed which shows in a simple way all the attractions of the city of Esch. This important tool will allow visitors to consult the Esch agenda in a few clicks and to identify our cultural, architectural and historical attractions.

The DP is committed to extending the popular tree house concept at the Gaalgebierg in the future.

In addition, the DP is committed to restructuring the Esch campsite in cooperation with the current operator in order to optimise its management and make it a modern,



comfortable, functional and well-frequented first-class campsite.

The open-air art exhibition, the sculpture tour through the town, attracted many visitors to Esch. The various guided tours in several languages were multiplied and are very popular.

In the future, the DP will continue to promote the tourist offer of the city of Esch and its surrounding nature centres through crossborder advertising campaigns.

We also want to look closely at the project for a summer toboggan run on the Gaalgebierg, for example.

Such measures are absolutely necessary and will also be supported by the DP in the future.

There is no doubt that the European Capital of Culture and the accompanying events at the Terrasse de l'Alzette and in all the other districts of the city, as well as the organisation of major events, have contributed to attracting large numbers of people to Esch.

This must remain the objective of all municipal management.

### HOUSING

The housing crisis is making it increasingly difficult to find accommodation in Luxembourg. As the second largest city in the country, Esch could play a particularly important role in combating this phenomenon. The DP is therefore committed to sustainable investment in the construction of affordable housing and to ensuring that alternative forms of housing contribute to the social mix.



We are committed to the creation of an Esch housing company. In contrast to national housing companies such as SNHBM, a local housing company would be more familiar with the local context and could therefore implement more targeted affordable housing projects.

The Esch housing company should be in charge of all housing construction in Esch. It should renovate, energy retrofit or build new housing in existing neighbourhoods and help to ensure that new housing areas are built in a climatefriendly and human-friendly way. In concrete terms, this means creating traffic-calmed neighbourhoods with high-quality green spaces and central mobility hubs (for cars, bikes, buses, etc.). The management of the municipal housing stock should also be taken over by this housing company.



### Housing for young people

Finding affordable housing is a major challenge, especially for young people. After their training or studies, they hardly have the financial means to buy or rent a house and to dare to take the step towards independence.

We are committed to the construction of housing for young people in Esch. The basic idea is to help young adults under the age of 30, who cannot afford a home on the normal housing market, to take their first steps towards independence. These youth accommodations are usually small furnished studios with affordable rents, where the whole concept and the community play an important role. Here, the rental period must also be limited in time. It is a

#### way of getting started.

After all, in addition to the studios, there must also be rooms that are used in common. Thus, housing for young people is not only financially advantageous, but also helps combat youth loneliness.

### Building cooperatives

Building cooperatives are a cooperative form of housing company, in which the rent is paid to a company in which one is a shareholder. Unlike private property developers, this form of housing company is not profit-oriented. Thus, housing costs can be reduced compared to the private market. The high price of land in Luxembourg is a major obstacle. One possibility to remedy this would be to lease the land over a long period (usually 99 years) in the form of a long lease.

The DP Esch will commit itself to reserving part of the municipal land for this form of cooperative housing.

# Intergenerational housing

Intergenerational housing is a type of residential building that houses people of all ages, from different backgrounds or cultural backgrounds. The DP Esch will support the creation of intergenerational housing and thus strengthen intergenerational cohesion in the municipality.

### Alternative, flexible, barrier-free and age-friendly housing.

In large-scale housing projects (as is already planned for example in the new 'Rout Lëns' district), the DP ESch will provide alternative forms of housing for the elderly and ensure that

social and medical facilities are located in the neighbourhood.

### Tiny Houses

The DP Esch will also adapt the urban planning rules to allow for the construction of alternative

forms of housing, such as 'tiny houses'.

## 6 CULTURE



The DP is committed to the continuation of the city's cultural development plan, as we have been doing since autumn 2017, in order to make Esch a cultural centre recognised both nationally and internationally for its cultural offer and diversity.

Thanks to Esch2022, culture has gained momentum in Esch and under the leadership of the DP, the cultural strategy which was supposed to be developed over the course of ten years, had already been fully implemented in only five years.

Also under the leadership of the DP and with the support of an almost always unanimous town council, the range of our cultural institutions has been expanded by 4 cultural houses. The Konschthal, a contemporary art space, and the Bridderhaus, an artists' residence, were both implemented by the FrEsch association and, following their great success, it was decided to make them fullyfledged Esch cultural institutions. The former Ariston cinema became a second stage for the Théâtre de la Ville with mainly productions and performances for a younger audience. Finally, Building 4, a third cultural venue, which, with its creative workshops, allows many artists to live their art to the fullest and in good conditions.

In collaboration with the Tourism Department, the spectacular open-air exhibition "Nothing is permanent" with more than 20 sculptures was created. The DP will support the continuation of this project in a new form. In particular, the DP wants to create more space for Esch and regional artists.

The concept of the Culture Night, which was introduced for the first time in 2018, was multiplied by 5 for the cultural year 2022 and attracted more than 60,000 people. A huge success!

The Francofolies, which is also the merit of the DP, was a huge success and will be repeated in future years.

The cultural year brought several important benefits to the city of Esch:

• the number of our cultural institutions has been expanded,

• the collaboration with our French neighbours was improved and new synergies were founded,

- the visibility of the city of Esch has increased enormously and
- hundreds of artistic projects have been launched.
- The European Commission has recognised the success of Esch2022 by awarding our city the €1.5 million Melina Mercouri Prize, which confirms that Esch2022 has lived up to the EU's expectations.
- It is now up to us to maintain the quality of the cultural offer of 2022 in all our cultural institutions, both old and new.
- The renovation of our Kulturfabrik is of prime importance. This alternative cultural house is firmly anchored in the cultural fabric of the city and must receive financial support in order to realise its renovation plans in the short term.
- The DP is also committed to ensuring that the new Metzeschmelz district has a building that can house the Esch Cultural Centre.
- In spite of the newly created institutions, the city of Esch is still unable to claim a hall that can accommodate a larger number of people and where the numerous associations could set up their offices.
- Making culture accessible to everyone remains a priority for the DP. We are committed to the modernisation of the municipal library and to broadening the offer by proposing a mobile library that would regularly visit the different districts of the town in order to give everyone in Esch access to knowledge.
- The youngest children should also have access to the cultural offer from a very early age through an art academy for children.
- By integrating culture as a pillar of urban development, the local economic actors have received an important new impulse. The DP wants to continue this momentum and create additional jobs in the cultural field.
- As provided for in the second part of the cultural strategy, the DP is committed to involving the population in cultural planning.
- In addition, the cultural associations will continue to be able to count on the support of the DP.



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### SPORTS

Thanks to the current majority, Esch will have the Sports Museum as well as the National Tennis Centre and many infrastructures have been modernised or even built in Lallange. The DP Esch will continue its commitment to sports:

### **Athletics complex**

The DP is committed to the construction of a sports complex dedicated exclusively to athletics.

### Our football pitches

With the DP, the clubs can count on the modernisation of their infrastructure.



The DP is still committed to the development of recreational sports facilities accessible to everyone without necessarily being a member of a club.

### Outdoor swimming pool

It is still important for the DP to find a location for an open-air swimming pool.

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### SAFETY

In March 2023, the Local Safety Plan (PLS) for the town of Esch-sur-Alzette was presented, containing 90 measures to improve safety. The PLS proposes the following measures:

#### Streetworker

Greater security also requires a better social policy. As soon as it came to power, the current coalition hired a team of streetworkers to go out and meet the homeless, thereby solving problems and avoiding conflicts. However, this team needs to be reinforced.

#### **Municipal agents**

The Ministry of the Interior recently extended the powers of our municipal officers. These new powers will enable them to take action against all kinds of incivilities, such as noise pollution, blocking the public highway, depositing rubbish outside authorised time slots, fireworks and dog mess.

### Private security guards

The municipality should conclude agreements with private security companies that would patrol certain areas day and night. These security guards would, of course, have to work alongside our municipal officers and the police.

### **Municipal police**

The DP Esch is committed to lobbying the government for the creation of a municipal police force.



The local security plan (PLS) already provides for the installation of 8 video surveillance cameras. For the DP, the police must be able to use video recordings from other cameras installed in relevant locations. However, it is important that these cameras are not installed everywhere and that they can be easily dismantled and installed in other strategic locations.

The DP is opposed to widespread and unfounded surveillance.

### Hygiene

With the introduction last year of on-demand collection of bulky waste and scrap metal, the streets are already much cleaner. What's more, there's no longer any need to consult the waste calendar or separate bulky waste from scrap metal.

The "polluter pays" principle laid down in the new Waste Act should be refined to improve the separation rate and thus reduce the amount of non-recyclable waste. With the increase of the presence of the staff in charge of fighting against incivilities in the streets of Esch, our city will become cleaner and thus the quality of all Esch inhabitants will be improved.



### No bei dir. EIS KANDIDATE FIR D'STAD ESCH-UELZECHT



Schäffen, Deputéierten Avocat à la Cour 57 Joer



SCHOLL Gemengeconseillère

Musicienne - Flûtiste Dipl. 49 Joer





Bauingenieur mat Spezialisatioun am Urbanismus 33 loer



Jurist 49 Joer



Employée privée 51 Joer



Affekotin 27 Joer



Pensionnaire 70 Joer



RASQUIN Kinésithérapeute 56 Joer



BOB I GRETHEN Employé de banque 50 Joer



Informatiker 43 Joer



KMIOTEK Entrepreneur 36 Joer



Restaurateur e.r. 77 Joer



SCHMITT Patronne vun engem Weiderbildungsinstitut (Wellbeing At Work sarl) 54 loer



Assistante social e.r. 72 loer



SKENDEROVIĆ Enseignante 27 loer







Gemengebeamten 56 loer







FERNANDES



