

## Stockholm Baseline Review

The Stockholm City Planning Administration has in cooperation with different stakeholders identified Lövholmen as an evolvable area in the Master Plan for Stockholm City 99 (Översiktplan 99). Stockholm plans to elaborate a program proposal for the concerned area. A program proposal is a first step of developing the area. In this phase of the process it is important to get all the opinions of the stakeholders, when it is still feasible to influence the framing of the programme proposal.

The process is still on a planning phase. It has been determined that there will be new habitation, but it is not defined how they shall be formulated.

Sustainable development requires long-term planning and holistic vision; the ability to weigh up many different and sometimes conflicting interests such as planning and building housing, protection of the environment, provision of opportunities for establishing businesses, reducing the health impact of transport, effective use of power sources and economic efficiency. Sustainable development implies that the ecological, social and economic dimensions are integrated.

In Sweden there is a democratic tradition going back for more than a century. This is the foundation on which Sweden has developed its political system. At the local level there are strong, independent municipalities with directly-elected politicians. The municipalities have their own taxation powers, enabling them to follow their own political line. In the municipalities there are Specialist Committees with responsibility for various fields. The City Executive Board acts as a coordinating body charged with overall responsibility for the control and development of the municipality.

The citizens at large have the opportunity of influencing the direction of policy at the general elections which take place every fourth year. Participation in elections is high in Sweden at about 80% but has shown declining tendency at the most recent elections. In addition there are numerous political matters concerning which citizens are afforded opportunities to participate in planning, decision-making and conduct of the city's affairs and activities.

The Government of Sweden's missive; National Strategy for Sustainable Development (Nationell strategi för hållbar utveckling 2001/02: 172) and existing legal requirements (Plan-



och bygglagen, Miljöbalken) is the benchmark for a community planning, who promote a sustainable Stockholm.

The City decided in 2005 to present a common long-term vision for the future development of the city under the title of **Vision Stockholm 2030**. The task of formulating the programme is to be broadly rooted in the City's administrations and companies as well as external stakeholders.

Since 2007 there have been 14 District Councils in the City of Stockholm. The overall aim is to strengthen local democracy and participation in each respective city district and to enhance the quality and efficiency of municipal action. The work of the Councils is to be based on a holistic view, and the responsibility extends over a broad field. There are important functions concerned with integration, cultural activities, environmental issues, cooperation with business and industry, and municipal health and medical services.

In Sweden there is legislative provision for an elaborate and formalised consultative process of physical planning. Right from the introductory phase the general public and others affected are invited to offer their opinions regarding the forthcoming exploitation of resources. This opportunity is repeated when the project has taken concrete shape. The planning process concludes with a public exhibition.

Ten City District Administrations have offices open to the public where residents of the district can put questions concerning the city and its local activities. The majority of District Councils authorities inform residents regularly about current decisions and activities via their homepages on the Internet, through local newspapers and in some cases by information leaflets sent directly to residents.

The meetings of District Councils are open to the public unless there are special circumstances preventing this. All District Councils except one provide the opportunity for citizens to submit proposals. There are also numerous opportunities for residents to influence events within the city's sphere of action, for example by taking part in the work of the citizens council, young people's council, disabled council, families council, schools council, parents council etc.

The Swedish principle of public access to official records, which is established by law, means that everyone can acquaint himself with decisions made by official bodies and can also appeal against them.

The City and its various Administrations and Companies have homepages on the Internet where the public can study the City's activities and political decisions.



The City's work on sustainable development has to be openly and accessibly reported in a sustainability barometer on the Internet based on *Stockholm's Environment Barometer*.

To contribute to a sustainable development, the City has defined important decisions, processes and viewpoints.

#### Sustainable City Plan Decisions

- Re-use developed land
- Keep valuable green areas
- Build in good public transport sites
- Complement for local needs
- Develop public areas into natural venues for integration
- Plan for integration
- Plan for a good traffic infrastructure

#### Planning Processes for a Sustainable Development

- To plan all-embracing sectoral
- To have a comprehensive view
- To protect transparent planning
- To coordinate planning processes from regional level into planning permission
- To acknowledge and protect citizen participation

#### Viewpoints for a Sustainable Development

- See the City in a greater context, as well as regional and national
- Collaborate inside the region and especially between municipalities
- Acknowledge and develop relation and dependence between city and country, between inner-city and outer-city
- Be able to review strategies on the basis of new knowledge and new valuations

Stockholm is the centre of an extensive built-up area. Urban settlement is continually spreading from one municipality to another. Thus there is a strong need for cooperation across municipal boundaries. In recent years cooperation has developed to a point where joint planning with neighbouring municipalities is a feature of a couple of development projects crossing municipal boundaries.

In order to create conditions for a common view of the region's development, regional physical planning by a single body, the *Office of Regional Planning and Urban Transportation*, has been in place for the past half-century. The sphere of responsibility



comprises the whole of Stockholm County. The City of Stockholm collaborates in this planning both formally and informally.

The City is a member of the *Stockholm County Association of Local Authorities*. One of its tasks is to promote cooperation between the county's 26 municipalities, working mainly in the following spheres of action: social structures, education, care services and social problems.

The City is a member of the *Council for the Stockholm - Mälars Region*, which organises municipalities and county councils in the Stockholm-Mälars Region. 2.7 million people live in the Stockholm-Mälars Region, which comprises the counties of Stockholm, Uppsala, Västmanland, Södermanland and Örebro. Cooperation is mainly in the fields of the environment, traffic and planning, trade and industry and R & D, and culture. Work has begun on devising a regional strategy for sustainable development.

Stockholm is a member of the *Swedish Eco-Friendly Municipalities Association*, which exists to promote the sustainability of all municipalities in Sweden. Politicians and civil servants exchange experiences under the auspices of the Association and learn from each other's good examples. By pooling key figures it becomes possible to follow events as they unfold in the member municipalities.

The City forms part of diverse networks that include major cities in Sweden and touch upon different areas of expertise such as comprehensive planning and traffic. Stockholm has an active dialogue with the metropolises of Malmö and Gothenburg on the subject of sustainable development. The City also participates in a collaborative dialogue between the Nordic capital cities concerning financial, traffic and town planning issues.

Economical, environmental and social sustainability shall characterize the development of Stockholm. The city shall become more attractive for each individual as well as enterprises and organisations. The aim will be reached through a politic, which is based on the relation between healths, environment, economical development and social responsibility and that will give scope of a rich and multifaceted metropolitan culture.

Environmental challenges shall be meet up with technology development and market economical solutions.

The global environmental challenges shall be noted in the city's work. The city shall run an active climate work to decrease the discharge of greenhouse gases. Environmental challenges shall be utilized as an economical lever. An important measure is, that the city decrease its absorption of energy in streamline its energy usage.

In order to be able to develop the city in accordance with these aims the City has devised and in 2001 adopted an **Integrated System for Management and Follow-up of City**



**Activities (ILS).** This combines strategies for quality, budget and environment into a coordinated system of management and follow-up of City activities. By means of ILS, feedback is provided to assure politicians, citizens and personnel that the city's resources are being used in an effective and appropriate manner. At the same time good opportunities are provided for influencing and participating in the decision-making process.

Stockholm has participated in the EU project *Managing Urban Europe-25*. This project is aimed at developing the city's overall environmental management.

The City pursues outward-looking efforts such as the *Stockholmer's Indicators to Sustainable Development*, produced as the outcome of dialogue with residents, businessmen and other parties affected the *Climate Campaign*, energy advice and the *Stockholm environmental diploma* for small businesses.

**The new Environmental Programme** for the period 2008-2011; this is the seventh in order. The programme will include overall aims for the six sub-categories of transport, goods and services, energy, land and water, refuse and indoor environment. The aims are binding on the city as a whole. The City's administrations and companies, using their own analyses and environmental reports, will adopt their own targets for action aimed at achieving the overall objectives. Follow-up will take place in accordance with ILS.

The City of Stockholm has been represented on the EU Commission's working groups when the *Thematic strategy for urban environments* was being produced and has participated, via the Eurocities organisation, in discussions of action under the strategy.

An **Environmental Programme** for the period 2008-2011 has been elaborated. One overall objective is to protect and economise existing resources. The programme suggests objectives for six sub-sectors, i.e. transport, goods, energy, land and water, refuse and the indoor environment. Follow-up of the overall targets will take place via a number of key figures coupled to about thirty sub-targets.

Efforts to improve the water environment of Stockholm have been underway since the 1970s. The water that flows into Stockholm's numerous lakes and watercourses has gradually become cleaner through various measures. Many improvements have also been brought about directly in the lakes through various restoration measures. However, many lakes are still affected by old pollutants present in the bottom sediment.

The most serious water problems in Stockholm today are partly eutrophication which causes the water to become turbid and overgrown, algal bloom and a lack of oxygen, and partly environmentally-injurious toxins in the form of heavy metals and organic pollutants in the bottom sediment. Some 50 projects are to be carried out, financed by specially earmarked money, *the Green Billion*, which will bring about an improvement in the water quality of the city's lakes and watercourses. The aim of the project is both to limit the adding of pollutants and to restore polluted water environments.



A **Programme for Stockholm's Water Policy 2006-2015** has been elaborated. It describes how future water pollution control is to be conducted. The program embraces the city's lakes and watercourses and parts of Lake Mälaren and Lake Saltsjön. It contains two fundamental aims:

- \* Stockholm's water is to have a high water status.
- \* Stockholm's water areas are to be attractive recreational areas for everyone.

The **EC's Framework Directive for Water** emphasizes the importance of active participation by various actors and the general public. In order to test potential methods for collaboration regarding water issues at a local level, a pilot project was carried out in 2003-2005 in a small, urban, drain-off area in Stockholm. The aim of the project *Collaboration regarding Lake Trekanten* was partly to get the actors concerned around lake Trekanten to reach an agreement concerning what measures were needed to improve the water quality of the lake, and partly to produce a guidance document for local water collaboration.

In 2002 a special **Surface Water Strategy for the City of Stockholm** was established, stating guidelines for the handling of rain water and melted snow. Its purpose was to ensure that surface water is as clean as possible when it reaches the city's lakes, watercourses and waste water treatment plants. Just over half of Stockholm's surface water is led without any treatment to lakes and watercourses; the rest is led to waste water treatment plants. The pollutants in the surface water originate partly from clearly identified sources such as industries, partly from diffuse sources such as air pollution, traffic and building materials. Traffic is the major source of pollutants in surface water.

The City's efforts to create wetlands have sometimes had positive effects on the treatment of surface water. Water speed is reduced in wetlands which mean that waterborne pollutants can become sediment, thereby not reaching the recipient.

Stockholm's drinking water is of a high quality. Quality requirements are based on the **EC Directive for Drinking Water**. Stockholm's water supply source is Lake Mälaren.

Groundwater is not used for drinking water production in Stockholm but nevertheless it is important to protect it from further pollution. The water that enters the city's lakes and watercourses is mainly out flowing groundwater. Thus polluted groundwater can influence biological life in the lakes.

**Stockholm's environmental programme** consists of six target areas for "ecological planning and upkeep". The overall objective as laid out is for the City to provide its inhabitants with an attractive and healthy outdoor environment. The use of land and water must be planned and undertaken in an ecologically sustainable manner. Green and blue open spaces must be preserved as recreational areas by means favourable for rich biological diversity. The public should be informed about and encouraged to visit and spend time in parks and green spaces. There should be greater awareness of the consequences of the eutrophication of the soil.



A plan of action has been drawn up for increasing the biological diversity found in the city, known as the **Biological Development of Stockholm (BUS)**. The measures set out for achieving this suggest ways of achieving greater biological diversity in Stockholm and are considered a potential basis for the City's various activities. **Stockholm's Parks Programme** is a plan of action for the development and upkeep of parks and green spaces in Stockholm. It focuses attention on the species most in need of attention.

According to **Stockholm's Environmental Programme**, contaminated land must be surveyed and work begun on cleaning it up. The spread of contamination must be prevented. The City owes a debt to the environment in the form of contaminated areas created during a century of industrialization. Contaminated land must be treated when it is about to be used to prevent the spread of the contamination to groundwater and surface water. Land contamination has been investigated and treated on sites of new development. Such knowledge is patchy in the case of other sites; a programme for monitoring the environment which incorporates land surveying is now being set up.

At present *The Green Billion*, a venture expected to take several years, is underway in Stockholm. The City's administrations and companies have been able to apply for subsidies in carrying out a number of environmental projects. In 2004 and 2005 the sum of 1.1 billion Swedish crowns was granted in the form of subsidies for 158 projects. These projects are set to last to the end of 2009. The first objective is to clean up long-standing environmental damage. *The Green Billion* is to help ensure that contamination of city land is reduced, lakes and waterways are made cleaner, energy use is made more effective, waste disposal is carried out in an environmentally suitable manner, and biological diversity is increased. The costs of repairing the damage to the environment must not be passed on to future generations. This venture is also designed to reduce future environmental damage.

The air quality in Stockholm is on the whole very good, although there are problems in meeting the **EC's criteria for nitrogen dioxide and particles PM10**. The government has established a set of remedial measures to be taken by the municipalities in Stockholm province and also a number of other affected parties. Work is now under way in the city to implement these measures in the areas for which it is seen to be responsible. However, the most important measures do not come under the City's authority. New legislation is needed here but so far no initiative has been taken.

The marked improvements in air quality that have taken place over many years are mostly due to the comprehensive expansion of district heating. Today 70% of all properties are connected. This expansion is continuing, and the objective is for all new apartment blocks to be connected.



City planning and city development involve to a large extent a broad range of various parts of society. The structure of the city plays an important role in bringing about sustainable development. How we move about and how we meet is to a large extent dictated by our physical circumstances and structures. In Stockholm the trend is for overall planning to function increasingly as a strategic tool for supporting other activities within the city. Just as important is that Stockholm collaborates with other interested parties in the region.

As part of **Stockholm's Environmental Programme**, the issues concerning waste constitute one of six target areas, titled "Environmentally Efficient Waste Management". The City has in place a **Waste Programme** for the period 2006-2010 (revision in progress). The issues being addressed by the City include:

- The development of collection systems for bulky household waste, electronic items and dangerous waste by means of building additional recycling plants and collection points and extending the kerbside collection of dangerous waste.
- The development of collection systems for packaging material and waste paper in collaboration with packaging manufacturers by means of the *Packaging and Newspaper Collection*.
- The development of household waste collection with the aim of encouraging reduced amounts of waste, increased amounts of recycling material and reduced transport.
- The introduction of a new charge for further encouraging reduced amounts of waste, increased sorting of household waste and greater use of materials.

The Waste Management Administration and the District Councils run several projects for managing waste with financial backing from *the Green Billion*. One aim is for greater sorting of household waste in collaboration with property owners and residents.

The **Waste Disposal Regulations for the municipality of Stockholm** together with its **Directives** and **Waste Programme** applying to the period 2006-2010 (revision in progress) govern the City's waste management.

The City addresses issues including the following:

- The treating and recycling of household waste from Stockholm is carried out at Högdalenverket, a plant within the city's boundaries. The plant which sees to the incineration of household waste has the best flue-gas cleaning available and produces both district heating and electricity.
- Decisions must be made regarding investment in a pre-treatment plant for the biological treatment of food waste. The aim is for 35% of food waste to undergo biological processing by 2010.
- The collection of domestic waste is undertaken at present by 31 out of a total of 75 vehicles which run on biogas. The proportion of refuse collection lorries which run on biogas increases with every new purchase made.

As part of the **Stockholm City Master Plan 99** a city development strategy was drawn up this takes a comprehensive view with sustainable development in mind. A "Build the city inwards" sum up the will within the City and this has been established as follows:



- Re-use land that has been used before
- Preserve and develop Stockholm's character and green structure
- Develop the outer central belt and convert old industrial areas into urban dwellings with a mix of new and different styles of city architecture
- Develop attractive centres in the city suburbs in a skilled manner
- Incorporate good public transport services
- Take into account local needs

In accordance with its city development strategy the City has spent the past 15 years working methodically to convert the older industrial and harbour areas. Most of these are situated in the outer central belt around Stockholm's city centre. In establishing new dwellings, offices and a new range of services and cultural facilities, as well as new communication networks, older and derelict areas have undergone a positive transformation through being revitalized while at the same time urban areas formerly divided have now been rejoined. *Hammarby Sjöstad* is an internationally recognized example of this type of restoration, as is *Liljeholmen/Årstadal*.

By adopting the city development strategy "Build the city inwards", the City has taken deliberate steps to ensure that urban sprawl cannot take place. The strategy means that the city's development will chiefly take place within its existing districts and in close proximity to public transport services. In this way the City also safeguards its overall green structure, as essential for its inhabitants' leisure pursuits as it is for biological diversity. The City's desire to preserve in the long term the unexploited open areas on its outskirts has found expression in recently formed nature reserves, for example.

The City is seeking at present to achieve a mix of different uses of buildings at city district level. This may boost stable development at local level and encourage sustainable development, which is one of the City's aims in all its projects regardless of size. By developing a system of planning support based at local level the City can help increase awareness about such issues as availability of services, sizes of flats and premises. This awareness makes it easier when designing the detail plans to work towards a greater mix of different functions and a stronger urban profile.

A large part of the new construction of dwellings takes place in the city centre. A not insignificant additional amount of dwellings in the city's central areas also comes about in the form of office conversions.

At the bottom of all physical change in the city there exists a clear awareness of our cultural heritage, of Stockholm's features. The dramatic topography and areas of open water that form its natural surroundings are what characterize the city to a great degree. Over time the city has been built up in a way that clearly reflects a development akin to annual rings, giving the city its unique character. Stockholm has adopted building regulations which give



expression to the city's features. The purpose of this is to help create a common vision of the manner in which Stockholm's beauty and character can be taken into account in the city's future development.

Surveys of city buildings and their historic and cultural value also form the basis of development planning. The city centre's buildings have been mapped and classified according to their architectural and cultural-historic value for a long time now. Today it is the turn of the buildings in the suburbs.

The City of Stockholm's *Council for Protection of Ecological and Aesthetic Matters* is concerned with environmental issues in a broad sense. These can include the city's public works of art, aspects of the city of artistic or cultural-historic value, or the general aesthetic and natural merits of the city and its environs. The Council acts as advisor on such issues to the City's various authorities, committees and delegates. The *Council for Protection of Ecological and Aesthetic Matters* can also make suggestions without invitation.

**Stockholm's Building Regulations** stipulate the rules of conduct for encouraging sustainable construction methods and high quality architecture. One such example is making improvements in the attractiveness of public areas, whereby new construction must be of architectural and artistic merit.

Specific environmental and quality programmes apply to cases of areas of larger scale construction such as *Hammarby Sjöstad*.

During the period 3 January to 31 July 2006 the City of Stockholm was carrying out its the so called *Stockholm Trial*, a trial with environment taxes/a congestion charge to and from the city centre. The main purpose of the trial was to reduce congestion, improve accessibility and to improve the environment. The aim was to see whether environment taxes/a congestion charge and an expanded public transport service can help create a more efficient traffic system and a better environment.

Intermediate aims of the Stockholm Trial:

- Reduce rush-hour traffic in and out of the inner city by 10 – 15%
- Improve accessibility for Stockholm traffic
- Reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and particles
- Inhabitants should experience an improvement in the city environment



The trial was evaluated on an ongoing basis from a number of perspectives. The evaluation was drawn up in a report during the summer of 2006. A referendum took place in the municipality of Stockholm at the same time as the general election on 17 September 2006 and the inhabitants of Stockholm voted positively for an implementation of environment taxes/a congestion charge. ([www.stockholmsforsoket.se](http://www.stockholmsforsoket.se))

The city development strategy's focus on "Building the city inwards" means that the city's development will take place primarily within its existing districts and in close proximity to public transport services. An expressed aim is to reduce dependence on private cars when making journeys.

The city has a well developed public transport system. This has resulted in a much larger proportion of public transport users, especially during times of high traffic volumes. However, the public transport services are owned by *Stockholm County Council*. The City depends on good cooperation with both the County Council and with *AB Storstockholms trafikbolag (SL)* (the Traffic Company of Greater Stockholm), the company charged with running public transport.

**Stockholm's Environmental Programme** consists of six target areas, of which one is titled "Environmentally-efficient transport services". One intermediate aim is to see an increase in the proportion of inhabitants who take public transport or bicycle.

The City has put forward specific bicycle network plans for the whole municipality. The expansion of the infrastructure for cyclists has increased considerably in recent years, and many of the proposed new bicycle lanes are now completed. As a result of this bicycle traffic has increased enormously. There is however significant potential for a further increase, since 80% of journeys to and from work in the city are shorter than six miles, making the bicycle a competitive option. The increasing number of cyclists requires further expansion of the bicycle network as well as other measures for improving safety, accessibility and convenience. Great improvements have been made on main roads in order to accommodate bicycle lanes without negative consequences for other traffic.

The City has set up Guidance *in making Environmentally-Adapted and Traffic Safe Journeys* which sets out the ways in which its authorities can fulfil the targets in **Stockholm's Environmental Programme** and **Stockholm's Traffic Safety Programme**. The guidance deals with aspects of traffic safety and the environment for all journeys undertaken in the City's service. They are designed also in order to provide guidance and support for private companies and authorities, for example.

One particular project aimed at schoolchildren and their parents is *Safe School Routes*, which aims to break the trend whereby an increasing number of parents are driving their



children to and from school. The increased numbers of cars on the school run results in both inactive children with more health problems and also a greater number of emissions in the atmosphere. Parents and schools need encouraging to encourage their children in turn to walk or cycle to school for reasons to do with health, the environment and enjoyment.

In 2004 the City reached agreement on **New Targets for Environmentally-Adapted Cars** and measures for encouraging alternative means of travel. These targets are as follows:

- With every new purchase the City's administrations and companies must choose environmentally friendly cars.
- A minimum of 4% of new car sales in Stockholm must consist of environmentally adapted cars as of the beginning of 2006.
- 60% of vehicles used by the City's administrations and companies must be environmentally adapted cars as of the beginning of 2006.
- The City's biogas-fuelled cars must run on 80% biogas and their ethanol-fuelled cars on 80% of E 85 as of the beginning of 2006.

The project *Environmentally-Adapted Cars in Stockholm* is working in the long term towards developing and introducing cars driven on renewable fuel. At present environmentally friendly cars in the service of the City's own organisations constitutes about 43% of their fleet.

There are similar projects across Europe which is financed by the EU. Stockholm is taking part in a number of these, including *Trendsetter*, *Cute*, *Niches*, *Best* and *BioGasMax*. As part of the project on environmentally friendly cars the broadcasting of information is an essential tool, as are communications with car suppliers and retailers.

The City of Stockholm has ruled that for a three year trial period from 2005 to 2008 environmentally-friendly cars are entitled to free parking in its city centre.

One of the aims of **Stockholm's Traffic Safety Programme** is to halve the number of fatalities in Stockholm traffic up to the year 2010. In addition, cars in the city should be fitted with an ISA system and interlock device by the year 2010.

Traffic noise is a great nuisance for many residents. In recent years noise protection measures have primarily been focused on indoor noise in residential dwellings. Residents in apartment blocks on streets which have equivalent noise levels of over 65 dB (A) are offered grants for appropriate window fittings and sound absorbers for outdoor air. In addition noise protection screens are installed where possible on major roads and similar streets.

The **Environment zone for heavy traffic** was introduced in the City in 2002. The regulations governing this apply to Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö.



In February 2005 the City introduced 30 zones on minor streets in residential areas. The purpose of fixing the speed limit at 30 km/hour is to reduce the number of casualties in road accidents on residential streets and also to lessen the effects on the environment by means of reduced emissions and noise.

The objective of **Stockholm's Economic and Political Programme** of 2008 is to bring about continuing development and growth in Stockholm. It is economic growth that generates the resources to improve welfare, turn Stockholm into an ecologically sustainable city, break down segregation and bolster democracy as well as take responsibility for the economy. It is therefore important that the City safeguards the primary driving force of growth – the economy – by pursuing an active economic policy. It is also important that the City helps create the right conditions for its citizens to develop and realize their business aims by supplying such support as education, services and infrastructure. Correspondingly, consideration for the environment and integration is a prerequisite for strong economic growth in the long term. It is essential that future generations are able to use natural resources for production and that our citizens have the opportunity to develop and realize their business aims.

The municipal company *Stockholm Business Region*, which up to 2006 was the City's trade and industry office, is seeking to develop and market Stockholm as a well established site for businesses. Regardless of size, branch or stage of development, businesses can expect help in creating the best possible conditions in which to thrive in Stockholm.

**Stockholm's Economic and Political Programme** aims to create conditions for running and developing a business, establishing a business and starting up in business. It is essential that the strength of growth in the region is harnessed and made even stronger. The City characterizes itself as centre of learning, an IT metropolis, and a centre for biomedicine, a financial centre, a venue for events and an environmentally friendly capital. The objective is to make Stockholm northern Europe's leading region of growth by 2010.

The City has no particular guidelines for good business conduct, but relies on businesses following the rules and ethics which have developed in the area of commerce.

In the area of purchasing, the City expects businesses to pay taxes and other charges and observe regulations in general.

As regards the establishment of any activity causing disturbance in its surroundings, strict laws are in place. Conditions must be met in choosing the most suitable site in order for such an activity to be run with the minimum encroachment on and inconvenience to people's health and to the environment. In order to make such evaluations an account of the effects on the environment must be drawn up.



In the case of activities creating a lesser degree of disturbance there are national guidelines governing safe distances.

The **proposal for a new Environment Programme** stipulates that goods and services bought in by city authorities and companies are environmentally friendly or fulfil the requirements for independent eco-labelling. A further stipulation is that the proportion of organic foodstuffs bought in by the City constitutes a minimum of 25%.

In the 14 city councils there are *economic coordinators* who assist small business and business associations in enhancing their level of competence. The *Environment Centre for Businesses* arranges training courses and provides support and guidance for structured and strategic tasks regarding environment, with the opportunity of acquiring a certificate to this end which is known as the *Stockholm environment diploma*.

*Greater Stockholm's Nature Guides* offer walks in Stockholm's green areas under the auspices of *The Association for Nature Preservation in Stockholm*. The guided walks are authorized by the *Stockholm Visitors' Board* and qualified biologists or biogeographers. The guided walks are undertaken in collaboration with the Environment and Health Administration, the Real Estate Administration and Bromma District Administration as well as the *County Administrative Board's Nature Conservation Unit*. The project is also supported by the *Stockholm County Council* by way of the *environment grant* offered by its *Regional Planning and Urban Transportation Committee*. The *Association for Nature Preservation in Stockholm* has also produced an excursion guide on the Internet called *Utinaturen.nu* which lists over 100 natural open spaces in the province which are worth seeing.

The City's efforts for persons in a socially vulnerable situation are aimed at strengthening the individual and thereby social solidarity. By setting up special accommodation for women, the special needs of vulnerable women can be met.

The City is working together with the County Council to promote a good environment for children and young people to grow up in, thereby promoting social solidarity. The perspective of the child is present in various guidelines for assistance assessment and this is intended to strengthen the child's rights. In 2004, the City also adopted **A good city for children – plan of action for the United Nations children's convention** (under progress).

Addiction is a cause of isolation, illness and poverty. Therefore the City has adopted **Stockholm's Tobacco, Alcohol and Narcotics programme (STAN)** (under progress). Each of the 14 town district administrations also has a *prevention coordinator* whose task is to coordinate the local preventive work.



The comprehensive aim of the **proposal for Stockholm's Crime Preventive Programme** that has been put forward for decision is to reduce crime and its injurious effects on Stockholm City.

Crime prevention work is to be marked by a holistic view that has been assumed by all administrations and enterprises. Sub-goals are to strengthen informal and formal social control, to reduce criminal inclination, to render the realization of criminal acts more difficult, to alleviate the injurious effects of crime, and to reduce fear of crime. The work is coordinated with drug prevention work and other cross-sector related fields, for instance, equality and integration.

The basis of the City's efforts to reduce segregation and isolation is the **Plan for Equality, Integration and Diversity** from 2005 which lays down the values that are the basis of the City's work for integration and diversity. The City's investment in **City District Renewal** is one of several tools used to attain the stated integration goals.

The *"Roof over one's head guarantee"* gives the homeless a guaranteed place at a shelter. Every year, the City charts and analyses needs and demands in the "accommodation staircase" which makes it easier to meet the needs of the homeless. By having a collected picture of the need for trial and training apartments, it is easier to ensure good and socially integrated housing conditions for the homeless.

Stockholm was quick to get involved in international environmental work. After a proposal from Sweden at the end of the 1960s, the UN General Assembly decided that environmental pollution should be the topic of an "action-oriented" conference. The UN's first environmental conference in 1972 in Stockholm gathered international delegates from 113 countries to discuss six central issues:

- Buildings and housing environment
- Utilisation of natural resources
- Identification and control of pollutants
- Social, cultural, educational and informative aspects of environmental problems.
- Development and environmental conservation
- Consequences of possible steps to prevent environmental pollution.

The conference acted as a starting-shot for the UN's work on environmental protection but it did not lead to a plan of action. However, the parties agreed that 5 June should be Global Environment Day, a day when attention is paid to topical environmental issues. A recommendation made at the conference resulted in the General Assembly establishing the *United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)*.



The conference has certainly affected the City of Stockholm. The City's continuous implementation of the environment programme since the mid-1970s has meant that knowledge has increased and that environmental efforts have assumed an increasingly structured form. The programme has also initiated a number of environmental measures. Throughout, Stockholm and the Swedish government have also been active and a driving force regarding the international exchange of knowledge and experiences of environmental work and social issues, which continues through participation in various international networks for cities and in EU projects today.

The City of Stockholm has received state subsidies from the Government *Climate Investment Programme (KLIMP)* in order to carry through a number of strategic measures stated in **Stockholm's plan of action to prevent greenhouse gases**.

Within the auspices of the project *Climate Campaign Stockholm*, simple advice is given on how the city's inhabitants and entrepreneurs can contribute to the reduction. Political commitment is crucial for Stockholm's efforts. In the early 1990s, the City took a decision to introduce climatic goals and to work systematically with plans of action. The City has also decided to carry through long-term aims. In 2050 the city is to be a municipality free from fossil fuels. That means that petrol; oil, coal, gas and other fossil fuels will no longer be used.

The project *The Climate Chase* is a championship within the City of Stockholm where employees compete in knowledge tests of ways of reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The purpose is to bring about a permanent change in behaviour which can both save money and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

*Climate Emergency* is another project aimed at helping schools reduce their greenhouse gas emissions while simultaneously reducing energy costs. The schools are given the most up-to-date information on the greenhouse effect's ecological, financial and social consequences.

To date there is no single decision determining how the City of Stockholm is to handle environmental fairness between the people living on the earth today and environmental fairness between future generations. However, the City works hard to achieve sustainable development and participates actively in several international networks to promote measures within this sector. For a long time, the City has had systematic and long-term environment and health policies which are to contribute to global goals such as reduced climatic effects, reduced resource exploitation and ecologically sustainable development.

The international work is integrated with the City's regular activities based on the **City of Stockholm's International Strategy**. Each committee is to describe how the strategic,



international goals of the strategy are to be attained within its respective area of responsibility. This includes an account of which international networks/organizations the committee is a member of and which international projects/events it takes part in.

The City is a participant in several international cooperation projects, for instance *Eurocities*, an organization that represents metropolises in Europe, *Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI)*, a global environmental network which among other things runs the campaign *Cities for Climate Protection (CCP)*, and *Union of the Baltic Cities (UBC)*, an organization that represents and collaborates with cities around the Baltic Sea and the Sound. Since 2003, the City of Stockholm has also been a member of *Metropolis – the World Association of Major Metropolises* and the *United Cities & Local Government organization (UCLG)* which looks after the interests of metropolises and urban regions on the international arena. Europe-oriented action in Stockholm City is a prioritized and integrated part of the City's work. The EU work done in the City can be divided roughly into the following sectors:

- Run/Take part in different national and transnational development projects financed by the EU.
- Influence directives, policies and guidelines regarding issues that concern and affect Stockholm.
- The exchange of good examples, experiences and knowledge with other regions in Europe through different organisations and networks.

*Europe Forum Stockholm* is a network for the City's civil servants who are involved in *Eurocities*, *UCLG* and *Metropolis*. Twice a year the *Europe Forum* submits reports to the city executive board about the City's EU work.

The Stockholm Region Europe Committee (SEU) is an economic association with three principals: the City of Stockholm, Stockholm County Council and Stockholm County Association of Local Authorities. The SEU's work started in 2000 on the initiative of the City of Stockholm which had had an office in Brussels since 1994, initially with one office in Stockholm and one in Brussels. Today there are also offices in St. Petersburg and Warsaw. The SEU monitors the work of EU institutions and establishes contacts with decision-makers and organizations in order to influence EU policy and programme content. The SEU arranges training programmes and keeps its members informed about current issues. The SEU also endeavours to facilitate mutually rewarding collaboration with other cities and regions in Europe.

An exchange of knowledge and experiences also takes place via the cooperation project *Major Nordic Cities* where the environment committees and administrations of the five Nordic capital cities plus Gothenburg and Malmö take part. A joint conference is held every year in one of the cities and since 2002 there has been cooperation concerning the annual account of common environmental indicators.

