

# Social Vision

An outline

## Maastricht

# 2040

*From safety net to trampoline*

## 1. Introduction

Our Social Vision for 2040 covers all the city's residents. However, the municipality's statutory duties in the social sphere mainly concern people who need its help to be able to participate in society. This means those who need care or support within the framework of the Social Support Act ("WMO") or the Juveniles Act, or who need some additional income or support in the framework of the Participation Act, so as to find and hold down a job.

Our Social Vision for 2040 sets out what we believe is important, what principles we follow, and how we aim to make Maastricht even more of a cohesive community.

## 2. What is the current situation?

In recent years, the municipality, together with its partners and residents, has been fully committed to its new role and responsibilities in the social sphere. A great deal has already been done, but it has also become apparent that there is room for improvement as regards coordinating all the various activities. We need to work together to tackle challenges in the social sphere more effectively.

## 3. What do we want to achieve?

Our vision is for Maastricht as a robust and liveable city – a vigorous and cohesive community where people live the life they wish to live, where their talents are utilised to the full, and where they receive the care or support that they need.

That's why we are working with residents, voluntary organisations, associations, professional institutions, businesses, and fellow public authorities to shift the focus of our care and support to living together, self-fulfilment, and control of one's own life.

To achieve that shift, we are prioritising three major, interrelated themes:

1. A secure livelihood for all
2. Equal opportunities for all
3. Positive health for all



### 3.1. A secure livelihood for all

Enough money for food and drink, a proper roof over your head, being able to make ends meet financially, access to effective and affordable care and education, paid work or a different way of spending the day that is meaningful and gives your life structure – that’s what everyone in Maastricht should have, because otherwise life becomes just a matter of surviving.

We want the people of Maastricht to be healthy and happy, and that’s why we aim to ensure these kinds of security. Because not having a secure livelihood leads to a lot of other problems.

### 3.2 Equal opportunities for all

By equal opportunities we mean equality and opportunities for participating in society. Our main target group comprises children and young people aged 0 to 18. Education plays a major role in how we address equality of opportunity. By investing in a promising start in life, a safe childhood, and a comprehensive approach for children and young people on their way to adulthood, we can prevent today’s problems continuing into future generations.

### 3.3. Positive health for all

By “positive health” we mean people’s ability to adapt and take charge of their own life in the face of physical, emotional, and societal challenges.

We focus on people’s well-being, on their individual and collective resilience, and we start from what they themselves think is a meaningful life.

We have opted for the “spider’s web” of positive health as the key means for residents and their network, the city itself, and other parties to work towards a better balance and resilience in various areas of life.

We are pursuing this vision based on the following principles:

- **We adopt a broader view of health**
- **Together we form a responsible, networked society**
- **We do what is necessary**
- **We focus on restoring normal life**
- **We organise delivery in a way that is convenient and close by**
- **We respond as soon and as close by as possible, and proactively if necessary**

