

Liberals of Gothenburg Election Manifesto

Liberal proposals 2026–2030

Short version



Gothenburg Liberalism (Göteborgsliberalismen) – a city of freedom and progress

Gothenburg shall be a city where people can shape their own lives, feel hope for the future and live in freedom. Trade, education and entrepreneurship have long created opportunities for people to work, study and build their future here. Cooperation between politics, business and academia has laid the foundation for the city's development.

But today, people's freedom is limited by shortcomings in schools, gang crime, segregation, housing shortages, honour culture (hederskultur) and insecurity. When children do not receive the right support in time, when businesses face unnecessary bureaucracy, and when people feel fear in everyday life, the social contract weakens. We want to change that.

For us liberals, the freedom of the individual is always at the centre. We want the people of Gothenburg to regain confidence in themselves, in society and in the city's opportunities. Our ambition is a Gothenburg that is freer, stronger and more enjoyable to live in, where responsibility and opportunity go hand in hand.

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A good start – parents and children in focus

The first years of life shape children's health, self-esteem and ability to learn. Yet support for parents and the quality of preschool (förskola) are uneven across Gothenburg, giving children unequal opportunities from the very beginning. Insufficient language development support, late identification of needs and unequal access to support, risk creating problems that follow children throughout their education.

An equal and high-quality preschool system is crucial, both for children's development and for a gender-equal society where all parents can work and participate in society.

The Liberals want to:

- put preschool first with smaller groups and high staff density
- strengthen reading aloud and language development, including reinforced preschool units (förstärkta avdelningar)
- introduce clear follow-up of children's development and better transitions to school
- combine universal parental support with targeted measures in vulnerable areas
- provide 30 hours of free preschool from the age of three

Knowledge and opportunity – a world-class school

Education is the foundation of freedom, equal opportunities in life and a cohesive society. Today, many students leave school without complete grades, and differences between schools are too large. This is unacceptable. When schools fail, exclusion, unemployment and crime increase. That is why schools are Gothenburg's most important future issue.

Schools must be characterised by a focus on knowledge, calm classrooms and high expectations, and all pupils must learn to read, write and calculate in time. Early interventions, increased attendance and a safe school environment are crucial both for learning and for preventing crime.

Teachers must have time to teach, school leaders must be able to lead, and student health services (elevhälsa), schools and social services must work together when pupils risk falling behind.

Upper secondary school (gymnasium), adult education (vuxenutbildning) and Swedish for Immigrants (SFI) must maintain high quality and lead to employment or further studies. Vocational education and apprenticeship programmes must be strengthened, since education and language are essential for integration and self-sufficiency.

The Liberals want to:

- put reading, writing and mathematics in focus from the early years
- strengthen calm classrooms, safety and attendance in schools
- expand student health services and strengthen cooperation with social services
- improve conditions for teachers and reduce administration
- strengthen school libraries and reading throughout the school system
- create more specialised teaching groups and resource schools (resursskolor)
- raise the quality of upper secondary school, adult education and SFI



Entrepreneurship and the future – small businesses, great opportunities

Gothenburg shall be a city where it is easy to start and run a business. Entrepreneurs should be met with support, not obstacles. Today, many business owners report complicated regulations, slow processes and poor service.

Small and medium-sized businesses are the backbone of the economy. They create jobs, drive innovation and finance welfare. When businesses grow, the whole city grows.

The Liberals want to:

- make Gothenburg Sweden's most business-friendly city
- lower municipal income tax to strengthen work and entrepreneurship
- simplify regulations, permits and fees
- introduce business support coordinators (företagslotsar) and improve digital services
- secure access to land, premises, energy and skilled labour

A society that sees everyone

Freedom requires both responsibility and functioning support systems. Today, help often arrives too late, is too fragmented or lacks quality. People fall between the cracks, with major human and economic consequences.

People with disabilities do not always receive the support they are entitled to, children and families receive interventions too late, and homelessness and mental ill-health are increasing. Integration becomes harder when systems are difficult to understand.

The Liberals want to:

- ensure that decisions under the Act concerning Support and Service for Persons with Certain Functional Impairments (LSS) are implemented on time
- strengthen quality in support services and care
- expand respite care and short-term support services
- strengthen early family interventions and support for children in care
- introduce a zero vision against eviction of children and expand Housing First (Bostad Först)
- improve integration and support for newly arrived immigrants

Living life – throughout life

In a liberal society, every person has value throughout life. Gothenburg faces an ageing population, which requires elderly care that combines security, independence and dignity, and that combats ageism (ålderism). No one should feel lonely or forgotten, and relatives should receive better support. At the same time, working conditions for staff must improve to secure quality in care services.

The Liberals want to:

- build more intermediate housing (mellanboenden) focused on community and safety
- strengthen freedom of choice, continuity and dignified elderly care in home care services
- provide staff with better working conditions and professional development
- develop support and respite services for relatives
- combat loneliness, ageism and digital exclusion
- create more opportunities for older people to contribute and participate



A city for the future – opportunities for young people

Young people today face major challenges: housing shortages, an uncertain labour market and a growing climate crisis. For many, the path to housing and employment is long and uncertain.

Gothenburg shall be a city where young people can study, work and live — not a city they are forced to leave.

The Liberals want to:

- build more student housing through simpler regulations and more available land
- strengthen the connection between schools and working life
- create a vibrant cultural and nightlife scene without unnecessary restrictions
- improve public transport, cycling infrastructure and safety
- make it easier for young people to establish themselves in the city

Safety, security and preparedness

Without safety, there is no freedom. Gang crime, insecurity and weak preparedness threaten Gothenburg. In some areas, people's lives are limited by fear, and children are recruited into criminal gangs.

At the same time, the city's preparedness for crises and, ultimately, war is insufficient. A clear shift from words to action is required.

The Liberals want to:

- strengthen cooperation between schools, social services, the police and leisure activities
- stop gang recruitment through early interventions
- increase safety in schools and public transport
- increase the presence of security guards (ordningsvakter) in vulnerable areas
- strengthen crisis preparedness through safety points (trygghetspunkter) and public education

A sustainable future – climate, environment and accessibility

Gothenburg shall be a green, accessible and growing city. Today, transportation does not function well enough. Public transport is overcrowded, car traffic is stuck in congestion, and cycling is often perceived as unsafe.

All forms of transport must function together. At the same time, climate emissions must decrease and the city must become more resilient to climate change.

The Liberals want to:

- increase service frequency and reintroduce a bus line corresponding to “Svart Express”
- prepare for grade-separated public transport (planskild kollektivtrafik) below and above street level
- improve safety for cyclists and pedestrians
- create more trees and green areas to improve quality of life, air quality and protection against heatwaves
- turn Andra Långgatan into a pedestrian street and convert more central streets into pedestrian areas
- reduce the city's emissions through electrification and green energy
- climate-adapt the city for heavy rainfall and rising sea levels



The growing city

Gothenburg shall be an attractive city where people can live, work and enjoy life throughout all stages of life. The city should become denser, more connected and provide proximity to work, services and recreation.

Housing is central to freedom. More housing of different forms of tenure (upplåtelseformer) is needed, while segregation must be reduced and more people should have the opportunity to own their homes.

The Liberals want to:

- build more housing in different price ranges and forms of tenure
- simplify planning processes and make more land available
- reduce segregation through mixed housing areas
- develop urban environments with good architecture, safe public spaces and more greenery
- strengthen access to healthcare close to residents, including a local hospital (närsjukhus) on Hisingen

Culture and sports – the freedom to grow

A liberal Gothenburg is a city where people can grow through culture, physical activity and community. Freedom of expression and artistic freedom are fundamental, and children and young people should encounter culture and sports early in life. A strong civil society and association life (föreningsliv) builds community, health and confidence in the future throughout the city.

The Liberals want to:

- strengthen children's access to culture, libraries and municipal arts schools (kulturskola)
- create better conditions for cultural life and safeguard artistic freedom
- invest in sports, civil society organisations and spontaneous physical activity throughout the city

An equal Gothenburg

All people shall have the same freedom and security. Domestic violence, honour-related oppression (hedersförtryck) and restrictions on the lives of LGBTIQ people (hbtqi-personer) are serious freedom issues. Gothenburg shall be a city where every person can live openly, safely and independently.

The Liberals want to:

- maintain zero tolerance against domestic violence and strengthen support for victims
- combat honour-related oppression and strengthen the freedom of LGBTIQ people

Our direction for Gothenburg

We want to build a Gothenburg where people have the freedom to grow, the security to live and the opportunity to succeed. Gothenburg shall stay united, invest in knowledge and stand up for every person's freedom.





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