

Dezember 2023  
Koplescht - Briddel

Bericht  
Declaration of the  
college of aldermen  
Coalition agreement  
2023-2029

# KoBri



# DECLARATION OF THE COLLEGE OF ALDERMEN 2023-2029

Dear colleagues on the college of aldermen and the local council,

It is certainly a little unusual to issue an aldermen's statement exactly two days after an election to the Chamber of Deputies, in the knowledge that a lot of what happens in this commune over the next six years - or not - will depend on the priorities and decisions of the next government.

I won't go into detail about all the construction projects that have already been approved and are under construction or in the pipeline, or those that feature in our respective election programmes. Allow me, however, to mention specifically our school infrastructure, where, as developments over the past 18 months have shown, there is an urgent need for action. Since March 2022, our school population has grown from around 260 to 342 children - an increase of over 30%. And yet, not all the houses of the Housing Fund are yet occupied! The government's decision to introduce free non-formal education in its entirety is also driving up demand for places at the MRE and the music school.

In the long term, this commune - even without the extension of the building perimeter requested by several people - has a potential population of around 6.000. It is our duty to prepare for this, since "to govern is to foresee".

Regardless of what's happening at government level, I'd like to outline our guidelines for the next six years with six key words (in no particular order!):

## 1. TOGETHER

The majority's election programmes list over 100 different projects or initiatives. It's not my job to list them like a litany. But it is a fact that good ideas are not the prerogative of one political colour, and no group or party has a monopoly on intelligence. That's why I'm pleased that our local council includes both people with experience and historical knowledge to shed light on why certain things were done - or not done - and new people who bring new ideas and visions. I hope that, in the spirit of the last two local councils, we can discuss, work and laugh together, and move this commune forward without getting involved in "party politics", in the interests of our fellow citizens who may or may not have elected us.

## 2. FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

We are faced with a lot of future expenditure, not least for the reasons I mentioned in the introduction, but also because the needs of our residents are changing. And because we don't have any highly profitable companies (such as SES) or a lucrative business park generating local business taxes, our revenue is almost 100% dependent on the government. On the one hand, thanks to the municipal grant and, on the other, thanks to the subsidies that the government provides for various projects. We have no intention of leaving our successors the burden of an immeasurable debt, nor do we intend to massively increase taxes (even if, after more than 12 years without change, we won't be spared on water prices and bin charges). Everything we can achieve over the next six years depends (but not only financially)

on the government. We will make our own contribution through a prudent budgetary and staffing policy.

## 3. SOCIAL AFFAIRS

According to STATEC, we are one of the most "expensive" communes in the country, and also one of those where the income gap between the lowest and highest decile is the widest. This means that in our commune there are many people who are doing very well financially, but there are others who need help. And we are also responsible for those who need help, because just because you live in a so-called "rich" commune doesn't mean you're immune from having to ask for support. That's why we will continue to include financial assistance in our budget for individuals and families who are in need of it. Kopstal must not become one of those wealthy communes where only millionaires can afford to live. For this reason, we will also be increasing funding for social housing, with a particular focus on young people in our commune.

## 4. INCLUSION

More than 90 different nationalities live in our commune, and Luxembourgers are in the minority. But the commune belongs to ALL our residents, regardless of their passport, skin colour, religion, sexual orientation, age or social status. They should all feel welcome here and be able to lead their lives as they wish (as long as they respect certain basic behaviours).

Our role as a commune and within its committees is to ensure that all these people live together and not just next to each other. To achieve this, we are going to invest in events, in courses and workshops, in communication, but also in our associations and the infrastructure they need.

## 5. QUALITY OF LIFE

There's a good reason why our localities are among the most expensive places to live in Luxembourg. Centrally located but close to the forest, lots of family homes, quiet and safe neighbourhoods (with the obvious exception of the N12) - it's a great place to live. But it's not all good news: house prices are so high that many people, especially young people, can no longer afford to live here. Added to this is the fact that we have a housing shortage in Luxembourg, and the government is putting pressure on us to build higher and denser. That's why our commune, like most other municipalities in the country, is taking up the challenges of the Pacte Logement 2.0.

However, the difficulty of striking a balance between different interests is reflected in the issues surrounding the PAG. On 11 June, a number of residents expressed their concerns about "excessive construction and too much height", and we cannot ignore them. It is now our responsibility to find the best compromise between all the positions, even if it will be impossible to satisfy everyone in our commune. However, quality of life is not defined solely in terms of PAG or construction. Many other factors contribute to the well-being of our residents, and these factors are not equally important for everyone: for the elderly or sick, it's proximity

to medical facilities or shops that counts. For young families, the availability of schools, MREs and youth centres is decisive. And for others, well-being depends on restaurants, community services, community life and so on. Many are concerned about traffic - particularly on the N12, and to a lesser extent on the CR 101, which practically cuts our villages in two. 26.000 cars a day and no real solution in the PNM 2035 (National mobility plan). There are hardly any local shops left; for the slightest errand, you have to get in your car. Public transport has certainly improved, thanks in particular to line 850, which we have long been calling for, but it is still far from perfect. Despite all the efforts we've made over the years, including those of my predecessor here today, we're still not connected to the national cycle path network. We lack local leisure facilities where families can get together. We will continue to work on all these points, and we need to communicate even better with our residents, more often and more transparently, including on social networks. We need to inform them of everything we do in their interests, even if our actions have no direct impact.

## 6. ENVIRONMENT

An Indian proverb says: "You didn't inherit this world from your parents, you borrowed it

from your children". Future generations must also be able to live well and safely, without floods or mud avalanches, but with clean air and green spaces. Climate change has clearly arrived here, which is why we want to do our bit to reduce our carbon footprint. Climate Pact, Climate Alliance, Nature Pact, active collaboration with Sicona, fair trade, investment in our forests, ecological subsidies, electrification of our car fleet, dismantling of gravel gardens, etc. - we're working on it. The centre of the village of Kopstal, along with the renaturation of the river Mamer, and Bridel are particularly important to us. The public consultations have provided many interesting ideas that we, as the local council, will of course be taking into account.

Dear Colleagues,

you've probably been to a circus one day and seen a clown spinning plates on sticks, having to be extremely careful not to let any of them fall over. Well, running a commune is also a juggling act. Not because the mayor is a clown, but because we all have to take many different factors into account. Our management must strike a delicate balance between the various and sometimes contradictory expectations of our current and future residents, the government and administrations, laws and regulations, finances, protection of nature, staff, and so on. You are committed to carrying out this voluntary work. A lot of criticism awaits you, but few thanks. But don't let that discourage you.

I look forward to spending the next 6 years with you!

On behalf of the college of aldermen  
Thierry Schuman, Mayor  
Kopstal, 10 October 2023

# COALITION AGREEMENT 2023-2029

## A. NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND COMMODITIES

1. We continue to work on the Kopstal village centre. 1.1 We are going to implement the master plan for the Kopstal town centre. This plan takes into account the results of the citizen participation. 1.2 We plan and build, among other things, the new Wirtspesch Centre. 1.3 We plan to create an inviting place to eat, drink or read a book. 1.4 We build a bypass from the Mamer to the centre of Kopstal. As a result, in the event of extreme flooding, the river Mamer should no longer rise above the level of the road. 1.5 We are planning a bio-regional self-service vending machine shop in Kopstal that will be open 24/7. 1.6 In Kopstal, the extension of the Town Hall for administrative and technical services will be planned next to the current town hall. 1.7 In the Gewelinger house (former population office in Kopstal), we are planning to set up a medical centre or social housing.
2. We will develop a master plan for the town centre in Bridel. 2.1 We will continue to expand services of the population office in Bridel. 2.2 We will continue to offer specific services in our communal conciergerie (e.g., cleaning and alterations, shoemaker, tyre service, technical inspection, car wash, perfume shop, orders for flowers and tickets for concerts and other events, small boutique), where the post office will also

operate a kiosk (e.g., mail, sending letters and parcels, printing stamp, collecting parcels). 2.3 We will develop a concept for the "Halles de Bridel" in the new Stugalux building. Here, an operator would run a delicatessen with a small restaurant (without cooking on-site). This spot will include a space for public services in the field of culture and leisure.

3. We will continue to work within the framework of the Housing Pact for 3.1 the creation of affordable housing as well as 3.2 the preservation and 3.3 the promotion of the quality of living until 2032.
4. We will further develop sports infrastructure in Kopstal and Bridel. 4.1 We will plan to build a new tennis hall, which can also be used for other sports (e.g. Pilates, fitness, yoga, gymnastics, etc.) 4.2 We will renovate and extend the pétanque court in Bridel. 4.3 We plan to build a beach volleyball court in Kopstal next to the football field. 4.4 We will set up a bicycle washing and repair station near the "Freedom Tree" in Kopstal and another near the cemetery in Bridel. 4.5 We will design a new concept for the sports infrastructure in Kopstal around the football field. 4.6 We will plan a small car park on two levels next to the football field in Kopstal. The roof of this car park will house the new club bar, as well as changing rooms and showers for the players.
5. 5.1 In collaboration with the National

Institute for Architectural Heritage (INPA), we will plan and execute renovation work on our two churches, both of which are under national protection. 5.2 We will build the new burial chapel in Bridel and renovate the cemetery at Kopstal. 5.3 If the Archdiocese intends to desecrate the church in Kopstal (the initiative does not come from the commune), we will ensure that the building is renovated and can be used while respecting the character and dignity of the place.

6. We will submit the new general development plan (PAG) to the 2<sup>nd</sup> vote of the local council and will try, as far as possible, to take into account the comments of all our citizens. It will be important to find the right balance between quality of life, affordable housing, shops and other amenities, mobility and respect for nature. The PAG will have to provide the right framework for preserving our quality of life in the future.
7. We will build the new technical hall in the Rue des Champs.

## B. MOBILITY AND ROAD SAFETY

1. We want more mobility for the residents of the commune. That's why we will continue to seek and implement solutions in the areas of mobility and road safety: 1.1 a general reduction in traffic congestion in the neighbourhoods, 1.2 more soft mobility in the commune, 1.3 more safety for pedestrians and cyclists, 1.4 more comfort for people with reduced mobility, 1.5 adaptation of the Ruffbus offer in line with demand.
2. 2.1 To ensure the safety of our children, we need to reduce motorised individual traffic near the school campus. 2.2 We will therefore extend the "Séchère Schoulwee" for children who come to school on foot or by bike. 2.3 This will also be true for municipal school bus transport. 2.4 The crossing of the N12

will continue to be supervised by two municipal officers before school starts at 8am. 2.5 We will develop a separate traffic concept for the Bridel school campus.

3. 3.1 We will reduce the amount of passing traffic in our neighbourhoods. 3.2 We will reduce traffic congestion in the commune. 3.3 We will continue to work for a 30 km/h zone in the centre of Kopstal (N12, CR101) 3.4 and Bridel (N12). 3.5 We will install modal filters at specific locations to better control and direct traffic. 3.6 We will introduce additional traffic calming measures in the Rue de Mamer, Rue de Saeul and Rue de Mersch. 3.7 We will prevent all possibilities to take shortcuts from Bridel to Kopstal and vice versa.
4. 4.1 We will consider the construction of cycle paths in our commune according to feasibility and relevance. 4.2 We will continue to work with the competent authorities to ensure that our commune is connected to the national cycle network, e.g. 4.2.1 Bridel - PC15 connection (Bereldange - Ettelbrück), 4.2.2 Bridel - PC1 connection (loop around Luxembourg City), 4.2.3 Kopstal - PC14 connection (Mamer - Mersch), 4.2.4 Kopstal - Bridel connection. 4.3 In collaboration with the regional tourist office (ORT), we will continue to develop the tourist offer of the commune (e.g. hiking trails, regional events, etc.). 4.4 In collaboration with the communes of Mamer and Mersch, we will relaunch the event "Alles op de Vëlo" event in the Mamer valley.
5. 5.1.1 We will develop a local parking concept. 5.1.2 This will include parking regulations. 5.2.1 We will provide additional charging points for electric cars and 5.2.2 additional parking spaces for bicycles. 5.3 We will reduce permanent parking around the school and 5.4 introduce several Kiss and Go lanes. 5.5 We will employ one or two municipal officers.

## C. CHILDREN AND YOUTH

1. Children and young people are the future. That's why we will continue to put their well-being at the centre of all our reasoning.
2. We will invest in infrastructure for children and teenagers. 2.1 We will build a new extension of the Maison Relais in Rue John F. Kennedy 2.2 as well as a new extension to the primary school in Rue de l'École. This will create more space for the primary school pupils. 2.3 We will be extending the "Botterblumm" nursery. This will include a large body movement area of 100 m<sup>2</sup>. 2.4 We will plan a new youth centre in Bridel.
3. We will support the school organisation with communal funds. 3.1 We will continue to offer support lessons for children in elementary school (Aurékids, support in maths and especially in German or French for children who have no contact with these languages at home). 3.2 We are committed to ensuring that each child is cared for and integrated into the school according to their needs. 3.3 We will review and increase bursaries for students who have graduated from secondary school.
4. We value the opinions of the children and teenagers. 4.1 We will carry out regular surveys on certain topics in school 4.2 and, in collaboration with the school committee, we will reflect on the role and function of the student parliament. 4.3 In addition, in collaboration with the Maison des Jeunes, we will introduce a communal youth council. Pupils and young people should be more involved in projects that concern them.
5. We will promote the well-being and non-formal education of young people in our community. 5.1 We will fund projects in elementary school and in the Youth Centre aimed at contributing to education for sustainable development and issues such as fair trade, nature preservation, water, forest, garden, the

climate alliance, etc. 5.2 In addition, we will introduce the "Ateliers de Kopstal" for our children aged 6 to 12. This way, we will encourage culture, art, theatre and other talents from an early age. 5.3 We will revise the calendar of events for children, where 5.3.1 a children's flea market, 5.3.2 a large school festival, 5.3.3 a fair in Kopstal, 5.3.4 the Christmas market with the visit of St Nicholas and 5.3.5 a carnival for children will find their place.

6. We will continue to support the music school (UGDA). 6.1 We will purchase various instruments that children can borrow if they are enrolled at the music school. 6.2 We are planning additional rooms in the Bridel school, where we will be able to organise and expand the music school's offer.
7. We will provide play areas for the younger generation. 7.1 We will renew and extend our playgrounds. 7.2 We will organise swimming courses for children and 7.3 other sports courses in collaboration with local partners.

## D. ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE PROTECTION AND WELL-BEING

1. We will give all our citizens the opportunity to propose projects regarding the quality of life in our commune. 1.1 Therefore, we will organize an annual ideas competition, with a supplementary budget (e.g.: construction of infrastructure, embellishment of a place by replanting, etc.). 1.2 For large-scale projects, we will continue to actively involve our residents through citizen participation. 1.3 We will continue to optimize municipal services, 1.3.1 in particular the virtual counter, 1.3.2 the transparency and publication of communal laws and regulations, 1.3.3 energy advice, 1.3.4 as well as the installation of two electronic notice boards.
2. We will ensure that our commune remains a green oasis, in which nature and territory are respected. 2.1. We will rearrange the green areas of the

commune. 2.2 We will create collective gardens that can be rented out to citizens and will be managed and maintained by a non-profit social organization. 2.3.1 We will remove all communal gravel gardens 2.3.2 and unseal public areas wherever possible. 2.4 We will study the possibility of cultivating a food forest. 2.5 We will increase ecological subsidies.

3. 3.1 We will aim to achieve at least level 3 certification in the Climate Pact and level 2 certification in the Nature Pact. 3.3 We will remain a Fairtrade commune, 3.4 a member of the climate alliance 3.5 and a member of the COPIL "Mamer-Äischdall-Gréngewald". 3.6.1 We give priority to organic and regional products and services at our local market 3.6.2 and through the SICONA project "Natur genéissen" in the Maison Relais kitchen. 3.7 As far as possible, we will organize our events as eco-responsible events in terms of waste prevention (Green Events).
4. We will categorically support the use of non-fossil energy sources. 4.1 We will analyze the possibility of using wastewater from the wastewater treatment plant. 4.2 We will continue to expand our photovoltaic park. 4.3 We will introduce a LoRa-WAN network and smart meters, allowing the commune and its citizens to better monitor and manage their energy and resource consumption. 4.4 We will study the introduction of a staggered water price for private consumers. 4.5 We will introduce waste regulations that reward recycling and waste prevention.
5. We will continue to implement flood protection measures: 5.1 installation of anti-erosion fascines, 5.2 development of collapse ditches, 5.3 subsidy of private retention basins, etc. 5.4 We will plan biochemical treatment (4<sup>th</sup> phase) at our wastewater treatment plant. 5.5 We will negotiate with the City of Luxembourg to increase the proportion of water from the Kopstal springs into our drinking water network. 5.6 To better protect the Mamer creek, we will set up a river cooperative with the communes of Mamer and Mersch.

6. We will commit to building and renovating our public buildings according to 6.1 criteria that respect the environment, 6.2 the sustainability of materials and energy efficiency. 6.3 The commune will play a pioneering role in the fields of CO<sup>2</sup> neutrality, circular economy, sustainability and energy efficiency in wood and concrete construction, etc., - even if this sometimes involves higher costs.

## E. SOCIAL SERVICES AND CULTURE

1. We will continue to support the construction of affordable housing in the commune. 1.1 We will create social housing in Bridel (Gewännchen) and Kopstal (village center). 1.2 Social housing will remain in public hands. 1.3 We will continue to support the integration of applicants for international protection and Ukrainian refugees living in our commune.
2. We are committed to ensuring that the elder people can remain in their familiar surroundings for as long as possible. Therefore, we will continue to develop services, further education and leisure activities for the elderly (e.g. 2.1 communal concierge service, 2.2 meals on wheels, 2.3 pensioner's party, 2.4 courses, 2.5 bus shuttle, 2.6 excursions, 2.7 services offered by the CIGL, 2.8 possibly a senior club). 2.9 We will undertake to build housing for the elderly, which will remain in the hands of the commune (Op der Schanz).
3. We will continue to implement the Living Together Pact. This will take the form of a communal integration plan, which will include concrete projects to be implemented locally
4. (e.g. 3.1 Welcome-Brunch, 3.2 New Luxembourger's Day, 3.3 integration of the refugees, 3.4 language courses for refugees, 3.5 courses about office programmes, 3.6 creation of a welcome brochure, etc.). In this context, it remains

important that our residents, whether of immigrant background or not, work together to maintain a good international and intercultural exchange.

5. In collaboration with the Social Office (OSCM), we will support citizens of all ages facing existential problems. 4.1 We will provide information and 4.2 offer assistance adapted to their situation. 4.3 If the government pays out social benefits, it goes without saying that the commune will continue to pay an additional amount (e.g., cost-of-living allowance or energy bonus).
6. We will further expand the cultural of the commune and 5.1 provide substantial support for Kulturasbl. 5.2 Every year, we will organize a large Christmas market, 5.3 a themed school festival for children and their families, 5.4 a Music Festival, 5.5 the KoBri-Rallye and many other events. 5.6 We will organize two editions of the "Ateliers de Kopstal" per year.
7. We will support local clubs and associations with 6.1 subsidies and 6.2 the purchase of equipment which they can borrow from the commune (e.g. 6.2.1 bar trailer, 6.2.2 dishwasher trailer, 6.2.3 toilet trailer). 6.2.4 We will examine the possibility of extending this offer to residents of the commune. 6.3 We will simplify the rental system for the commune's own halls.

8. We will support solidarity between neighbors and 7.1 create meeting places in the public space, such as a barbecue area. 7.2 We will provide our residents with a digital neighborhood platform (e.g. Hoplr) that will make it easier for them to connect, stay in touch, borrow or share objects, ask for help or keep up to date on neighborhood activities.

*CSV Koplescht Briddel - DP Koplescht Briddel*

## ADVISORY COMMISSIONS

1. Commission for Intercultural Living Together
2. Commission for Finance
3. Commission for Mobility and Road Safety
4. Commission for Sports
5. Commission for the planning of an urban center in Bridel
6. Commission for the planning of Kopstal village center planning
7. Commission for Planning and Buildings
8. Commission for Social Life and Well-being
9. Commission for School
10. Commission for Environment and Climate

**D'Schäfferotserklärung an de Koalitiounsaccord 2023-2029 kënnen op Lëtzebuergesch um Site vun der Gemeng nogelies ginn.**

**La déclaration échevinale et l'accord de coalition 2023-2029 peuvent être consultés en langue française sur le site web de la commune.**

[www.kopstal.lu](http://www.kopstal.lu)



Administration communale de Kopstal  
28, Rue de Saeul  
L-8189 Kopstal  
**[www.kopstal.lu](http://www.kopstal.lu)**  
📍 Communedekopstal