

**Program Lokaal Wassenaar**

**2022 - 2026**

**Working together, strengthening locally**



## Local Wassenaar: always nearby

According to the annual Elsevier survey, Wassenaar has been in the top of municipalities in South Holland for some time with a high quality living environment. It is a pleasant place to live, work and recreate with lots of space and greenery.

Most Wassenaarders want to maintain this pleasant living environment and appreciate the small scale of our village.

Local Wassenaar is committed to this by combating disruptive factors, such as traffic nuisance, but also by continuing to support the good level of facilities and strengthening the social structure within the municipality.

We are committed to ensuring that- not only now, but also in the future - everyone is happy to be able to live in Wassenaar

Wassenaar is not alone in the region. Its responsibility does not stop at the municipal boundaries. Wassenaar can best fulfil this responsibility if it continues to fulfil an important function in the region as a green area for recreation, walking, cycling, sports, etc.

In this way, Wassenaar strengthens its substantive contribution to the region.

Preserving space, greenery and good partnerships is a high priority at Lokaal Wassenaar. We must continue to invest in this.

Lokaal Wassenaar is a fully independent party and acts as such. Without any formal connection with and/or direction from other parties or organisations. Your vote for Lokaal Wassenaar also means that we will be available to you for the next 4 years and will remain in contact with you. In this way we can best represent the interests of you as a citizen of Wassenaar, of you as a voter.

In order to realize our ambition for the future, the municipality needs a board of mayor and aldermen with vision and courage in which Lokaal Wassenaar will continue to participate.

This board consists of local administrators with extensive knowledge of Wassenaar and a vision of the future.

### Our main themes for Wassenaar are:

- **Traffic**
- **Safety**
- **Services**
- **To connect**

# Traffic

The Province of South Holland wants to build 230,000 homes in the coming years. The region around us will increasingly become an urban area. Wassenaar must remain the green lung in this development. A natural environment for its own residents and for residents of neighbouring municipalities, where one can enjoy recreation, walking, cycling, sports, horseback riding, etc. Unwanted motorized traffic does not fit with this starting point.

There is increasing traffic in our municipality and it must be investigated whether this can be counteracted by systems based on vehicle registration, for example.

In addition, we want the major regional transport movements to be accommodated by a Light Rail between Leiden, Katwijk/Valkenburg, Wassenaar and The Hague and further improvement of public transport.

Traffic types that cause a lot of congestion in the village, such as coach buses, campers and caravans, are actively diverted via the N206/N441 by imposing a transit ban for the village and by banning through freight traffic.

We also want to reduce freight traffic in Wassenaar by creating transfer points on the northern and southern edges of our municipality. Goods are then transported to their final destination in smaller electric vehicles.

We believe that the increasing use of bicycles and (rental) scooters is a good development, which we want to encourage even more by encouraging local use of alternative transport. It is important to increase bicycle safety, also in the dunes. Cycle routes need to be improved.

As far as we are concerned, in the short term the problems surrounding Rozenplein will be tackled by better regulating bicycle and other traffic flows locally. Since no fundamental solution is possible at the current location, options such as moving the connection with the A44/N44 to the Ammonslaantje/Maaldrift area and a level-separated intersection at the Rozenweg should be seriously investigated.

We support researching the downgrading of the N44 to a 50-kilometer road with a total of 2 lanes. However, this can only be implemented if adequate measures have been taken to prevent unwanted cut-through traffic through Wassenaar. The reduction in the amount of traffic by downgrading of the Katwijkseweg is also supported by Lokaal Wassenaar.

We want to conduct experiments in various places to increase safety, improve traffic flow and prevent unwanted traffic, e.g. on Lange Kerkdam, Backershagenlaan, Jagerslaan, Rozenplein, etc.

We are committed to a substantial expansion of the number of 30 km of zones and, where possible, associated road layouts. In time we want to make the entire municipality a 30 km area. Physical measures are taken on through routes to limit the maximum speed.

Some other focal points:

- Additional parking facilities will be provided for cyclists in various busy places.
- The accessibility of the shopping area in the centre and the business park Maaldrift must be good.
- Parking will not be charged for.
- The accessibility of Kerkehout will be improved.

As far as Lokaal Wassenaar is concerned, the residents are closely involved in the decision-making and operationalization of traffic measures.

# Safety

Safety has several aspects, such as being protected against crime, but also being able to participate in traffic without danger or a safe home.

In several respects, security in Wassenaar is at a good level and Lokaal Wassenaar believes it is very important that this is maintained.

That is why we monitor safety, especially that of cyclists and pedestrians:

- Streets and squares are well maintained and lit;
- Every pedestrian crossing is safe and easily accessible.
- The bicycle crossings at schools such as near Adelbert College on the Deijlerweg will be made safer.
- Proper road layout and enforcement will prevent speeding.
- Dangerous traffic situations will be tackled and measures will be taken to prevent the nuisance of horse droppings.

We are in favour of maintaining our own police and fire service locations, with a local police officer in every neighbourhood, who combats undermining of public order and dealing of drugs in the vicinity of secondary schools.

We do all this in close consultation with the neighbourhoods. Here too, involvement of the residents is essential for Lokaal Wassenaar.

And last but not least we mention our sea shore based rescue brigade, which we are proud of. We will ensure that they can continue to do their job well.

## Climate

It is becoming increasingly clear that climate change is a threat to our security. That is why Lokaal Wassenaar considers it important that the municipality achieves its own climate objectives. In addition, it is essential that we make our environment suitable for the consequences of the changing climate. Wassenaar's facilities must be designed for an increase in precipitation and an increase in temperature.

Our goals are:

- Wassenaar is climate neutral in 2040.
- Wassenaar remains 'Landgoed aan Zee' and the green lung of the region.
- The large green buffer on the north side must be implemented and the green east and south edges must be preserved.
- Municipal buildings are modified in such way they are sustainable.
- Schools become energy neutral
- Flat roofs are used as much as possible for the installation of solar panels

The environmental law recognizes the power of residents in integrating climate policy  
The municipality stimulates sustainability and climate plans among residents and companies by actively providing information.

Private initiatives are well and quickly supported. Regulations are being adjusted to facilitate in a better way. The sharing of (preferably electric) means of transport is encouraged.

More green surfaces in both public spaces and private gardens are being pursued.

We are investigating the possibilities of making the lighting of public spaces more energy-neutral. Deployment of solar panels per light point and only switching on when there is presence are options.

Wassenaar must have a good waste policy and implementation. Efficient sustainable techniques for processing our waste must be applied as soon as possible. We will respond to new developments and we want to introduce better methods as they become available and practically applicable.

We are committed to providing good information so that waste ends up in the right bins. That is beneficial for the environment and it will reduce the costs of waste disposal.

### **Sound**

Nuisance can lead to a feeling of insecurity. Also noise pollution.

The amount of (unnecessary) noise that our residents experience is increasing. We want Wassenaar to become quieter.

Equipment that the municipality uses or deploys through third parties must comply with noise standards.

In the General Local Ordinance, we formulate specific measures to combat noise nuisance so that enforcement can be improved.

Together with the region, we are tackling the increasing nuisance from low-flying air traffic.

We want to reduce the fireworks nuisance around New Year's Eve by designating central places for setting off fireworks. Our pets will also feel safer.

# Services

Wassenaar has many good facilities at a high level. This makes it pleasant to live in Wassenaar and we want to continue that.

## **Sports**

We want to encourage sports as much as possible. Sports and sports clubs are important for keeping the Wassenaarders moving. But sport not only contributes to the health of the Wassenaarders, it also provides mutual solidarity.

We want to contribute to sports clubs being able to offer sufficient variety and have good accommodations. That invites you to (continue to) exercise. We also stand for inclusive sports practice. Everyone should be able to participate. Financial support, where necessary, fits in with this principle.

The sports field by the public swimming pool will be preserved. We want to facilitate small-scale sports facilities such as Cruijff-courts and exercise equipment in the neighbourhoods.

## **Culture**

Wassenaar residents are creative and the cultural expressions give the character of Wassenaar an extra dimension. Lokaal Wassenaar wants to subsidize cultural initiatives in Wassenaar that are of interest to a wide audience and that contribute to diversity. Both old and new cultural institutions can make this contribution. The library is the centre for the convergence of well-being and culture.

Subsidies are awarded on the basis of clear criteria for activities within Wassenaar for all Wassenaar residents. Subsidies for Warenaar, the library and the cultural sector will be maintained at the current level at least.

A fixed stage will be built in the centre of the village. During the day, it is allowed to perform without a permit within rules yet to be set. We want to use this to increase the liveliness and attractiveness of our village.

We facilitate sufficient opportunities for relaxation and entertainment for the youth in Wassenaar. In consultation with young people, there will be more activities for them in the field of music and culture.

## **Care**

Customization and own direction; these are the core concepts of healthcare. Local Wassenaar believes that one easily accessible physical counter in the centre of Wassenaar is essential for all forms of care, welfare and work. A counter that thinks along with you in solutions that fit well with the question posed.

We want to reduce the fragmentation in the provisioning of care.

Aids are necessary for some Wassenaarders for a better quality of life. Local Wassenaar believes that the aids should be delivered quickly. Existing resources that are still in good shape can also be reused for this.

The layout of the public space must be easily accessible for old and young people, mobile or with a disability, including a pram, wheelchair or scooter.

The Wassenaar community has many volunteers and people that take care of someone else. That is a great asset in our community. We want to continue to support this group. We will discuss with them how we can provide support in the best way.

### **Recreation**

Local Wassenaar is proud of the Hollandse Duinen National Park. The special character of this area, including the beach, must be protected against increase of the built-up area and excessive crowding.

The beach must remain a small-scale family beach and as such distinguish itself from other beaches in the region. In the summer months there will be a good bus connection to the beach to prevent car traffic.

We adopt and implement parts of the plans made by the students of the Herenwegschool for the area surrounding the entrance to the beach.

The number of visitors to Meijendel must remain at or below the current level in order to limit both the pressure on the area and the traffic nuisance in the area.

We want to spread the crowds by allowing visitors to use entrances at TNO and HGC.

We ensure that walking routes are well marked and that they connect better with each other.

To enhance recreation, Wassenaar must continue to invest in participating in quality labels such as the Blue Flag and Quality Coast and participate in the Walking Municipality of the Year election.

### **Economy**

Not only good facilities are important for the liveliness of a municipality, but also a flourishing economy. Entrepreneurs contribute to an attractive Wassenaar and offer employment. We want to support them where possible, especially in this difficult Covid time.

Our cultural heritage; the beautiful monuments and the village character of the centre has a unique appearance. By maintaining this, you create a 'selling point' for our entrepreneurs and a bustling centre.

We want to increase the quality, attractiveness and diversity of our shopping centre. In consultation with the shopkeepers and shopkeepers' association, more activities must be facilitated and the range of shops must be broadened. In addition, we want to prevent a cluttered streetscape by getting rid of displays and billboards.

The development of the Port Area should be done in close consultation with entrepreneurs and residents.

Starters must be facilitated in setting up a company by regulations that respond to their wishes and possibilities.

We like to see as many people as possible active or at work. It must be attractive for companies to hire people on welfare or with a disability.

## Housing

A very important provision of a municipality is, of course, the housing facility. Local Wassenaar is aware that there is a need for homes that match demographic developments, but that building options are limited.

In our view, the development of new construction sites should not be at the expense of the green and village-like character of Wassenaar. We must therefore build smarter and, in particular, distribute.

In consultation with local residents, we determine what is needed and what is appropriate at which location. We want to build for all residents and want to avoid concentrations of social or owner-occupied housing.

In addition, we have a grip on developing parties and make good agreements with those involved with regard to the amount of stacked homes, plot-bondage, how to deal with the existing housing volume, etc.

We provide suitable housing by:

- a good spread of various categories of housing across the village (social, medium-rental, owner-occupied, etc.).
- to make attractive “flow” arrangements for residents in consultation with all parties in the chain, so that rental properties are used optimally
- to check whether we can realize temporary houses (for a maximum of 10 years) for young people and/or starters.
- a self-occupancy requirement for most new buildings to prevent speculation.
- to provide all new construction on municipal land with an anti-speculation clause.
- initiate regulations, whereby (economic) ties to Wassenaar play an important role in the allocation of rental properties.

The Environmental Act, which will enter into force in mid-2022, combines all existing regulations in the field of spatial planning, the environment, etc. and mainly concerns the physical living environment. The residents are more involved in the plans.

Local Wassenaar wants to strengthen that involvement. Wassenaarders and neighbourhood associations must be given more influence on environmental visions and environmental plans at an early stage. As a result, the Municipal Board and the official organization must gain a better insight into and take into account what is going on in a neighbourhood.

Making Wassenaar sustainable is an integral part of the environmental law.

A few points of interest

After the pollution of both the municipal wharf and adjacent plots has been mapped out and the (im)possibilities have been determined, an integrated plan must be drawn up for the entire area.

Where land or buildings become available due to expiration of current use, it is considered whether housing is possible. Living in the Langstraat is encouraged to increase the liveliness of the area. Possible developments on both the north and south sides of our village should be considered in their entirety. An adequate vision for the entire area concerned is a starting point for this.

We will keep the green zone between Wassenaar and Katwijk/Valkenhorst open, with its diversity of nature. It is used in such a way that the pressure on this vulnerable area remains low.

The tree replanting obligation also applies to the municipality. In public areas, the tree stock must remain at least the same in number/area, both in quality and in diversity.



The maintenance of the green areas must be carried out throughout the municipality in accordance with the agreed standards. It must be possible for residents to be involved in the design and maintenance of their living environment.

**Education**

We facilitate a wide and varied range of education, also for expats and non-native speakers. School buildings are used efficiently and are well maintained.

After-school activities such as culture and sports are broadened and encouraged.

# Connecting

## **Social cohesion**

It is pleasant to live in Wassenaar; a nice neighbourhood or street of your own is also a determining factor. Young people grow up in the neighbourhood and go to school. The elderly may have lived there all their lives. You feel safe in your own neighbourhood and you get help if you can't do something (well anymore). As far as Lokaal Wassenaar is concerned, social cohesion in neighbourhoods is therefore crucial. It is the common thread in our vision for Wassenaar and we want to strengthen it.

We help neighbourhood associations with strong boards through regular consultations. We encourage lively community centres and neighbourhood meetings. There are plenty of play areas and hangouts. There are neighbourhood coaches to support participation in matters that concern the neighbourhood. We have already mentioned our own local police officer.

Young people are involved in municipal decisions and policy on matters that directly concern them, such as recreational opportunities.

The participation of the elderly in society is of great importance in order to maintain as much vitality as possible. Participation in sports, exercise, games, neighbourhood activities, etc. is facilitated through community centres and schools.

We are looking for connections with all residents, including expats and (wives of) status holders. An expat counter improves interaction with our international Wassenaarders.

## **Transparent municipal organization**

The municipal board and organisation must be in touch with its citizens. A transparent, smooth and adequately functioning municipal organization is essential in this regard. We take a critical look at what we as a municipality should keep in our own hands and which activities can best be carried out by or in collaboration with partners.

There will be a greater influence on Joint Arrangements. This improves its democratic legitimacy and control.

Members of the municipal council and B&W pay sufficient attention to the municipal organization to keep knowledge and skills at the right level. We want to promote diversity in both governance and municipal apparatus. The municipality of Wassenaar must also be an attractive employer.

Communication with our residents is significantly improved by responding correctly and within set deadlines.

## **Thrifty financial policy**

Municipal finances are a means to achieve the above objectives, but we believe that they should be used sparingly so as not to burden residents unnecessarily. High taxes are also undesirable for our local economy and entrepreneurs.

Some of our views:

- Investments should either make a sustainable and structural contribution to the level of facilities for the Wassenaar residents or structurally reduce future operating costs for Wassenaar.
- Shortages in the operating budget must be structurally facilitated within the existing budget space. They may not be covered - directly or indirectly - from the reserve funds.

- Municipal taxes are not increased more than absolutely necessary.
- The dog tax will be abolished.
- There will be no cutbacks in education, culture and sport.
- Voluntary organizations are financially supported. It often concerns only small amounts with a relatively large social impact.

Local Wassenaar wants the annual budget to be transparent in such a way that it is clear which financial amounts Wassenaar controls itself or for which it can have its own policy.

**And finally: accessible councillors**

Your vote for Lokaal Wassenaar also means that we will be available to you for the next 4 years and will remain in contact with you. Our councillors and alderman(s) listen to the issues you will be confronted with in the coming years. We can be reached by telephone and our email addresses are listed on the website of Lokaal Wassenaar.

In addition, we hold a consultation hour once a month, where you can go with your questions, comments, criticism or suggestions, which concern your personal situation in Wassenaar and for which we as municipal counsel can support.