

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR POLICY MAKING

GROW INVESTMENT – *Change the perspective to unleash vast social, economic, and human potential*

We must approach vulnerable neighbourhoods as investment opportunities with hubs of large scale unredeemed human potential, and dare to be bold, transformative, and pioneering in our investment approaches – for the good of the people living in those neighbourhoods and for society at large.

GROW TRANSFORMATION – *Seize the strategic initiative in urban planning*

We must ensure that all neighbourhoods are easily accessible as part of a connective and socially cohesive city, and re/design each neighbourhood with strong enough cultural and human qualities to transform into a natural destination for inhabitants to choose to live and spend their time.

GROW OPPORTUNITIES – *Make an opening move that creates a ripple effect*

We must prioritise making a strong opening move by placing economic and physical *lighthouses* – educational, employment, recreational – in particularly vulnerable neighbourhoods to provide and thereby also attract more opportunities, resources, and people to the neighbourhoods.

GROW EQUALITY – *Re/allocate resources for affirmative action*

We must compensate for socioeconomic differences by systematically re/allocating resources to the most vulnerable neighbourhoods, creating more equity, reducing segregation, and signaling that the neighbourhoods have political attention and priority – they have not been left behind.

GROW LIFE CHANCES – *Empower youth to believe in the future*

We must ensure that young people believe that they belong, that they feel seen, heard, and empowered to picture a future for themselves as active and contributing democratic citizens. We – as authorities and as a society – must invest in giving the youth the space, tools, training, and chances to achieve that.

GROW SAFETY – *Balance efforts for the problematic minority and silent majority*

We must make an equal effort to reach and act on the minority that engage in criminal activity, as we do to engage with and create trust among the majority population, as these are intrinsically linked. Inaction on crime may convey that the authorities do not care about the neighbourhood or the wellbeing and safety of the citizens, while the absence of effort to create trust between citizens and authorities may likewise leave room for malignant forces – local or external – to sow division and spread disinformation and may aggravate the geographical, social, and economic exclusion of vulnerable neighbourhoods.

GROW DEMOCRACY – *Lead by example with Nordic values*

We must lean on our core Nordic characteristics of trust, transparency, equality, and democracy in our efforts to prevent segregation, and jointly set clear guidelines on how to show and stand firm on these values in all that we do, in every neighbourhood. From the cross-Nordic, national, municipal, and local level - with our frontline practitioners leading by example.

GROW TOGETHER – *Create partnerships of change*

We must commit to bettering our Nordic cooperation across public and private sectors in partnerships for change that continuously push and inspire each other to strengthen public housing and urban development policy, reaching ambitious social and economic targets in the efforts to prevent segregation and parallel societies.