

Lille Metropole's pledge to the European Pillar of Social Rights Commitment to principle 19 on housing and homelessness

Access to housing is a fundamental right and every citizen must be able to access decent housing. For many years now, Lille Metropole and its partners – public institutions, social housing institutions and tenants' and housing support associations - have been committed to improve access to housing for all by providing a more suitable housing offer and support for the homeless and the most vulnerable people.

The rise of homelessness, the increase in rent prices and in socio-economic instability, combined with the persistence of unfit housing, require an ambitious, comprehensive and coordinated response from our metropolis.

In order to provide decent and affordable housing to all and to support particularly the most fragile and poorest households, Lille Metropole is leading and supporting numerous actions within the framework of its **housing policy (€65 million per year) and of the "Housing First" partnership roadmap**. Lille Metropole will consolidate this impulse in the short term, as part of the **recovery plan initiated after the COVID-19 pandemic crisis** and the lockdown period, and in the medium term, as part of the **Local Housing Plan 2021-2026**.

Lille Metropole is therefore committed to accelerating the metropolitan initiatives in order to tackle homelessness and to guarantee decent and affordable housing for all, by:

- *Establishing a social observatory for homeless and vulnerable people*
- *Facilitating the construction of 6,000 new housing units per year, including 2,300 social housing units.*
- *Supporting the refurbishment of 2,500 social housing units per year (€9 million)*
- *Increasing the access of priority households to social housing, including homeless people who in 2018 represented 9.7% of demand and 11% of allocations*
- *Building or rehabilitating accommodation centres and adapted housing, in particular boarding houses (€700,000 per year);*
- *Recycling 1,800 vacant housing units (19.3 million euros over 12 years), among which 37% for social housing*
- *Fighting against indecent housing situations, notably through the renovation of 600 housing units per year in degraded condominiums (6 million euros over 3 years) and 600 housing units in student residences (12 million euros out of 5 years)*
- *Reinforcing support to households facing financial difficulties in paying for their rent and charges through the Housing Solidarity Fund (7.3 million euros per year)*
- *Reinforcing socially innovative support for the most vulnerable people through personalised support systems integrating housing, health, job and social integration, and sustainable access to housing for young people a (€200,000 per year).*
- *Adopting preventive measures to limit rental evictions and prepare access to housing for people leaving prison (20 people housed in social housing in 2019 as part of a dedicated partnership protocol).;*

More inclusive metropolitan areas are vital to ensure a stronger social Europe. Lille Metropole remains committed to provide affordable housing and fight homelessness, to foster greater solidarity and encourage social diversity in our housing policies. In doing so, we aim to achieve the objective of principle 19 of the European Pillar of Social Rights.

Date and signature **17 SEP. 2020**

Damien Castelain, President, Lille Metropole

