



# A MATTER OF LIFE

FACTS ABOUT  
THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK



## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK



### THE CHILDREN'S REGION

We welcome newborns and meet the expectations of modern families with healthcare integrated into family life as closely as possible.



### PATIENT SATISFACTION

We want to have satisfied patients who are involved in their treatment and feel that our healthcare offers are based on their needs, wishes and personal circumstances.



### INTEGRATED PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICE

We provide great patient care by ensuring better transitions between hospital, municipality and the patients' general practitioner.



### EQUALITY IN HEALTHCARE

We want to prevent illness and treat patients as a healthcare provider for anyone in need regardless of their means.



### PATIENT RIGHTS

We respect our patients' time by ensuring fast diagnosis and treatment.

## PREFACE

A matter of life. This is how we in the Capital Region of Denmark define our work. This is what it is all about every day, all year round regardless of where in the region we are located. And regardless of the occupational group we belong to.

In this brochure, you can read more about the people who work for the Capital Region of Denmark, and how we work to help patients and citizens in our region which covers the Copenhagen area, North Zealand and the island Bornholm. We work with both physical and mental health in our hospitals, and we want to offer all our patients and their relatives the best possible care. We also work with the future of healthcare by designing and building new hospital facilities and by conducting research that contributes to the medical community.

The Capital Region of Denmark is also responsible for environment, upper secondary education and public transport in our area. In addition, the Capital Region of Denmark provides residences, activities, employment and rehabilitation for children, adolescents and adults with physical or mental disabilities and for socially marginalised people.

The Capital Region of Denmark is a large workplace with many different professional skills, and as an employer, we provide development opportunities throughout the professional lives of our employees. We also have students, interns and trainees who each year gain practical experience as part of their education with us.

On the opposite page, you can see the strategic framework for the Capital Region of Denmark. It shows how our values, our regional development strategy, our value-based healthcare approach and our five focus areas are connected. The focus areas are our benchmark for how the Capital Region of Denmark strives to measure up to the expectations of our patients as well as to the current political vision.

We hope you enjoy reading this brochure.

# COMPASSION IN HEALTHCARE

When you are ill or hospitalised, it is important that you experience being taken care of in a manner that makes you feel seen and heard as a person. It is important that the surroundings are welcoming and inviting and that you feel safe and supported wherever you are.

With seven hospitals and approximately 44,000 employees, the Capital Region of Denmark is the largest healthcare provider in the country. Patients and relatives are the focal point for everything we do, and we make an effort to ensure that everyone feels informed and involved.

We are currently building new hospital facilities with modern technology where we have made individual patient needs an integral part of the interior design. We believe that this will make patients feel safer, benefit treatment quality and improve cooperation with patients and their relatives even further.

The primary task for the Capital Region of Denmark is to diagnose and treat illness and injuries, to prevent illness and injuries, to educate and to conduct medical research. We do all this in close cooperation with the municipalities in our area, the general practitioners and other healthcare providers. We work to ensure treatment of a high professional quality and to deliver cohesive patient care to our citizens.



## HOSPITALS IN THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK

- Amager and Hvidovre Hospital
- Bispebjerg and Frederiksberg Hospital
- Bornholms Hospital
- Herlev and Gentofte Hospital
- Nordsjællands Hospital
- Rigshospitalet
- Mental Health Services

## INTEGRATED PRIMARY HEALTH SERVICE

With the vision proposal 'All aboard – The Capital Region of Denmark's strategy for Integrated Primary Health Service', we have set a new direction for how the healthcare system can be reorganised so that patients are only hospitalised for as long as required by their illness or injury. New technology and new medications allow more treatment to take place at regional or municipal health centres or even in the comfort of the patients' own home. This ensures increased flexibility for patients and their relatives alike.

Heart patients can have video consultations with cardiologists. Or patients can measure pulse, weight and blood pressure from home and send the data to the doctors at the hospital. It could also be a case of specialised healthcare provided by the patient's general practitioner or by municipality healthcare services. It is important for the Capital Region of Denmark that general practitioners and our local municipalities are well equipped to help citizens dealing with illness.

We work continuously to improve our availability to and counselling of the general practitioners in our area as well as nurses working for the local municipalities when they need advice or guidance regarding the care of specific patients. The Capital Region of Denmark has among other things introduced 72-hour treatment responsibility post discharge for our most vulnerable patients who receive municipal healthcare after their discharge from one of our hospitals. This means that nurses working for the local municipalities have direct access to the hospital department that treated the patient for up to 72 hours after discharge if they have questions about medication or experience unexpected changes to the patient's condition.

## A GOOD AND TIMELY PROCESS WITH SATISFIED PATIENTS

When patients are admitted to one of our hospitals, the quality must be top-notch. We want our patients to feel expected and welcome at the hospital. They must feel included in the decision-making throughout their diagnosis and treatment process. We also work to improve telephone assistance, signage at the hospitals, the design of our waiting rooms, and we have introduced unlimited visiting hours. Through committees and user groups, we involve patients and relatives in decisions regarding the everyday operation of our hospitals including new treatment methods, hospital food and interior design.

### EQUALITY IN HEALTHCARE

In general, people with little or no education or who are in other ways socially disadvantaged are likely to have an inferior health to other citizens. On average, they smoke more, are more frequently overweight and are more stressed. At the same time, they may find it difficult to use and benefit from our highly specialised and efficient healthcare services, and as such, they do not always receive the treatment they need.

In the Capital Region of Denmark, we have the objective to eliminate this inequality in healthcare. Among other things, we collaborate with the local municipalities on preventive measures against alcohol abuse and smoking and on outreach efforts that meet the most socially vulnerable where they are.

### PATIENT RIGHTS

As a patient, you have a number of rights in relation to e.g. choice of hospital, waiting times and treatment abroad. You also have the right to complain and to seek financial compensation. Patients have the right to be fully evaluated or start treatment within 30 days if it is professionally possible. If the region cannot offer an evaluation within 30 days, the patient has the right to be evaluated or treated at a private hospital free of charge. Patients who undergo evaluation and treatment for cancer have extended patient rights meaning that deadlines for evaluation, treatment and aftercare have been determined by law.





For the Capital Region of Denmark, it is a high priority that patients receive an evaluation and the appropriate treatment in a timely manner. A political objective states that as of January 2021, 70% of patients must be evaluated within 30 days and that the right to evaluation must be complied with for 95% of patients. For cancer patients, the objective is that 85% must receive treatment within the standard treatment deadlines stated in the so-called 'cancer packages' which is a national standard for coordinated and carefully planned examination and treatment programmes for cancer patients. The standard treatment deadlines are professional guidelines stating the acceptable timeframe for patients with suspected cancer to be evaluated and receive treatment.

As a patient or relative, you can always contact the patient counsellor at the hospital if you need information or guidance. You also have the right to make an official complaint or seek financial compensation. For more information regarding patient rights and contact information for The Danish National Contact Points, go to [www.lifeindenmark.borger.dk/healthcare](http://www.lifeindenmark.borger.dk/healthcare)

## PATIENT INVOLVEMENT

In the Capital Region of Denmark, we want to create a more compassionate healthcare system and offer the treatment that ensures the most value for the patient. Patient involvement is about listening to patients and recognising what is important to the individual when they meet the healthcare system. All people are different – also when it comes to illness and treatment. In the Capital Region of Denmark, patient involvement means that we include patients in decisions about their evaluation, treatment, care and follow-up to the extent desired by the individual patient.

# EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The Capital Region of Denmark also provides Emergency Medical Services if citizens are injured or suddenly become ill. We are, among other things, responsible for ambulances, physician staffed critical care units, five emergency departments and six urgent care clinics in our area.

## OUT OF HOURS MEDICAL HELPLINE 1813

If you become acutely ill or injured outside your own doctor's opening hours, you can contact the Capital Region of Denmark's medical helpline 1813 for assistance. When you call 1813, you will receive advice from our specially trained nurses and doctors. If necessary, you can also be referred for treatment at e.g. an emergency department. Our medical helpline 1813 receives around 1 million calls every year.

## 1-1-2 – WHEN IT IS LIFE-THREATENING

In Denmark, if you need immediate help with an acute, life-threatening illness or injury, call 1-1-2. Our emergency medical dispatch centre is ready to receive calls and advise citizens on life-saving first aid and to dispatch an ambulance, a physician staffed critical care unit or an emergency helicopter 24 hours a day.

In 2021, Emergency Medical Services in the Capital Region of Denmark dispatched 194,000 ambulances to our citizens. In case of major accidents in our area, Emergency Medical Services also coordinates efforts across local hospitals.

## COVID-19

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a major adjustment for the healthcare system in the Capital Region of Denmark. The hospitals needed to care for patients with COVID-19 in isolation, in intensive care or on ventilators while still caring for all other patients as well. This required many new solutions and was carried out in close collaboration across the region, with national authorities, with municipalities and general practitioners. COVID-19 has thus become the picture of a strong Danish healthcare system ready for change when new needs suddenly arise.

In our hospitals, we are ready to treat all patients with COVID-19 and other infectious diseases now and in the future.



## SAFE TRANSPORT OF CRITICALLY ILL CHILDREN

'Babylancen' is a special ambulance designed to transport premature babies and other critically ill children and their families to Rigshospitalet when they need highly specialised intensive treatment. The ambulance is staffed by a neonatal transport team from Rigshospitalet as well as specially trained paramedics from Emergency Medical Services, and it is ready to be dispatched for emergencies around the clock, all year round.

# MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health Services in the Capital Region of Denmark is the country's largest psychiatric hospital. Every year, we evaluate and treat approximately 50,000 children, adolescents and adults with mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, depression, personality disorders and more.

The majority of people who receive a psychiatric diagnosis can be cured or helped to live a good life with few symptoms. Many people with mental illness need a quick and intensive effort to get them back on track, and we collaborate with municipalities and general practitioners, specialists, psychologists, civil society and other players to provide the best assistance.

For us, the patients are the experts on their own lives. Therefore, we make our patients' wishes and needs a starting point in the treatment, respecting the rights of the individual for self-determination. We involve the relatives and support the patient's recovery process in the treatment. Every year, between 40,000 and 50,000 patients are in contact with one of our outpatient clinics, and approximately 10,000 patients are treated through admission.

## NEW CONSTRUCTION

### A new beginning for forensic psychiatry at Mental Health Centre Sct. Hans

Forensic psychiatric treatment has taken a quantum leap in the Capital Region of Denmark with the newly built facilities called 'Udsigten' (the View) at Mental Health Centre Sct. Hans where staff and patients moved in at the end of 2021. The architects have designed a building that, in itself, contributes to the mental healing of patients. 126 bright and spacious patient rooms are all oriented towards green surroundings. An excellent framework for the patients' physical and creative activities have replaced outdated facilities.

### Psychiatry at Bispebjerg Hospital

Over the coming years, Psychiatric Centre Copenhagen will move into a completely new setting at Bispebjerg Hospital. The goal is to create a safe environment for patients, relatives and employees that can help promote the healing process for patients.



# HOSPITALS OF THE FUTURE

The healthcare system of the future is taking shape at our hospitals in the Capital Region of Denmark. We are renovating and building new facilities to create better conditions for patients, their relatives and our employees. In total, we are building more than 500,000 new square meters equipped with state-of-the-art health technology.

The new hospital facilities in the Capital Region of Denmark are built with the patient as our focal point. We are creating new emergency departments to ensure that as a patient, you have one entrance to hospital treatment if you become acutely ill or have been injured. In the new hospital buildings, patients will have their own suite with a private bathroom to ensure better surroundings for privacy and for confidential conversations with healthcare staff and relatives.

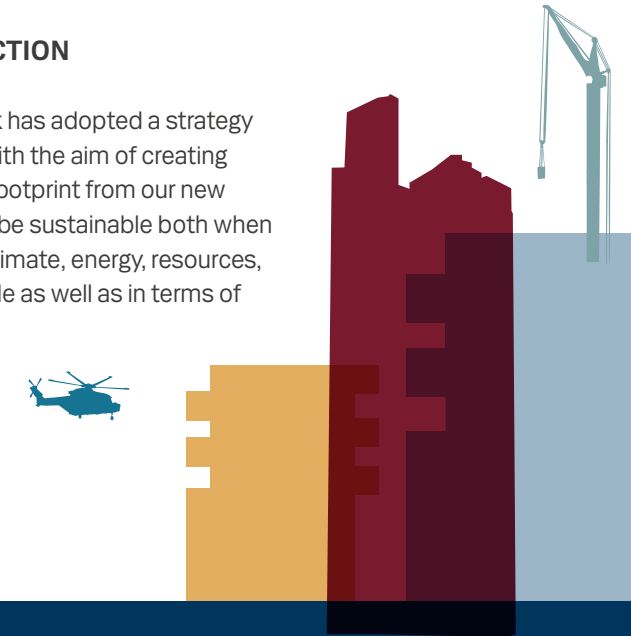


## EXPANDING ON EXPERIENCE

Several new hospital buildings have already been put into use - including the new Herlev Hospital and the new forensic psychiatry facilities at Mental Health Centre Sct. Hans. In the coming years, we will continue to move into new facilities including the new Bispebjerg Hospital and the new Nordsjællands Hospital. The many new hospital buildings currently under construction make the Capital Region of Denmark one of the country's largest property developers. We gather experience across the projects and develop new collaboration models to ensure better construction while getting more value for our money.

## SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION

The Capital Region of Denmark has adopted a strategy for sustainable construction with the aim of creating the smallest possible carbon footprint from our new hospital facilities. We strive to be sustainable both when it comes to materials, indoor climate, energy, resources, nature, environment and people as well as in terms of governance and finance.



## GREEN TRANSITION

The total carbon footprint from the Capital Region of Denmark as an organisation is substantial and corresponds to the yearly CO2 footprint of approximately 76,000 Danes. This demands our attention, and we have an obligation to do better. This is the focus of Green2030 – a conversion programme aimed at working on changing the design of our hospitals. In the long run, this should lead to our healthcare system becoming greener and more sustainable than it is today.

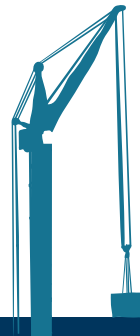
## THE CHILDREN'S REGION

By 2030, the population of the Capital Region of Denmark will have grown to two million people. As such, we expect the number of births to increase significantly. This means that the Capital Region of Denmark can look forward to many more families with small children in the future.

Bringing a child into the world is a landmark and a significant event in our lives. And we see it as a very important job to help families get off to a good start. All families in the Capital Region of Denmark should experience safe and coherent healthcare of high-quality before, during and after the birth of a child.

It is a strategic goal for all our hospitals to improve how they meet children on their terms when they enter our hospitals. We strive to accommodate the expectations of modern families in terms of flexibility and availability. We do this by ensuring that we take our point of departure in the individual family's situation. Through digitisation and development of our services, we want to increase the feeling of safety and offer treatment that aligns with the family's everyday life.

When we say that we want to be 'the Children's Region', it is about more than treatment of sick children. We want to help give all children the opportunity to grow up in a healthy environment with focus on well-being because this provides children with the best starting point for a good adult life. Today, our public health and our healthcare system are challenged by the fact that many people live with lifestyle diseases and the consequences thereof. And the best way to do something about that is if we start early in life, so that is a strategic goal we will make a high priority in the coming years.



### NEW CONSTRUCTION FOR CHILDREN

'Mary Elizabeth's Hospital – Rigshospitalet for children, adolescents and pregnant women' will set new standards for treatment as well as for interaction between architecture, organisation and the way we run things.

With Nordstjernen – a new children's and adolescents' mental health centre at Psychiatric Centre Glostrup – our ambition is to build a new, unique setting where children and adolescents can receive psychiatric treatment while also having enough room for their entire family to be there with them.

All treatment of diabetes in children has since 2021 taken place at the new Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen at Herlev Hospital.



## WE TRAIN THE EMPLOYEES OF THE FUTURE

The Capital Region of Denmark is also a training ground for future employees. Every year, we help train 12,000 students and pupils for both healthcare jobs and other positions in collaboration with a number of educational institutions. We also offer competency development, supplementary training and further education for our employees throughout their employment with us. In addition, we provide training in both clinical skills and teamwork, so our students and clinical staff can practice before meeting patients.



## COMPETENCY DEVELOPMENT FOR THE FUTURE

Education and competency development are the foundation for a professional, safe and coherent healthcare system where the employees are equipped to find the solutions that best meet the needs of the individual patient.

In the Capital Region of Denmark, our ambition is to educate and develop the competencies of our employees. They have to master the tasks that must be solved today while also preparing for the needs and challenges of the future as more treatment is moved out of our hospitals and closer to our patients' homes or even into their homes. Therefore, research and development projects are an integral part of training and education for us.

## MANY WAYS OF LEARNING

It is the responsibility of the Capital Region of Denmark to ensure that educational offers and competency development opportunities match the needs of our employees and managers. We are dedicated to ensuring that future employees are able to train and practice skills after graduating to ensure professional development and career opportunities throughout their entire working lives. Copenhagen Academy for Medical Education and Simulation – also known as CAMES – provides internationally recognised simulation-based training where doctors and other healthcare staff can practice cooperation, procedures and interventions, so their skills and competencies are in place when they see patients.

## APPRENTICESHIPS IN THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK

The Capital Region of Denmark offers clinical training for medical students and students from professional bachelor's degree programmes in e.g. nursing, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, bioanalysis, midwifery and radiography. We also contribute to the training of paramedics, social and healthcare assistants and AP graduates in healthcare administration. Furthermore, the Capital Region of Denmark offers apprenticeships and internships in connection with a number of vocational training programmes in e.g. administration, IT, catering and nutrition as well as for skilled trades and service trades.

## THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK AS A WORKPLACE

In the Capital Region of Denmark, we have approximately 44,000 employees in many different job functions that all make a difference to patients, their relatives and our local citizens. As a workplace, the Capital Region of Denmark is characterised by strong and diverse professional environments with excellent career and development opportunities within a wide range of tasks.

In addition to the seven hospitals, the Capital Region of Denmark also consists of Emergency Medical Services, The Social Division, Steno Diabetes Center Copenhagen, the Hospital Pharmacy and seven central administration centres.

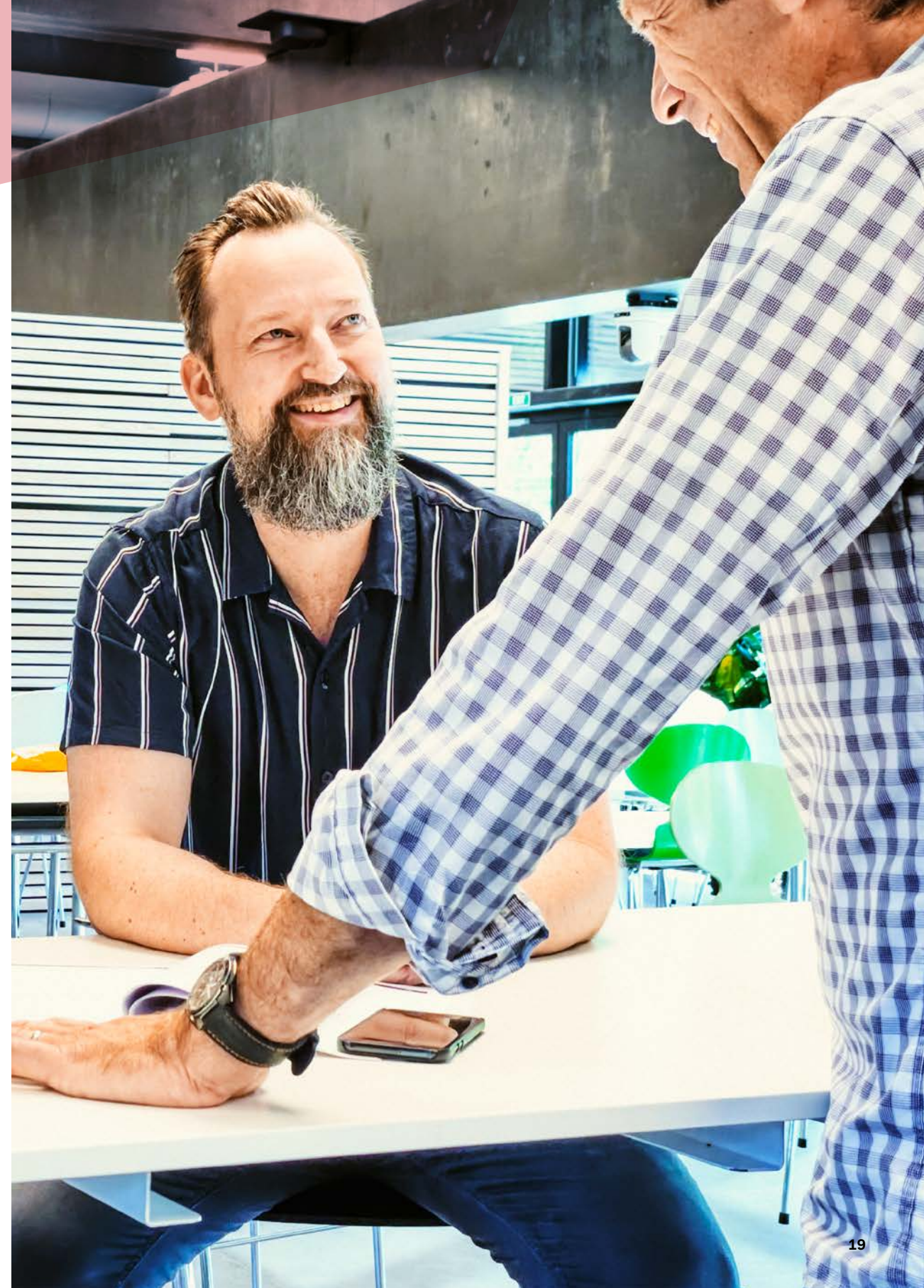
The central administration centres support the hospitals and help our employees and managers with practical, administrative and development tasks within finance and procurement, IT and digitisation, construction and property maintenance, framework for the healthcare system and hospital plans, regional development, communications, support and service of regional politicians, HR and education.

### **MORE THAN DOCTORS AND NURSES**

Around 70% of our employees in the Capital Region of Denmark are doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals, but there are also many other professional groups who ensure that the daily operations of the healthcare system work. These include medical secretaries and healthcare administrators, IT staff, payroll and personnel consultants, lawyers, economists, cleaning and kitchen staff, porters, craftsmen and many others who take care of administrative and practical tasks.

### **EXCELLENT CAREER AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

It is important to us at the Capital Region of Denmark to be an attractive and exciting workplace with a good working environment. Regardless of professional discipline, educational background or job function, we focus on the job satisfaction of our employees and provide opportunities for personal and professional development. We also work on organisational development and leadership development. All managers in the Capital Region of Denmark participate in our management development programme which is based on the latest research and has the most participants.



# ENSURING HIGH QUALITY OF LIFE FOR PEOPLE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Our prerequisites in life are very different, and some of us need help to master everyday life. The Capital Region of Denmark runs 19 different programmes for children, adolescents and adults who are in need of highly specialised assistance due to e.g. mental disorders, disabilities, social challenges or problematic drug use.

## THE SPECIALISED SOCIAL AREA IS A REGIONAL TASK

The Capital Region of Denmark offers highly specialised social services including, housing, day care, rehabilitation and special education. We also run a crisis centre, a communication skills' centre, high security wards for adolescents as well as shelters for homeless people and for people with problematic drug use.

Our residents and users have very different needs and problems, but they all struggle to manage life without help from professionals. This is where we step in with flexible services that are adapted to the needs of the individual. It is important to us that the quality of our professional efforts is supported by modern and functional surroundings.

## THE INDIVIDUAL IS OUR STARTING POINT

We determine what the right support and help is in a given case in close cooperation with the citizen. Our efforts are organised based on the individual's motivation, situation, resources and technological possibilities. Some citizens need a short-term effort. Others need support for a long period of time and, in many cases, life-long support is needed.

Citizens dealing with complex problems often need several types of help organised by different professional groups. It is of great importance to us that we ensure coherent and coordinated courses of treatment and support.



## THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK AND THE MUNICIPALITIES WORK TOGETHER

The specialised social area is managed by the Social Division under the Capital Region of Denmark. We manage the task for the municipalities while the municipalities pay for the operation of the different services.

The need for different services changes in accordance with changes in the target groups, economic conditions as well as political and professional priorities.

Together with the municipalities, we adapt and develop the range of services to meet current needs. There has, for instance, been an increase in vulnerable children and adolescents in need of highly specialised social programmes.

### THE SOCIAL DIVISION OFFERS:

**Social-psychiatric services:** housing, treatment and rehabilitation for children, adolescents and adults with mental disorders and particularly complex psychosocial difficulties.

**Social offers:** temporary accommodation for people with social problems who do not have their own home or cannot stay in their current residence, treatment of problematic drug or alcohol use, and high security wards for adolescents in surrogate custody.

**Disability services:** housing, day care, treatment and rehabilitation, counselling and special education for people with various disabilities.

- 1,600 employees
- Budget: approx. DKK 1bn
- 19 different programmes across the Capital Region of Denmark

# REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT CREATES THE FRAMEWORK FOR A GOOD AND HEALTHY LIFE IN THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK

The Capital Region of Denmark must ensure that clean drinking water continues to be available, continued access to general and vocational upper secondary education as well as buses to bring citizens from A to B – now and in the future. Centre for Regional Development runs and facilitates efforts and projects across municipal boundaries that are crucial for the ability to live a healthy life with equal opportunities and a good quality of life.

## CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION AND GREEN TRANSITIONS

Counteracting climate change is high on the agenda. We must do what we can to prevent the consequences of a changing climate. With the UN's Sustainable Development Goals as our benchmark, we focus our efforts on achieving a balanced climate and environment. As such, we are committed to ensuring attractive and holistic solutions for the changes in water volumes. Solutions that provide more nature and that contribute to the strategic development of both our cities and countryside as well as along our coasts. We are working on transition to sustainable consumption and production. We are making our hospitals greener. We work to ensure green and renewable energy and to contribute to DK2020 and thus to the goals of the Paris Agreement with regard to limiting CO2 emissions. All in close cooperation with municipalities and many other players.

## COHESIVE MOBILITY

- Every year, 35 million passengers ride regional buses and local trains financed by the Capital Region of Denmark with just over DKK 0.5bn annually.
- Together with 11 municipalities, we are establishing and operating the Greater Copenhagen Light Rail which will open to the public in 2025.
- Together with our 29 municipalities, the Capital Region of Denmark has a vision of creating a cohesive network of Cycle Superhighways with 60 routes of more than 850 km in total. So far, the municipalities are connected through 12 established Cycle Superhighways, and the network is expanding every year.

## EFFICIENT AND SUSTAINABLE MOBILITY

Congestion on the roads is increasing three times faster than the population which results in increasing CO2 emissions and traffic jams. We must reinforce public transport of the future by utilising the entire transport system better, so more people will be inclined to carpool or to ride a bicycle, bus, train or metro as opposed to driving themselves.

The Capital Region of Denmark collaborates with local public transport companies, municipalities and the Danish state on the public transport network and creating the infrastructure of the future. The goal is to make public transport more attractive in terms of accessibility, security and coherence with other modes of transportation.



## A GREEN FUTURE

- The Capital Region of Denmark has an ambition to achieve a 100% green transition of the supply sector and the waste sector by 2035 and a completely fossil-free transport sector by 2050.
- The Capital Region of Denmark takes the lead. Approximately 60% of our own car fleet consists of vehicles running on alternative fuel sources such as hydrogen, biofuel or electricity, and the Capital Region of Denmark requires green fuels in future tenders for bus operations.
- In our action plan for the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, we have set a goal that secondary raw material resources (in the form of e.g. construction waste and surplus soil) must cover 20% of the Capital Region of Denmark's raw material resource consumption by 2030.



## **CLEAN DRINKING WATER – ALSO FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS**

In the Capital Region of Denmark, we live right on top of our drinking water. Today, we know of 7,600 contaminated sites, and new ones are added continuously, as we examine the soil. Every day, we work to secure drinking water for our 1.8 million citizens, and we are dedicated to developing new and more efficient methods, technologies and processes for the purification of contaminated soil to ensure clean water straight from the tap for future generations as well.

## **GENTLE EXTRACTION OF RAW MATERIALS**

Raw materials such as sand, gravel, clay and lime are used everywhere for the many new roads, cycle paths, railways, housing estates and hospitals emerging in the Capital Region of Denmark. But raw materials are scarce and must be used with care. We are working on restructuring to create a more circular economy where we consume fewer raw materials. We do this by, among other things, developing a well-functioning market for secondary raw materials such as construction waste, for example, crushed bricks and concrete which can be reused elsewhere. In this way, we contribute to solving the future shortage situation and to ensuring a sustainable development for the benefit of future generations.

## **COMPETENCIES AND WORKFORCE**

Education is crucial for young people to get off to a good start. Especially young people with a vocational or welfare education are in high demand. Furthermore, we must help the 20,000 young people who are without a job or an education. In the Capital Region of Denmark, we ensure that education is available to young people across the region, and at the same time, we contribute to the distribution of over 15,000 pupils admitted to upper secondary education programmes each year.

In the vocational area, the Capital Region of Denmark has taken the initiative to form the framework programme 'Fremtidens Faglærte' (Skilled Labour of Tomorrow) to get more people to both apply to and complete vocational training programmes. The Capital Region of Denmark is also involved in Copenhagen Skills which is a collaboration with the technical and vocational schools in our area. In 2022, the Capital Region of Denmark also created 'Fremtidens kompetenceråd' (the Future's Competence Council) which brings together parties across municipalities, labour market partners and educational institutions to ensure competencies for the labour market of the future in a broader sense.

# DEMOCRACY IN THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK

In the Capital Region of Denmark, we have an openness policy to ensure that our citizens are able to get the greatest possible insight into our work as well as the opportunity to influence political decisions. Citizens are always welcome at the Regional Council meetings, and if you want to discuss a specific matter with the politicians, you have the opportunity to participate in a committee meeting or discuss the matter with the Chairman of the Regional Council. Citizens also have the opportunity to express their opinion when a proposal goes out for consultation or when we regularly invite the public for debates and dialogue meetings.

## THE REGIONAL COUNCIL DECIDES

The Capital Region of Denmark is led by a regional council with 41 elected politicians. They are elected for a period of four years, and their task is to prepare, for example, plans for the health sector as well as plans for growth and development in the region. It is also the politicians who decide how money is to be spent in various areas.

## EARMARKED FUNDS

Every year in September, the Regional Council adopts the budget for the following four years. The budget for 2022 was DKK 39.9bn.

The finances of the Capital Region of Denmark are divided into the three core areas: healthcare, regional development and social and special education. These funds are earmarked and cannot simply be moved around between areas i.e. from bus operations to cancer treatment. The regional system does not issue taxes, but on Danish tax statements, you will find a health tax of 8%. The expenses of the healthcare system are paid in part via this tax which is collected by the Danish state.

## MEET THE POLITICIANS

The Regional Council meetings take place once a month in Hillerød where the Capital Region of Denmark's administration is based. The meetings are open to the public and are live-streamed as well as recorded and published on the Capital Region of Denmark's website. The meetings also include time to take questions from citizens present at the meeting.

The Chairman of the Regional Council has office hours where citizens can come for a short and informal discussion of issues that are important to them. In addition, citizens have the opportunity to meet with standing committees and the Executive Committee to present their views on issues handled by the committee or on subjects that fall within the committee's field of expertise. The Regional Council also forms task committees where you can participate as a citizen and discuss certain topics together with politicians and professionals. The office hours of the Chairman of the Regional Council as well as dates for upcoming committee meetings are available on the Capital Region of Denmark's website.



# THE FINANCES OF THE CAPITAL REGION OF DENMARK

