



One step ahead

Stockholm – Sweden's driving force

Contact the County Administrative Board

Länsstyrelsen i Stockholms län
Box 22067, SE-104 22 Stockholm, Sweden
Visiting address: Hantverkargatan 29
Phone: +46 (0)8 785 40 00
www.lansstyrelsen.se/stockholm

Order the brochure via email:
information.stockholm@lansstyrelsen.se
The brochure can also be downloaded from
www.lansstyrelsen.se/stockholm

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The Stockholm region is Sweden's driving force. Just over one fifth of the population of Sweden live here, and one third of the economic growth of Sweden is created here. And the country's leading knowledge centres are to be found here.

We want to be a leading region in every way, modern, innovative and responsible, with a rich historical heritage. We strive to be a world leader in terms of resource management, sustainability and the environment.

Stockholm is the only true metropolis in Sweden. However, Stockholm is much more than just one of the world's big cities. The capital is surrounded by ancient forest, cultivated land and meadows, and has the world's biggest archipelago, consisting of over 30,000 islands.

Nowhere else in Sweden is there such diversity and strength. And nowhere else are there such opportunities to experience real quality of life.

This is what we mean by development. Welcome to Stockholm County.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Per Unckel'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Per Unckel

Governor of Stockholm County

Good climate for innovation

Stockholm County is Sweden's leading region, with the highest rate of development. International surveys show that the Stockholm region is one of the best in Europe. One third of Sweden's economic growth is created here. People move here from all over Sweden and the rest of the world, bringing new knowledge with them. Just over two million people live in Stockholm County, one fifth of the population of Sweden.

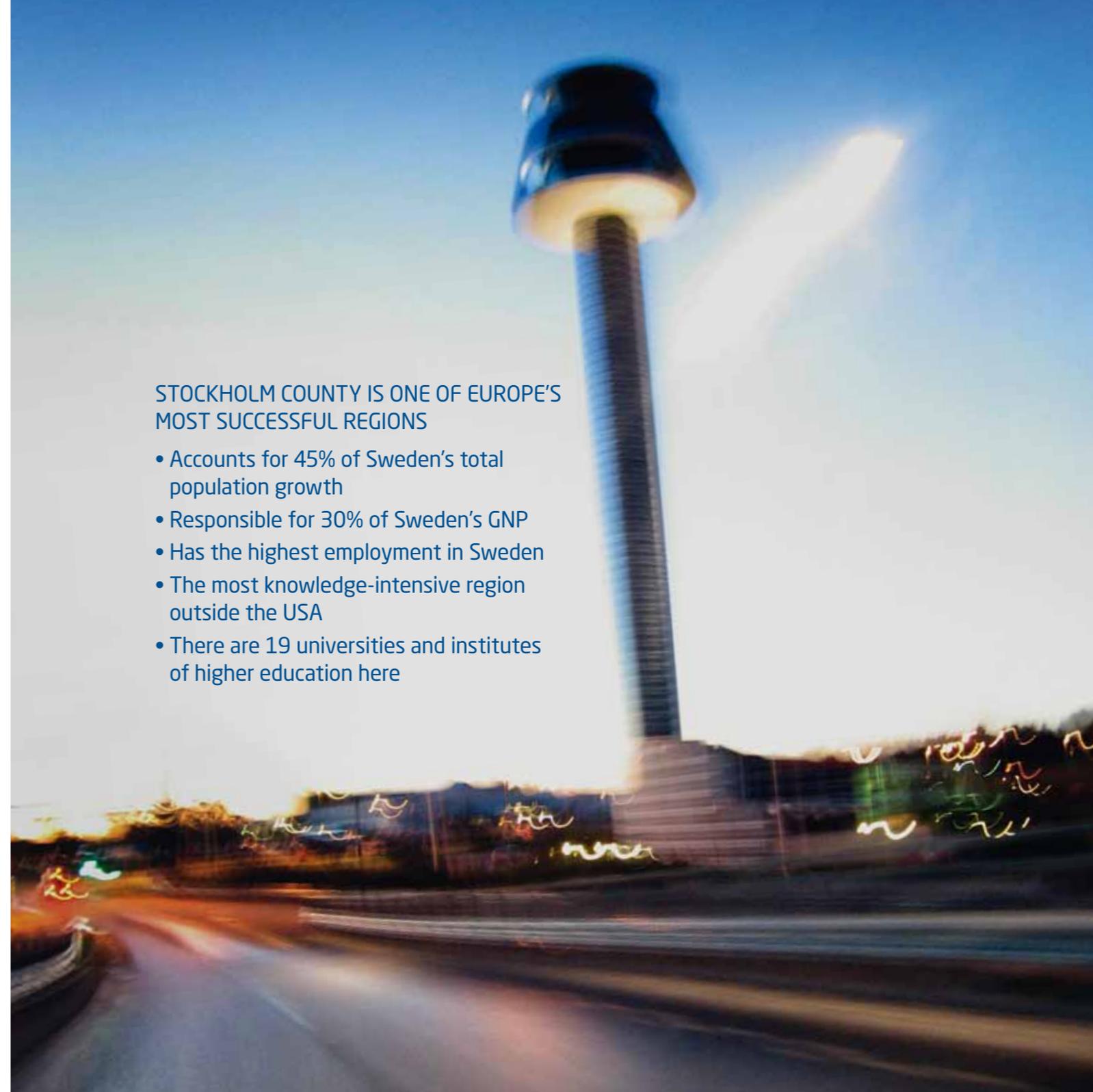
While Greater Stockholm is part of a wider global community, the countries in its immediate vicinity play a growing role, in particular the Baltic region. Close relations with Finland and Helsinki, contacts with St. Petersburg and the potential contained in a partnership with the Baltic States are important preconditions for us all to be able

to benefit from the growth in the Baltic region. The EU Baltic strategy offers new opportunities for a leading Baltic metropolis like Stockholm.

The Stockholm region strives to be a centre of world-leading research. Universities and knowledge-intensive industries have optimum development opportunities here. The region's universities are gradually strengthening their positions on the world stage. Karolinska Institutet, Stockholm University and the Royal Institute of Technology together make up the tenth strongest university environment in the world, outside the USA. Life sciences and information technology are two of the region's most competitive fields. Kista Science City is a world leader in information technology.

STOCKHOLM COUNTY IS ONE OF EUROPE'S MOST SUCCESSFUL REGIONS

- Accounts for 45% of Sweden's total population growth
- Responsible for 30% of Sweden's GNP
- Has the highest employment in Sweden
- The most knowledge-intensive region outside the USA
- There are 19 universities and institutes of higher education here



Unique values of the Stockholm region

Stockholm stands out among the capitals of the world as a green city with abundant water. The many rural areas, parks, beaches and, of course, the archipelago in Stockholm County make a strong contribution to the development and attractiveness of the region. Cultural life in Stockholm also leads the way with a unique range of historical environments and buildings, galleries, museums, international cuisine, design and world-class music.

The environment and nature are part of quality of life. Stockholm County strives to set an example with a good environment and sustainable development. This also encompasses a far-sighted approach to environmental and resource management requirements as an integrated part of the region's development ambitions. This applies in particular to activities with an impact on the climate in which technology and community planning are some of the most important tools.

Stockholm County has rich flora and fauna with excellent opportunities for outdoor activities and experiencing nature. The rural area and archipelago in the county are both thriving. Stockholm's archipelago is unique and will be further developed to make it even more attractive to residents, visitors and companies.

STOCKHOLM COUNTY IS ONE OF EUROPE'S LEADING DESTINATIONS FOR VISITORS

- The highest number of visitors in all of Scandinavia
- Half of the county's area is covered by forest
- 850 lakes
- The archipelago has 30,000 islands, 12,000 residents and 30,000 holiday home owners
- 270 nature reserves, two national parks and one national city park
- The World Heritage Sites Birka, Drottningholm and Skogskyrkogården



An aerial photograph of a city waterfront, likely Stockholm, Sweden. The image shows a large harbor with several bridges and roads crossing it. In the foreground, there are several large, multi-story buildings with colorful facades. The water is a deep blue, and the sky is clear. The city extends into the background, with many smaller buildings and green spaces.

The ambition of the County Administrative Board is to contribute to ensuring that the government's initiatives can interact dynamically with municipal and regional initiatives.

The County Administrative Board will contribute to ensuring that:

- The Stockholm region can offer an internationally competitive climate for innovation.
- The region's knowledge sourcing, from school to research, meets the ambitions to boost attractiveness.
- Investments in infrastructure for road and rail transport, shipping, air travel, energy, waste management, water supply and sewage disposal and other technology are made with the necessary speed and to an adequate extent.
- The supply of housing meets the high rate of population growth.
- Community development meets strict requirements for resource management and consideration for the environment and climate.
- Refugees and immigrants can rapidly be introduced into the community, get work and contribute to the development of the region.
- The social infrastructure benefits all citizens via public and private initiatives.
- Culture and the region's amenity values, including the archipelago, are developed to contribute to the attractiveness of the region.
- The region is safe and secure and is well prepared to cope with accidents, terrorism, natural disasters, contagious diseases, etc.
- Individuals and companies feel sure that licences, permits, appeals, supervision and enforcement are handled and carried out under the rule of law and efficiently.



THE STOCKHOLM REGION IS GROWING AND IS A STRONG DRIVING FORCE FOR SWEDEN

- The population is growing by 30,000-40,000 people a year
- Around 13,000 new homes are required every year
- Homes and business premises account for 40% of energy use
- 100,000 people commute into the county from other regions every day
- 19 million passengers flew to and from Arlanda and Bromma in 2010

Lasting community planning

The efficiency and reliability of the transport system is essential to continued growth and social cohesion. This applies both to the transport links to and from the Stockholm region and the options for travelling efficiently within the region. How transport is organised in the Stockholm region also has major consequences for Sweden as a whole.

If transport works well in Stockholm, it means that a large part of the transport system in Sweden also works well, purely by virtue of the size of the region. In the next ten years, SEK 100 billion will be invested in new roads and railways. This major investment in the infrastructure is an investment in the region's development and also a decisive investment in the environment.

There is rapid inward migration into the county. A smoothly functioning housing market is essential to the continued growth

of the Stockholm region. The county needs to prepare for population growth of up to half a million people by 2030. This requires more than a quarter of a million new homes.

The development of new residential areas must be planned with integrated public transport to avoid new districts becoming mainly served by vehicle traffic. If the community succeeds in co-locating homes and infrastructure, there are environmental advantages.

The requirements for energy efficiency in new homes have been made stricter. According to the EU, all new homes must be considerably more energy-efficient and largely use renewable energy by 2020. New homes also need to be located and designed so that they can cope with climate changes with, for example, raised water levels as a result.

Stockholm's multicultural diversity is one of its strengths

The diversity of the population of the Stockholm region is one of its strengths. People move here from all over Sweden and the rest of the world, bringing new knowledge with them. The multicultural dimension that these new Swedish citizens supply is a great resource and offers great potential for the region. Immigration contributes to ensuring there is a labour force and welfare as the number of elderly people in the population grows. Experience also indicates that regions that are open and contain people of mixed backgrounds develop most strongly.

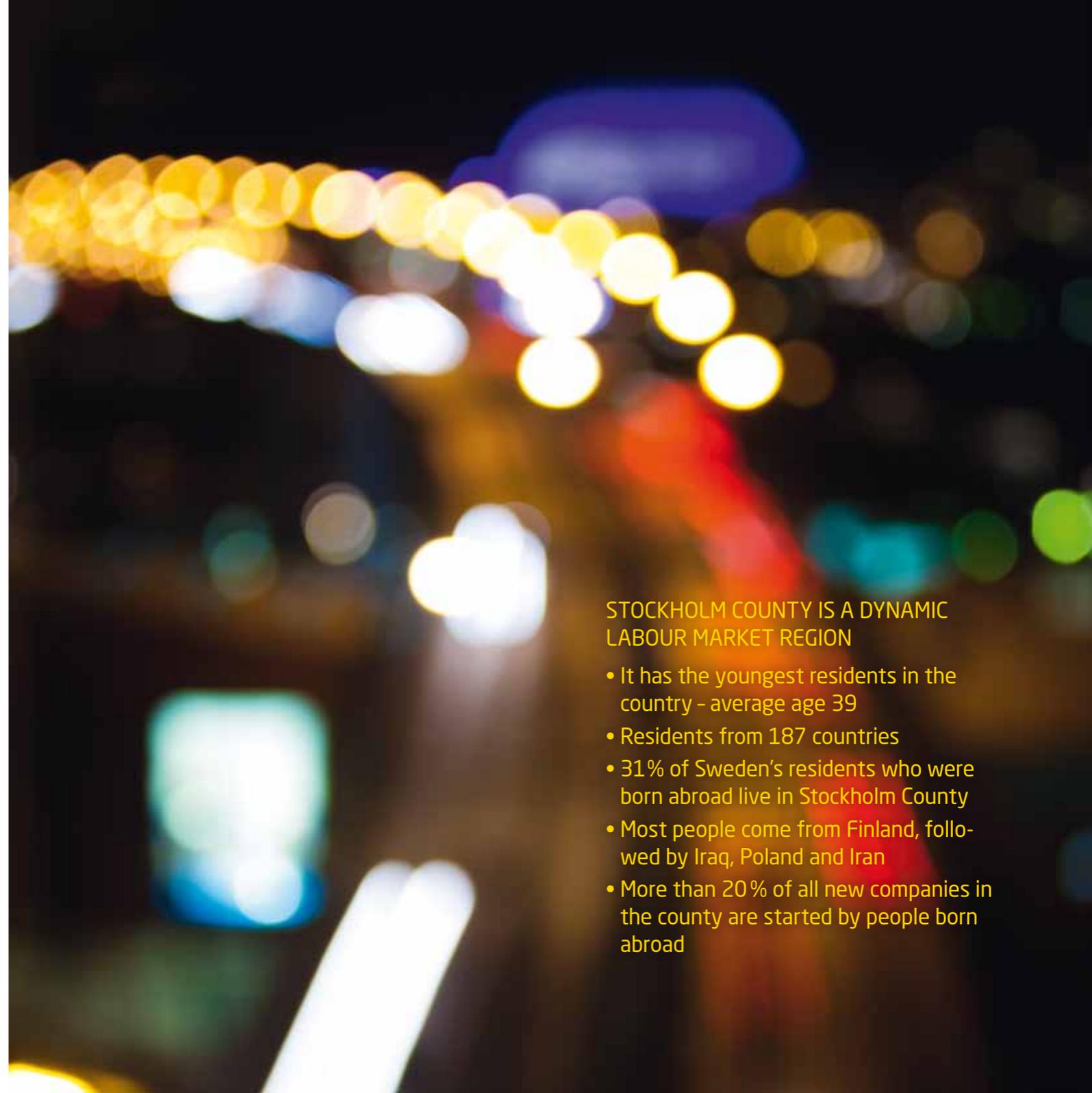
Stockholm County welcomes refugees and immigrants and ensures that they are rapidly introduced into the community, get work and have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the region. Increased, faster

entry to the labour market produces immediate positive effects for the individual and for the community. It is necessary to achieve an even division of responsibility for efficient reception of newly arrived and unaccompanied minors between the municipalities in the county.

Regional differences must be reduced to boost integration. Segregation inhibits the region's growth when it results in people's full potential not being utilised. It is urgently necessary to put an end to the negative consequences of housing segregation. The construction of new homes must be used to a greater extent as a tool to reduce the substantial socio-economic differences between different parts of the county.

STOCKHOLM COUNTY IS A DYNAMIC LABOUR MARKET REGION

- It has the youngest residents in the country - average age 39
- Residents from 187 countries
- 31% of Sweden's residents who were born abroad live in Stockholm County
- Most people come from Finland, followed by Iraq, Poland and Iran
- More than 20% of all new companies in the county are started by people born abroad





A STRONG STOCKHOLM REGION FOR THE COUNTY'S RESIDENTS AND FOR SWEDEN

- Stockholm County occupies 2% of the area of Sweden
- Most densely populated county in Sweden - 21% of the national population
- 26 municipalities
- More than one in three companies are located in the county
- Approximately 2,200 farms

The County Administrative Board supports the development of Stockholm County

The Stockholm region is developing fast. The region is increasingly the hub of development in Sweden. One of the County Administrative Board's main tasks is to contribute to Stockholm being able to play this role constructively. To achieve this, the work of the Board must be characterised by dynamism, initiative, high quality and efficiency. The County Administrative Board in Stockholm County must contribute as an active partner to a region in which more and more people want to live and work.

The County Administrative Board is the representative of the Government in the region and the coordinating body for State activities in the county. Citizens and municipalities must be given the opportunity to realise their lofty ambitions. The County Administrative Board also has the task of ensuring that the county's citizens receive

the level of service the Government has decided on, that municipalities and companies comply with laws and regulations and that nationwide objectives adopted by the Government are achieved in Stockholm County.

The County Administrative Board has a broad area of responsibility. The Board works on issues concerning the environment, nature, the labour market, competence sourcing, the business community, social development, animal protection, gender equality, integration, transport, infrastructure and housing. The County Administrative Board's task is to coordinate these and other areas of public responsibility to achieve efficient solutions for a sustainable society in which economic development, the environment and social welfare are interlinked.



LÄNSSTYRELSEN
I STOCKHOLMS LÄN