

Election Manifesto D66 Rhenen

Freedom for everyone, but nobody left behind.

English Language Election Manifesto 2022-2026

The logo for D66 Rhenen, featuring the text 'D66' in a large, bold, white sans-serif font above the word 'rhenen' in a smaller, white sans-serif font, all contained within a solid green square.

D66
rhenen

What's included in this programme?

D66 is participating in the Rhenen municipal elections on 14, 15 and 16 March 2022. In many cases, non-Dutch inhabitants of Rhenen are also allowed to vote.

We find it important that our ideas for Rhenen are also available for this group of Rhenen inhabitants, hence we've produced this condensed and simplified version of our Election Manifesto.

On the following pages, you'll find our 8 key points we want to fight for in upcoming 4 years. If you have any questions after reading this manifesto, or have some good ideas yourself, please do e-mail us at info@d66rhenen.nl.

We're also available by phone or Whatapp at 06-16099625.

In addition, you'll find some short background information on our top 3 candidates on page 8.



What do we find important?

1. Everyone deserves an affordable home.

Currently there's a shortage of affordable homes in Rhenen. We want to ensure that sufficient new houses will be built in the coming years. These houses should cater to the individual needs of our citizens. That means that we want to see more variety in the Rhenen housing landscape. In that way you can make sure you can find the home you need – independent of whether you're a senior citizen, live in a large family or a young professional.

We want to ensure that all new houses are build in a sustainable way. That for example means including solar panels on all roofs.

In addition, we also care for the livability of the neighbourhood your house is located in. That means sufficient trees, playing grounds and walking paths. We want to make it easy and attractive for our citizens to go outside, exercise, and meet your neighbours.

2. Everybody should be able to walk and bike safely

There are still too many pedestrian and cycling accidents in Rhenen. You, as well as your children, need to be able to bike or walk safely without being afraid of the cars.

We want to lower the maximum speed within our city limits to 30 km/hour. Also, we want to invest in safe road crossings for cyclists and pedestrians.

3. We must think about the future in every decision we take

Our nature and climate are in bad shape. We must act now. We're going to do much more than we've already done.

There's a lot of home improvements you can make which make your home more sustainable and climate-proof. However, it's sometimes quite difficult to decide what options to prioritize or how to do it. The municipality should play an active role in helping you to decide. If you cannot afford these improvements, the municipality should also support e.g., through providing subsidies.

We are going to generate sustainable energy within the municipality of Rhenen. The first step is to install solar panels on all roofs which can support this. However, this will not be sufficient. That means we also have to look carefully at the option of solar fields. We are aware that many people find these ugly or a waste of the land they occupy. However, they are necessary. We want to carefully involve the citizens of Rhenen in the decisions on where and how these solar fields should be installed.

In many instances the soil of Rhenen is covered by tiles and stones. That's not good for nature as rainwater has nowhere to go. We want to more trees, shrubs, and flowers in Rhenen. If you have tiles in your backyard, the municipality will support you in changing these into planting areas.

4. Rhenen, Elst and Achterberg are lively places.

Rhenen, Elst and Achterberg each have their own unique identity. Many people come to our area to spend their vacation here. We want to keep, or even increase, the current level of facilities. There has to be a place to engage in cultural activities as well as a diverse set of shops, restaurants and cafes.

Rhenen is a historical place with many old buildings. We need to keep these and ensure they remain in a good state.

We need more trees and shrubs in the town centers. That is, for example, already happening as part of the new renovation plans for the center of Elst.

5. Everyone should be able to exercise

People with less money live much shorter and less healthy lives than people who do have some money. That's not fair and we need to change this. We want to help people to exercise and live a healthy life. We'll for example do so by making public spaces more inviting for you to move in e.g., by installing sports elements such as a basketball field or fitness area. We also support sport clubs and their volunteers.

It gets quite dark in winter which makes it less attractive to go out for a walk after work. We want there to be a safe, and illuminated, walking tour in every neighbourhood.

6. Every child deserves the best education possible

You can't help what family you were born in to. In some families there's a lot of money and in other families there's less. In some families the parents went to college, and in others they didn't. This shouldn't influence a child's prospects. A good education is therefore very important.

Not only do children learn how to do math at school, but they also get e.g. sports or musical classes. A healthy lunch, the library, and tutoring options are also part of this.

We provide sufficient and affordable day care. In this way every child learns Dutch at an early age. Children from different background also learn to play with each other.

Not everyone has sufficient money to e.g. join a sports club. If your family doesn't have sufficient money to do so, the municipality should help.

7. When you're facing difficult times, the municipality has an obligation to help

There are already many things the municipality can help you with when you're facing challenging times. However, not everybody's aware of that or knows how to claim the help they deserve. Often that's because the rules are written down in a complex way or because there's a lot of paperwork involved. We want to make this access as easy as possible. For example, by ensuring you have one dedicated contact person for all your questions. So that you don't have to explain yourself five times in a row.

For many activities you need to be able to write, read or be digitally savvy. If one of those three is difficult for you, there should be a free course available for you to learn.

8. Everyone should have the same opportunities and be treated equally

Everyone should have the same opportunities and be treated equally. It shouldn't matter whether you're male or female or who you fall in love with. Unfortunately, that's not always the case in Rhenen. We want to work hard to improve that.

When discrimination happens for example at sports clubs or nursing homes, that must stop.

Who are we?

The top 3 candidates for D66 are Caroline Folmer, Hugo van Kooten en Dineke Jansen. .

Caroline is 32 years old. She moved to Rhenen 2 years ago. While being a Dutch citizen, she has a very international background and has lived in 7 different countries (Netherlands, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Sweden, Kosovo, USA) but has found her home in Rhenen. She loves discovering the forests surrounding Rhenen together with her dog. She's also an avid cyclist and is passionate about ensuring equal opportunities in sports.



Hugo is 40 years old and has a young family with two children. He grew up in Rhenen and returned here after his studies. He works in IT. He wants to improve accessibility to the municipality for those in need.



Dineke is 54 years old. She has lived nearly her whole life in Rhenen. She was the chairperson of Rhenen's culture platform for a long time until she joined local politics last year. She is passionate about keeping our town centers attractive and lively places.

