

# NATURENS RIGE

Liv og udvikling i nærheden



**HANDLINGSPLAN for ENERGIPOLITIK 2021-2023**

Ringkøbing-Skjern Kommune



Side 1 af 14

# Energy Policy 2019-2023

## Vision

Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality will be 100 percent self-sufficient in renewable energy by 2020 (2023-2024) and 100 percent fossil free by 2040.

Today we are more than 100 percent self-sufficient in electricity from renewable energy sources. In the future we must be self-sufficient in all forms of energy which we use - also for transport, housing and district heating, industry and farming etc.

On the path to fossil freedom, we will ensure that the balance between the local energy consumption and the local production of renewable energy is significantly improved.

The strategic energy plan is constructed as a matrix with the following six vertical focus areas and five horizontal activities.

	1) <i>The energy is used efficiently</i>	2) <i>Electrification - clean electricity for heating and industry</i>	3) <i>Green transport</i>	4) <i>Storage and smart energy consumption</i>	5) <i>Efficient biomass utilisation</i>	6) <i>Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory</i>
<i>A) Sustainability and circular economy</i>	X				X	X
<i>B) More green businesses</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>C) Communication, conveying and branding</i>	X	X	X	X	X	X
<i>D) Green energy tourism</i>	X		X			X
<i>E) The municipality's contribution</i>	X		X	X		X

Anchored in the Energy Council and in the Energy Secretariat, relevant working groups can be established for the six focus areas and the five horizontal activities.

The individual objectives are followed up via, for instance, the Energy Secretariat.

## Focus areas:

### **Objective 1: Efficient use of the energy.**

It can be cheaper to reduce the energy consumption than to produce renewable energy in local plants. For that reason, we have the following specific objectives:

Our objectives:

1. The heating consumption to be reduced by 20% in the period 2007-2040.
  - 1.1. In COBEN the work with the 1,000 energy checks for private house owners has been completed. It forms the basis for additional initiatives, for example, in relation to subsidy pools from SparEnergi.dk.
  - 1.2. Work will continue with energy reduction in buildings, for example, housing, holiday homes and industry.
  - 1.3. The municipality's Estate Centre's energy renovation in their own buildings. The results are measured, for example in relation to the reduction to 90 kWh/square meter.
  
2. All oil boilers for domestic heating are converted to renewable energy in the year 2030.
  - 2.1. COBEN is carried out with a focus on energy checks for owners of oil boilers in 2019. This forms the basis for additional initiatives, for example, in connection with subsidy pools from SparEnergi.dk
  
3. Unchanged classic electricity consumption (electrical consumption excluding new consumption for transport and heating etc.)
  - 3.1. The campaign is created with the aim of maintaining the classic electricity consumption.
  
4. The industry must become more energy efficient. For example, in the form of higher energy and resource efficiency measured per produced unit.
  - 4.1. GRO 2.0 – Green Resource Optimisation  
The project's primary objective is to focus on how the businesses can achieve lower costs with the consumption of energy and raw materials. This takes place with a focus on introducing, activating or further developing new areas for the businesses' circular economies, use of residual products, cradle to cradle, energy management, process optimisation, bio economy, waste handling etc.  
The effort is a cross-organisational network between Ringkøbing-Skjern business council, the Ringkøbing-Skjern training centre and the energy secretariat. The effort is anchored in the business council.

#### 4.2. ECSMV “Energy Efficiency and CO<sub>2</sub>- savings in businesses in Region Mid-Jutland”

The effort is a regional energy project under Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality’s project management in cooperation with Skive Municipality and Aarhus Municipality. The background for the development program is, among other things, the good experiences within Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality with the project GRO (Green Resource Optimization) where small to medium sized enterprises (SME), in cooperation with the municipality and the business council, had offers of free consultant support to initiate a process with green transition.

The project is divided into four phases:

- Screening for potential energy and CO<sub>2</sub>-savings in businesses.
- Development of green business models
- Subsidies for implementation of green business models
- Communication and dissemination

The ECSMV project secretariat is located at the Energy Secretariat in Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality and has achieved the creation of dialogue and a network between 18 municipalities and many businesses in Region Mid-Jutland. The efforts created in ECSMV will be maintained in Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality and incorporated in Region Mid-Jutland’s new climate strategy.

The achievement of the objectives will be ensured via ongoing focus on energy effectivization and technologies with high impact level.

#### **Objective 2: Electrification – clean electricity for heating and for industry.**

Power from wind turbines and solar panels must be used locally, for example, heat pumps can heat houses. Particle pollution from chimneys and exhausts to be reduced in the ‘Realm of Nature’.

Our goal:

1. Electrification of the heating sector and use of the area’s own power.
  - 1.1. Initiation of dialogue and inspiration meetings with the 12 local district heating plants, and arranging as far as possible, goals towards the electrification of the district heating sector.  
District heating plants can possibly be attached to the digital port, Centre Denmark.
2. Half of the industry’s gas kettles are converted to electrical boilers or heat pumps.
  - 2.1. Initiation of dialogue and inspiration meetings with relevant local industrial businesses. This can, for example, be achieved through the projects “GRO 2.0” and ECSMV (Energy efficiency and CO<sub>2</sub>-savings in businesses in Region Mid Jutland”). The two projects contribute to the conversion through the focus on electrical boilers and heat pumps.

### Objective 3: Green transport.

Green transport is all about mobility, infrastructure and means of transport with clean green energy, for example, electricity.

Our goal:

1. Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality will lead in Europe within knowledge and demonstration of Green Transport, with a focus on the decentralisation of town and countryside structures.
  - 1.1. We gather knowledge about green transport, contributing to new green transport models as well as testing and demonstrating these in the Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality. Local enthusiasts and businesses are included in the work.
  - 1.2. Work continues with WestWind Challenge, electrification and shared mobility and if possible, test areas for self-driving cars.

WestWind Challenge (WWC): We will create the world's most innovative, well known and value creating event for fossil free transport. The objective is to create a movement that crosses borders, generations and trades, and drives individuals, organisations and society to take an active role in the development of a fossil free transport sector. WWC must be part of the development of the Realm of Nature as a sustainable, innovative and vigorous area.

The EU Interreg North Sea-project "COBEN" was extended in 2020 and is now a focussed effort based on the experiences from the Traffic Authority supported project, "Citizen driven Transport System – Electric VestRum". This effort will continue in 2021 with a focus on shared mobility in VestRum, Skjern and Ringkøbing, and an indirect electrification via green combustible fuels such as Methanol, as well as a new legal authority, as a result of the VE-directive.

We are investigating if there is a basis for creating and facilitating an innovation environment around green transition. This could, for instance, be centred around a local assembly factory for electric cars and could possibly make use of twin technology. For example, small one/two person designed electrical cars for the citizens' and tourists' transport. A similar approach started a few years ago in Viborg where approximately 700 people today work with enthusiasm.

2. The municipality's own fossil car fleet will, as far as possible, be replaced with green vehicles as the leasing agreements expire and the vehicles are replaced. The goal is that all the municipality's vehicles will use renewable energy by 2025.
  - 2.1. We are creating a plan for the transition of the municipality's own vehicles to green transport.
  - 2.2. Work is continuing to include the municipality's investments in green vehicles and in charging/refuelling stations in projects which can create further development for the benefit of citizens and businesses.

3. Transport in Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality must be fossil free by 2040.
  - 3.1. We promote green transport, for instance, in the form of “green charging-refuelling-plants” and in the form of support for expansion of electric charging infrastructure for electric cars in the municipality for the benefit of local citizens, businesses, commuters, and tourists.
  - 3.2. We will promote charging stations at housing associations, housing, and businesses by offering charging points for businesses, for example. A collaboration project with Energibyerne.dk, which we are part of, will be examined.
  - 3.3. Citizens and businesses are inspired to examine, use and invest in sustainable green transport, so locally produced energy can be used locally and efficiently. The inspiration can take place via the Energy2020-homepage and other media.
  - 3.4. We will examine the opportunities for production of power-2-X, where X can be hydrogen, methane, ammonia and methanol for transport.
  - 3.5. We will promote the creation of transport plans for businesses, possibly starting in the municipality itself.
  - 3.6. We will promote green public mobility and transport, for example, busses and trains running on electricity or hydrogen.

The EU Interreg North Sea-project “COBEN” has been extended in 2020 and is now a focused effort based on the experiences from the Traffic Authority supported project “Citizen driven Transport System – Electric VestRum”. This effort will continue in 2021 with a focus on shared mobility in VestRum, Skjern and Ringkøbing, and indirect electrification via green combustible fuels such as methanol, and new legal authority due to the updating of the VE-directive. The project and new solutions can perhaps in the future supplement and aid public transport for the benefit of citizens who live in the rural districts and towns.

#### **Objective 4: Storage and smart energy consumption.**

We will store the energy in an efficient manner. When the wind is not blowing and the sun is not shining, we retrieve the energy from storage.

Our goal:

1. We will examine, promote and use the most efficient integration and energy storage methods.
  - 1.1. Via the Energy Council and the Energy Secretariat’s network, the latest knowledge within storage and smart energy consumption is collected – an example being Power-2-X, where wind and solar energy is converted to energy which can be stored.

In cooperation with businesses, we will participate in pilot projects and demonstrate efficient integration and energy storage solutions.

We will work with storage and smart energy consumption to ensure the highest possible efficiency and value creation based on locally produced renewable energy.

We will strive to be a testing area and to test at least two new storage technologies, preferably before 2023.

2. We will consider energy across sectors and create a balance between production and consumption.
  - 2.1. In order to create a balance between production and consumption and thus ensure higher energy efficiency, we will cooperate with universities and businesses such as Centre Denmark, to examine and establish a visual digital map. The map must show the different sectors' energy streams and fluctuations. The digital energy map is used for scenario simulations and development to create a balance between production and consumption.

Through this we wish to contribute to the design of the future's electricity and energy system to 100% balanced renewable energy, preferably before 2023.
3. District heating using renewable energy: 85% in 2025; 95% in 2030 and 100% in 2035. (These part and end goals are expected to be tightened in dialogue with the utility companies.)
  - 3.1. Dialogue and inspiration meetings are conducted with the 12 local district heating plants, where good cooperation is continued.

We share knowledge and jointly put pressure on national legislation or national support for district heating plants when it is relevant.

Together with the utility companies we are making plans for the transition to fossil free energy.

### **Objective 5: Efficient biomass utilisation.**

Biomass can be used for energy but can also be refined for products with higher value.

Our goal:

1. We will examine, promote and use biomass as fertiliser, energy, materials, fodder, food and pharma.
  - 1.1. In cooperation with knowledge-based institutions, farming and food businesses, we will examine and promote the refining of biomass so that as an area, we will achieve the highest possible value of the local biomass.
  - 1.2. We will work in our region as quickly as possible to become self-sufficient in gas. That means that locally, we will produce as much biogas as the total gas use in the municipality.
  - 1.3. The new Climate and Energy Accounts also include the sectors' waste, forestry and agriculture. This gives the opportunity for new initiatives to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions, for example by the farms reducing soil disturbance or changing use of lowland soils.
2. We will create the basis for large scale protein production for animals and humans.

2.1. Together with, for example, Aarhus University in Foulum and other knowledge-based institutions, as well as businesses within agriculture and food, we will examine and create the basis for establishing a protein factory. For example, grass and other biomass can be converted to protein pills for animals or maybe protein food products for humans. A working group has been established, anchored in the Business Council, with a focus on the conversion of grass to green protein. This work continues.

## **Objective 6: Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory.**

We will test and demonstrate new green solutions as well as create development and value creation for the benefit of citizens and businesses.

Our goal:

1. In the field of tension between people, nature and technologies, we will enhance value.

1.1. Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory should be seen in connection with the first five objectives. We will work with both a visual digital energy laboratory as detailed under objective 4.2.1 and a physical energy laboratory. As the largest municipality in the country, we have both challenges and opportunities which can create the basis for the examination and demonstration of projects which can create new energy. For that reason, the energy laboratory includes all the geographical municipality, citizens, businesses and the extensive data we generate.

New projects can for instance be Power-2-X, electricity from wind turbines and solar cells that is stored in batteries or district heating, the upgrading of biogas, the production of hydrogen and methane etc.

Also including existing projects such as the Citizen Driven Transport System – Elektrisk WestRum, WestWind Challenge and Naturkraft, are furthering the mindset of Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory.

We will examine and promote new technology. This can also lead over time to self-driven cars for example, and coils in the roads so electric cars are charged as they drive.

1.2. Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory, will create learning and skill development in order to attract the workforce.

Anchored in the Knowledge Policy work there is an ongoing plan to establish a Summer School with a focus on energy. The Business Council and Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality are working on the detailed content.

2. We will support and promote a renewal of the existing businesses and promote the development of brand new sustainable and value creating businesses.

2.1. We will cooperate for example, within sustainability and the circular economy. We will examine if there is opportunity within the construction trade to create



sufficient visibility and volume for recyclable building materials which can form the basis for the establishment of new businesses, for instance.

- 2.2. We will develop Green Tourism resulting in an annual increase in tourists who can motivate the choice of Ringkøbing-Skjern as a destination of climate and renewable energy.
- 2.3. We will support the creation of new jobs within the energy area. This can happen by inspiring citizens and businesses to entrepreneurship and to use new opportunities within sustainability and the circular economy. This can happen with coordinated efforts between the Energy Policy and the Business Policy.
- 2.4. We will continue to promote the production of renewable energy to succeed with Energi2020 in order that in the future, we have sufficient amounts of renewable energy locally, so that also the processing of energy, the heating sector and the transport sector can adjust and become fossil free.  
Large and individual solar energy plants as well as test turbines and biogas can contribute to this, for example.

## Horizontal activities:

### **A: Sustainability and circular economy.**

Here activities are stress tested with respect to economic, social and environmental sustainability. So, are they contributing to economic development in the municipality, are the advantages equally distributed, is there transparency and inclusion, and is there a reduction in the environmental impact?

The sustainability criteria can directly or indirectly be some of the UN's 17 global goals, for example:

Sustainability goal 7: Promote access to cheap, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all.

Sustainability goal 9: Establish a resilient infrastructure, support inclusive and sustainable industrialisation and drive innovation.

Sustainability goal 12: Promote sustainable consumption and production.

Sustainability goal 13: Quick effort to fight climate change and its implications.

Sustainability goal 17: Strengthen the global partnership for action and increase resources to reach the goals.

- A. In cooperation between Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality and the Business Council, a working group has focussed on the circular economy and sustainability. The working group which is now called Energy Resources, has been tuned and is now anchored in the Business Council.

The Municipal Council has decided and prioritised selected sustainability goals which they have also worked on.

	<i>The Energy is used efficiently.</i>	<i>Electrification – clean electricity for heating and industry.</i>	<i>Green Transport.</i>	<i>Storage and smart energy consumption.</i>	<i>Efficient biomass usage.</i>	<i>Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory.</i>
<i>Sustainability and Circular Economy.</i>	<b>X</b>				<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

**B: More green businesses.**

Across the focus areas entrepreneurship is promoted and the opportunities grasped which contribute to increased value for citizens and businesses. At the same time, we will contribute to more businesses moving to the municipality because we supply green energy.

- A. The whole green transition is growing globally. This also applies nationally in politics, in the media and with citizens and businesses. As an area, Ringkøbing-Skjern is more than 150% self-sufficient in green electricity. For that reason, an incoming business will, electricity-wise, be a green business on equal footing with local businesses, defined by being an electric green company. Through this we will attract new businesses and promote local entrepreneurship. The Circular Economy, green transport and energy storage as well as the production of hydrogen, methanol and protein can be other business development opportunities. The Energy Council and the Energy Secretariat will focus on and promote this.  
We will conduct a green-entrepreneurship workshop which will inspire entrepreneurs to start up their own business on the basis of the many opportunities that are in the green transition.
- B. In dialogue with businesses, we will promote the creation and implementation of green business models in businesses, for example via the project ECSMV “Energy effectivization and CO2-savings in businesses in Region Mid Jutland”.
- C. Politically and with citizens, there is an increasing focus on the impact of food and agriculture on the global climate. We will, in dialogue, work to make the agriculture even more green, for example in relation to energy and CO2 etc. Together with Swedish and Norwegian partners, we have received EU resources for a project called “One step towards a climate neutral agriculture”.

	<i>Energy is used efficiently.</i>	<i>Electrification – clean electricity for heating and industry.</i>	<i>Green Transport.</i>	<i>Storage and smart energy consumption.</i>	<i>Efficient biomass usage.</i>	<i>Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory.</i>
<i>More green businesses.</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

### **C: Communication, dissemination and branding.**

Here is the offer of support to disseminate projects' content and results as an inspiration for others so that Ringkøbing-Skjern reaps the benefits of the branding opportunities.

- A. We will tell the world of the good results which Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality has achieved in Energy2020. We are amongst the absolute leading municipalities in the green transition and we will continue branding ourselves on that. In EGLA European Green Leaf Award, a European group of 12 specialists awarded Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality a great second place in the EU, in six environmental areas.

Communication, dissemination and branding are very important elements. That is why a holistic communication plan will be prepared which brands us on our green transition and secures a continued success and progression in the green transition towards fossil freedom in 2040.

The Energi2020 homepage has just been renewed in autumn 2020 to create more inspiration, dynamics, dialogue and development between the many different actors who are part of the creation of the green transition.

We will work on even tighter and citizen-centered communication. For example, by the appointment of climate families who are followed by the media and who can inspire others to transition.

	<i>Energy is used efficiently.</i>	<i>Electrification – clean electricity for heating and industry.</i>	<i>Green Transport.</i>	<i>Storage and smart energy consumption.</i>	<i>Efficient biomass usage.</i>	<i>Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory.</i>
<i>Communication, dissemination and branding</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>

## D: Green energy tourism.

Our green image; the many energy plants and businesses who work with green energy, form the basis for energy tourism. This applies to tourism for both private and business delegations.

- A. Work is taking place to make Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality into a “Green Tourist Destination”. This will happen in coordination between the Tourism Policy and the Energy Policy.
- B. We will promote charging opportunities in holiday homes and for tourists. The transport, including personal cars, are expected to be electrified in these years. A lack of charging options at holiday homes could be a barrier for letting. We will promote charging opportunities in co-operation with letting agents, owners of holiday homes and Destination Vesterhavet.

	<i>Energy is used efficiently.</i>	<i>Electrification – clean electricity for heating and industry.</i>	<i>Green Transport.</i>	<i>Storage and smart energy consumption.</i>	<i>Efficient biomass usage.</i>	<i>Ringkøbing-Skjern as energy laboratory.</i>
<i>Green energy tourism</i>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>			<b>X</b>

## E: The municipality’s contribution.

Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality will itself contribute to promote the activity.

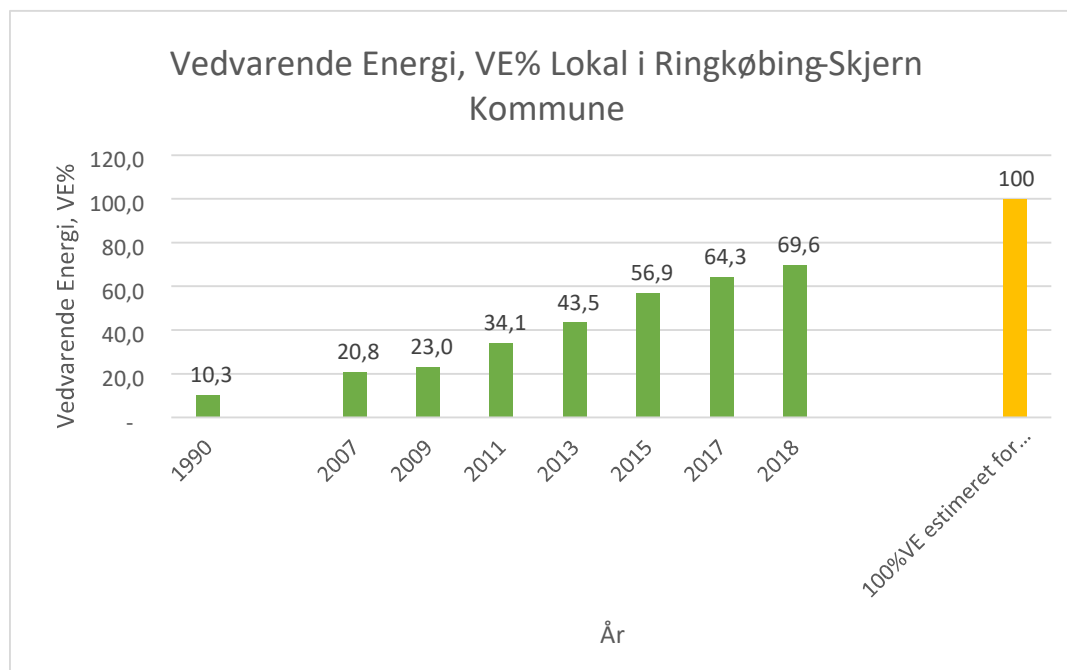
- A. For example, the municipality will lead the way by converting its car fleet from fossil to green vehicles. The municipality will also work on expanding the electric charging net to citizens and visitors in the municipality.
- B. The municipality’s Estate Centre works with the energy renovation of its own buildings.
- C. The municipality seeks to support the opportunities that are in the relatively new agendas “Sustainability” and “Circular Economy”.
- D. We want to examine how learning and education can be created within green transition. Energy including sustainability and the circular economy are sought to be incorporated into the schools’ curriculum. This is to ensure a long-term green transition.
- E. The municipality continues its work via the Energy Council and the Energy Secretariat towards the goal of fossil freedom in 2040.
- F. The new Climate and Energy Accounts, contrary to the previous Energy Accounts, now also include the sectors for waste, forestry and agriculture. This gives the opportunity for new efforts to reduce CO<sub>2</sub>-emissions, for example, through agriculture reducing disturbance of lowland soils or changing their use.
- G. Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality participates from November 2020 in DK2020 which is a collaboration with Realdania, The National Association of Municipalities, regions and municipalities on climate and energy plans. In this connection, there can be a need for

adding an objective, for instance in relation to the Paris Accord from 2015 as well as the Parliament's 2030 goal of 70% CO2 reduction in relation to the emission data from 1990.

In DK2020, climate action plans will be developed.

	<i>Energy is used efficiently.</i>	<i>Electrification – clean electricity for heating and industry.</i>	<i>Green Transport.</i>	<i>Storage and smart energy consumption.</i>	<i>Efficient biomass usage.</i>	<i>Ringkøbing-Skjern as an energy laboratory.</i>
<i>The municipality's contribution</i>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>

### Energy accounts for Ringkøbing-Skjern Municipality





Naturens Rige er overskriften på kommunens overordnede vision og brand.

Kommunens Plan- og udviklingsstrategi udfolder visionen og den står på to ben. Det ene ben er "Det gode liv", og det handler om, hvordan kommunen vil bidrage til, at vi borgere kan leve det gode liv. Det andet ben er "vækst og udvikling" og beskriver, hvordan kommunen kan understøtte vækst og udvikling i vores område.

Alle politikker forholder sig til visionen Naturens Rige og til Plan- og udviklingsstrategien.

### Hvad er en politik?

En politik er det redskab, som byrådet bruger til at styre de forskellige områder efter.

En politik laves for fire år af gangen. Politikken udpeger de temaer og mål, som kommunen ønsker særlig fokus på i perioden. På den måde lægger politikken også retningen for de indsatser, som kommunen prioriterer at sætte i gang og bruge penge på.

Til hver politik hører en handlingsplan.

Handlingsplanen indeholder helt konkret de indsatser, der sættes i gang for at opfylde politikkenes målsætninger og mål. Handlingsplanen udarbejdes for halvandet år af gangen, så der er plads til justeringer i politikkenes fireårige levetid.