

Building the Future of Waalre Together.

**Our choices for
building the Future.**



ELECTION PROGRAM 2026



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We choose a policy that is honest about what must be done and hopeful about what can be done.

Tanja de Leeuw

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1. Building the Future of Waalre Together

Looking Back – Our Course in the Period 2022–2026

Over the past four years, the CDA faction has dedicated itself with conviction to a governance culture based on trust, strengthening community spirit, ensuring transparency in municipal finances, and maintaining Waalre as an independent municipality. Our efforts have led to tangible results and initiatives that benefit local involvement and quality of life.

CDA Waalre played an active role in the celebration of 100 years of Waalre, where volunteer work and community activities took center stage. This celebration underscored the importance of solidarity and the involvement of our residents. In line with this, the faction contributed to the vision “The Power of Waalre 2025” or in Dutch “De Kracht van Waalre 2025”. In this vision, our residents are seen as the foundation of the municipality. We advocate for a government that stands alongside its residents and provides space for local initiatives.

Since the 2022 elections, the faction has campaigned strongly for Waalre to remain an independent municipality. We have committed to policies that align with local preferences and supported projects that strengthen Waalre’s identity. Examples include the development of the “Dorpshart Aalst” (Aalst Village Heart), the redevelopment of “Het Laar,” and the development of Waalre-Noord phase 3.

In terms of finances, CDA Waalre strives for transparency and responsibility. The faction believes it must be clear where tax money is allocated. Therefore, we focus on clear communication and the careful expenditure of municipal resources.

Health and a pleasant living environment are very important to CDA Waalre. We are pleased with the development of a local sports and exercise vision aimed at encouraging a healthy and active lifestyle.

In the areas of sustainability and housing, CDA Waalre advocated for sustainable developments combined with the preservation of small-scale character. We have helped make the start of several plans possible. We have invested in safe, green, and easily accessible residential areas, with respect for the village identity. By supporting citizen initiatives and stimulating participation, we strengthen the community.

As a local party, we maintain short lines of communication with Den Bosch, The Hague, and Brussels, and we remain committed to cooperation and results.

Looking Ahead – Our Course for 2026–2030

During the upcoming council period, we want to continue building Waalre. CDA Waalre will continue to stand alongside its residents, offer space for initiatives, and have confidence in society. We will make clear choices in a time of limited resources, with an eye on the present and the future. In doing so, we remain committed to maintaining Waalre as an independent municipality, with policies that align with local preferences.

We will uphold the four core values of the CDA:

- **Solidarity:** No one stands alone. We believe in connectivity and find happiness in community. Therefore, we are committed to caring for one another, especially for those facing difficulties. A society truly flourishes only when everyone feels seen and valued.
- **Public Justice:** We strive for a fair society in which everyone is given equal opportunities and the vulnerable are protected. The government must be clear, set boundaries, and provide certainty. We take action where injustice arises.
- **Stewardship:** We want to leave the world better for our children and grandchildren. This requires a sustainable approach to nature and the environment, responsible management of tax money, and the nurturing of our culture and traditions.
- **Shared Responsibility:** Not everything needs to be regulated by the government. People and communities often know best what is needed in their neighborhoods. We advocate for fewer rules and more trust. Cooperation between the government, citizens, and social organizations is the key to a strong local society.

Your support is essential to realizing our plans for Waalre.

We invite you to build the future with us. Together, we make the difference.

Can we count on your vote on March 18?

2. Top 10 Priorities CDA Waalre

For the 2026–2030 period, CDA Waalre focuses on civic engagement, self-reliance, and quality of life:

- **An Engaged and Responsible Society:** Building a social, sustainable, and future-proof Waalre by calling upon the responsibility of our residents.
- **Participation and Civic Engagement:** Providing space for citizen participation, resident initiatives, opportunities for consultation, and transparent decision-making. We remain in dialogue with residents about what matters to them.
- **Support in the Social Domain:** Accessible care, youth services, and support for vulnerable groups. Realization of a Housing & Care service desk in collaboration with the Stichting Wonen Welzijn Zorg, Waalre. Development of future-proof care initiatives with specific attention to the situations around Hoevenakkers and 't Laar.
- **Education and Youth Development:** Investing in school buildings (the new Drijfveer and De Meent) in collaboration with educational institutions. Emphasis on the multi-functional use of our school buildings.
- **Strengthening Safety and Livability:** A focus on prevention, neighborhood safety, and cooperation with the police and residents. Stimulating social networks where neighbors look out for one another.
- **Housing and Spatial Planning:** Realizing affordable housing for first-time buyers and seniors through the swift execution of housing plans. Accelerating small-scale construction projects, including alternative forms of living. Greater focus on better utilizing the existing housing stock through house and plot splitting. Attention to the accessibility of facilities for seniors within a “walker-friendly” radius.
- **Mobility and Infrastructure:** Investments in bicycle paths, traffic safety, and public transport. Ensuring good connections (bike, car, and public transport) with neighboring municipalities.
- **Culture, Sport, and Recreation:** Continuing to support associations and local events. Investing in meeting places with sufficient storage space in every neighborhood to promote social cohesion.
- **Economic Vitality and Local Employment:** Supporting entrepreneurs and stimulating the local economy. Promoting regional growth with a focus on employment.
- **Independent Municipality of Waalre:** Maintaining Waalre as an independent municipality. Regional cooperation without losing our green and village identity.

3. A Responsible Society

What we stand for

At CDA Waalre, we believe in the power of “together.”

Based on our Christian-Democratic core values, we are committed to an engaged, safe, and sustainable municipality.

We stand for:

- A just and reliable government that has an eye for every resident.
- Strong communities where people look out for each other and share responsibility.
- Sustainable policy that considers future generations and treats our living environment with care.
- Space for initiatives from residents, associations, and entrepreneurs, with support from the municipality.

CDA Waalre chooses a society where everyone can participate, where families and volunteers form the foundation, and where we build a future-proof Waalre together.

Our CDA Plans

- **Resident Initiatives and Participation:** CDA Waalre is committed to a future-oriented approach to elderly care. Implementing the action agenda associated with the “Vision for Welfare, Housing, and Care” is both a political and financial priority for us. We believe in the power of people to realize this agenda; therefore, we stimulate and support resident initiatives. An inspiring example is the citizen initiative “A Lifetime of Living in Waalre,” which has since grown into the Stichting Wonen Welzijn Zorg Waalre.
- **Inclusive Communities:** Realizing suitable housing forms for seniors with a central meeting point lowers the threshold for meeting, offering help, and undertaking activities together. By combining professional care with informal support, seniors can live independently for longer. A dementia-friendly neighborhood offers appropriate support to seniors living at home and is intentionally mixed—comprising seniors, families, and young people. This diversity promotes social connectivity and creates a community where people see, know, and help each other.
- **Building a Strong Waalre Together:** Residents who want to make their street, neighborhood, or village more beautiful, safer, or more livable deserve our support—not obstacles. Therefore, in the reassessment of “The Power of Waalre,” we will establish that we actively facilitate local initiatives. We want to appoint a neighborhood supporter: a civil servant with a practical mindset, their own budget, and the mandate to act immediately.

- **Accessible and Understandable Governance:** Accessibility is paramount. Residents must always have the option to make a physical appointment. The Huis van Waalre remains open, both literally and figuratively. We communicate clearly about policy and choices, clarifying what is and isn't possible. We want to reduce "red tape," especially for simple permits and social applications, opting for an approach based on trust: regulations will be subject to limited review, and at the end of the year, we will evaluate the results together.
- **Responsibility and Solidarity:** Waalre takes its responsibility in sheltering refugees. The Spreidingswet (Distribution Act) calls for a fair distribution, and we are prepared to fulfill our role. We actively seek suitable solutions, potentially in collaboration with surrounding municipalities.
- **Waalre in Brainport:** CDA Waalre advocates for active participation within the Brainport partnership. We take on a role that fits the scale and identity of Waalre, with an eye for the opportunities this innovative region offers our residents and entrepreneurs.

4. An Engaged Community

What we stand for

CDA Waalre believes in a society where people look out for one another and no one is excluded. Self-reliance and connectivity form the foundation for a safe, caring, and resilient community. Everyone, regardless of origin, orientation, culture, or conviction, is expected to contribute to their living environment.

Culture and traditions are the bedrock of our identity, ensuring everyone feels at home in Waalre and can experience and pass on our history. Culture must be, and remain, accessible to both young and old.

Associations and volunteers strengthen solidarity and community spirit. Therefore, we invest in a strong volunteer policy that values and supports their dedication.

We are a welcoming community that embraces differences. Inclusion and integration require active participation and mutual respect for each other's norms and values. CDA Waalre stands for a society where everyone can be themselves.

Safety is essential. This requires enforcement and a reliable government that sets boundaries, protects the vulnerable, and vigorously fights discrimination. Social safety requires collective responsibility, as a safe society goes beyond just the deployment of enforcement and police.

In our digital society, cybersecurity is crucial. CDA Waalre advocates for the protection of personal data, combating digital threats, and providing assistance with digital resilience.

Our CDA Plans

At CDA Waalre, we believe in an engaged society where everyone feels welcome and heard. We create places where people can meet: neighborhood and village centers, schools, sports canteens, churches, and community "living rooms." These meeting spots are not just for social gatherings, but also for contact with the municipality. In new construction projects, such as the school in Waalre Noord phase 3, we advocate for the multi-functional use of buildings so that associations can use them in the evenings and on weekends. The programming of these places is always done in collaboration with the neighborhood.

- **Culture and Tradition: Cherishing and Renewing:** We are proud of local traditions such as Carnival, Kempenerpop, the Halloween tour, and the Kite Festival (Mliegerfestijn). At the same time, we are open to new cultural expressions brought by newcomers. Events should reflect our diverse community, with attention to inclusion and representation.

- **Accessible Public Space for Everyone:** Everyone should be able to move freely in Waalre. Therefore, we are committed to accessible buildings, inclusive playgrounds, and safe sidewalks. The “neighborhood-based approach” (wijkenpak) will receive our full attention in this regard.
- **Strong Support for Vulnerable Residents:** We support residents in a way that empowers them. Together, we determine what is needed and offer practical help such as courses, “form brigades” (assistance with paperwork), support parents, and language buddies. Initiatives such as Prachtdag, Neffe ‘t Veld, and Goed voor mekaar Waalre receive our support.
- **Volunteering: Fewer Rules, More Space:** Volunteers are the engine of our community. We want associations and cooperatives to be able to organize events without getting bogged down in rules and procedures. A dedicated contact person, the “Events Contact Person,” must be established for associations. We support existing initiatives and encourage new ideas.
- **Children and Youth Participate:** Young people deserve a stage. Therefore, we want to introduce a “Youth Ribbon” (jeugdlintje) for young people who dedicate themselves to society. The Child Mayor will be appointed annually and will be visible within the municipality—a powerful signal that children also make an important contribution to our society.
- **Inclusion: An Attitude, Not a Project:** Living together and doing things together is our starting point. In the coming council period, we will draw up a local inclusion agenda together with residents, social organizations, and entrepreneurs.
- **Safety:** Visible and Together: New rules must be clear and enforceable. We fight subversive crime through an integrated approach, led by the Mayor and in collaboration with the police, justice department, and chain partners. Neighborhood police officers and community enforcement officers (BOAs) will remain visible in the neighborhoods. We support neighborhood prevention teams and apps as examples of caring for one another. We are also committed to digital safety, providing information and guidance for residents and entrepreneurs. Together, we make Waalre safer, both online and offline.

5. A Healthy Society

What we stand for

CDA Waalre stands for a caring, healthy, and connected community. We believe in self-reliance: together, we take care of one another. Care must remain available, accessible, and affordable, with less bureaucracy and more trust in people.

Care is something we do together. The foundation of a healthy society lies in the collaboration between the government, the community, healthcare providers, and families. Care should be focused on people rather than paperwork. Informal caregivers (mantelzorgers) deserve appreciation and support. We want to alleviate their burden with practical help and a listening ear.

Prevention is more than just preventing illness. It starts with high-quality childcare and education, focusing on a healthy lifestyle, physical activity, and mental health. The municipality plays an active role in this, together with schools, neighborhoods, and associations.

We tackle loneliness by stimulating encounters and ensuring everyone can participate. Sports, movement, and culture strengthen health and social cohesion. Therefore, we invest in accessible facilities and support associations and volunteers.

We call upon people's individual responsibility, but as a government, we provide clear frameworks and support where necessary. In this way, we build a resilient, caring, and healthy municipality together.

Our CDA Plans

CDA Waalre stands for a society where people look out for each other and share responsibility. We make it easier to care for one another by stimulating initiatives that strengthen social connectivity—such as “prevention circles” (voorzorgcirkels), a dementia-friendly municipality, and cooperation with social organizations. Everyone must be able to participate: young and old, regardless of background or conviction.

- **Support for Informal Caregivers:** Caregivers deserve our full attention. We will engage in dialogue with them to understand what they need to sustain their caregiving. Young caregivers will also receive targeted support and recognition for their crucial role in the healthcare system.
- **Voluntary Commitment via “Goed voor Mekaar”:** We continue to support the Goed voor Mekaar platform as the central hub for volunteer work and informal help in Waalre. Here, residents find help with groceries, transport, household chores, or simply a listening ear, and meet people who want to make a difference for others.

- **Health and Prevention:** Taking care of yourself is important. We focus on vitality through exercise programs, senior gymnastics, and fall prevention. Campaigns will increase awareness regarding mental health, substance use, and sexual health. We encourage healthy nutrition and an active lifestyle.
- **Care for Children and Youth:** Youth care is expensive. CDA Waalre believes that care should reach the children and young people who truly need it. Those with support requests deserve appropriate assistance. For complex problems, we offer targeted care, and where possible, we strengthen “normal life.” Families should be able to function independently as much as possible, with help where necessary.
- **Stability in Youth Care and Wmo:** The growing number of healthcare providers makes the system fragmented. CDA Waalre chooses stability: long-term contracts and clear agreements with providers. This prevents healthcare fraud, unnecessary costs, and long-term dependency. It is vital that healthcare providers know the residents receiving care.
- **Tackling Loneliness:** Loneliness affects both the young and the old. Students experience social isolation, while seniors often miss companionship after losing a partner. We support initiatives such as loneliness coaches, student buddies, coffee mornings, discussion groups, digital meeting places, and youth ambassadors.
- **Access to Sports and Culture:** Everyone should be able to experience sports and culture. Sjors Sportief and Sjors Cultureel remain available and will soon be extended to adults as well.
- **Dignified Care for Everyone:** CDA Waalre is supportive of establishing a “Nearly Home House” (Bijna Thuis Huis) or hospice in Waalre. We also remain committed to high-quality care at Het Laar and Hoevenakkers, so that residents of Waalre can grow old gracefully within their own municipality.

6. A Livable Environment

What we stand for

Waalre is situated in a rapidly developing region. We all notice the effects of the developments within Brainport. CDA Waalre wants to preserve livability and contribute to the growth of Brainport, but with an eye for the human scale and the specific character of Waalre.

Good housing is the foundation. Therefore, we are committed to providing sufficient affordable housing for both young and old. New neighborhoods must be green, sustainable, and equipped with quality facilities. The municipality will take the lead in this. Existing neighborhoods also deserve attention. By combining maintenance with sustainability efforts, we make them future-proof in one go.

The separation of “living” and “care” requires new housing forms that promote interaction, such as “*knarrenhofjes*” (senior co-housing), multi-generational courtyards, and informal care homes. In this way, we build caring communities.

Mobility is essential. We advocate for safe, accessible, and sustainable transport options for everyone: high-quality bicycle paths, walking routes, public transport, and traffic safety.

In our rural areas, we face several challenges. There must be room for our farmers, but also for recreation, tourism, and the generation of sustainable energy. We are working toward a rural area that is economically viable, ecologically responsible, and socially connected.

Our CDA Plans

- **Sustainable and Life-Cycle Proof Construction:** We are building mixed neighborhoods where people of different ages and income groups live together. By realizing a mix of social housing, mid-range rental and owner-occupied homes, and high-end housing, we prevent segregation and encourage interaction. We build sustainably and ensure homes are life-cycle proof so that residents can stay in their familiar environment longer. We are also investigating how clustered housing forms can be naturally integrated into a neighborhood.
- **Focus on Interaction:** Small-scale neighborhood structures such as courtyards and residential zones (woonerven), combined with shared facilities like neighborhood rooms, communal gardens, and playgrounds, strengthen social cohesion. We stimulate citizen initiatives that contribute to a strong community, for example, in the areas of energy, green management, or joint activities.

- **Implementing the Neighborhood Approach:** In existing neighborhoods, we will execute the “Neighborhood Approach” (Wijkaanpak). Together with residents, we will identify bottlenecks that affect livability. We will tackle these holistically, with active involvement from residents in the design, maintenance, and use of their neighborhood. We also focus on better utilizing the existing housing stock through splitting, “topping up” (adding floors), house sharing, and promoting movement within the housing market. In doing so, we always keep an eye on the livability and social balance of the neighborhood. For minor nuisances, such as broken or overflowing trash cans, we will not wait for the formal Neighborhood Approach; these will be resolved quickly. We encourage the use of the Fixi app.
- **Sustainable Energy:** We see an important role for local energy cooperatives, not only in generating sustainable energy but also in collective storage, such as neighborhood batteries. Because individual solutions are not always feasible, we stimulate collective facilities at the neighborhood level. Energy coaches remain available to provide free advice to residents on making their homes more sustainable.
- **Implementing the Mobility Vision:** We will carry out the mobility vision. Where possible, we will implement a 30 km/h speed limit, with street designs that support this speed. At the same time, we ensure good traffic flow via 50 km/h roads to prevent cut-through traffic in residential areas. Residents will be actively involved in making their neighborhoods safer. Regionally, we collaborate with neighboring municipalities and the province to solve mobility issues that transcend municipal borders.
- **Area-Based Approach:** Finally, through an area-based approach, we work across municipal boundaries with the water board, other municipalities, and our farmers to improve water, soil, and air quality. We encourage innovation and seek sustainable solutions together that contribute to a healthy living environment for both people and nature.

7. Broad Prosperity

What we stand for

At CDA Waalre, the economy serves the purpose of community life. Economic growth is only valuable to us if it contributes to a society where everyone can participate and develop. Solidarity and justice form the basis. Not profit, but well-being is central—with extra attention for people in vulnerable positions.

Therefore, we are committed to strengthening basic security and reducing poverty. Financial support is important, but we also want to help people improve their situation sustainably. In this way, we build a community where everyone can lead a dignified and independent life.

A strong local economy is crucial for employment and social cohesion. We are proud of our small and medium-sized enterprises and our family businesses. Entrepreneurs must be given the space to grow, with a minimum of rules and an attractive business climate. CDA Waalre wants to create opportunities for both startups and established companies.

Basic security requires a government that applies fair rules and supports people where needed. CDA Waalre finds it important that the government plays a supportive role by creating fair conditions that allow everyone to participate. CDA Waalre advocates for sound municipal financial management, where social policy and economic development reinforce each other. Tax money must be spent carefully so that we can effectively invest in poverty reduction, social safety nets, and facilities for those who need it most.

A society only truly functions when people feel connected to one another and take responsibility for each other. Without basic security, you cannot fully participate. Therefore, everyone must have access to basic facilities. CDA Waalre stimulates cooperation between local organizations to form a broad social safety net and promote social cohesion. By simplifying regulations, offering personal guidance, and making financial support available, we ensure that no one falls by the wayside.

Our CDA Plans

- **Early Detection:** In Waalre, we are actively committed to the early detection of financial concerns. Through intensive cooperation with organizations such as the Stichting Leergeld, the Diaconaal Noodfonds, and the Food Bank, we reach residents faster and more effectively. We are implementing our policy on financial concerns proactively and coordinating it with other domains such as sports, health, welfare, education, and poverty reduction. This creates a powerful safety net that supports people in vulnerable situations.
- **Grip on Finances:** We make it easy for residents to find help with financial problems. On our website, we offer clear information and communicate regulations in understandable language. By creating an overview and offering financial education, we help residents gain control over their finances. We also make a clear statement: the debt industry does not belong in our municipality. Gambling companies will not be given space here.
- **Participation in the Labor Market:** Within Brainport, we utilize available premiums and work arrangements to guide people with a distance to the labor market toward work and work experience. With this, we offer perspective and stimulate sustainable participation.
- **Strong Business Climate:** For entrepreneurs, we will maintain the business contact person as the central point of contact. This strengthens cooperation and makes the business climate accessible and clear. We invest in a strong and vital center as the heart of the local community. Following the successful renewal of Dorpshart Aalst, the center of Waalre-dorp is now next.
- **Social Responsibility:** We encourage socially responsible entrepreneurship and social enterprise. Together, we form a community where everyone can participate as much as possible. Our motivation is not only economic growth but also the strengthening of social values. In this way, we build a Waalre that is social, resilient, and future-proof.

8. Responsible Financial Policy

CDA Waalre stands for a responsible and sound financial policy. Community money can only be spent once, and this must be done with care. If we invest rashly now, future generations will bear the burden of today's debts. Therefore, we choose sobriety and responsibility, with an eye on the long term.

At the same time, responsible policy does not mean we should stand still. CDA Waalre wants to invest in space for living and doing business. The latter stimulates economic growth and ensures a healthy basis of income in the future, creating room for social and solidary policies that strengthen our society.

A fair distribution of local taxes and levies is essential here. Because three-quarters of the municipal budget depends on income from the national government, local levies contribute relatively little. This makes it even more important that they are levied fairly and spent solely on the purpose for which they are intended. For example, the waste collection levy (afvalstoffenheffing) is exclusively for collecting and processing waste, not for other expenses.

CDA Waalre remains critical of increasing property tax (onroerendezaakbelasting - OZB). We will only do this if it is truly necessary to realize our ambitions and if Waalre demonstrably benefits from it. This must be communicated clearly to the residents.

Many municipalities have faced financially difficult years. This is partly because the national government transferred responsibilities without sufficient financial means, while the demand for care has increased sharply. Municipalities notice that "he who pays the piper calls the tune"—and that their policy freedom is limited. The national government must therefore provide clarity and invest substantially in local government. Only then can municipalities develop policies that work and are future-proof, in collaboration with their residents. CDA Waalre uses its contacts in The Hague to continue demanding attention for this issue.

9. Our Candidates



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|----|---------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| #1 | Tanja de Leeuw | #9 | Lucas Vreeswijk |
| #2 | Karen Rigterink | #10 | Albert Borgers |
| #3 | Remco van Oosterom | #11 | Tineke Heijmans |
| #4 | Jaqueline van de Weijer | #12 | Frans Vreeswijk |
| #5 | Jesper Rijpma | #13 | Christine Eeken |
| #6 | Annelies Kip - van Gerwen | #14 | Werner Hax |
| #7 | Philip van Gils | #15 | Suzan van de Goor - Gelens |
| #8 | Tessa Rigterink | | |

Thank You.

VOTE  WAALRE

ELECTION PROGRAM 2026