



Deputy Mayor of the City of Poznań
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Poznań, 29.08. 2019

POZNAN'S PLEDGE TO THE EUROPEAN PILLAR OF SOCIAL RIGHTS

The city of Poznań creates conditions which provide the residents with the opportunity to meet basic housing needs in accordance with their own preferences, aspirations and economic capacity, using appropriate instruments of social policy.

Involvement in principle No. 19: Housing and assistance for the homeless

The City of Poznan takes measures aimed at fulfilling the statutory obligation in the area of creating conditions for satisfying the housing needs of people with the lowest income, among others, through the implementation of housing programmes.

The city of Poznan is implementing a programme of social lease of premises with support which consists in providing people entitled to receive housing assistance from the City with support in the field of social assistance, provided through non-governmental organisations.

The programme is implemented in 136 social premises. So far the amount allocated for the support provided by 6 non-governmental organisations is PLN 2,022,901 (approx. 505,732 euro). Housing assistance and social support were provided to 154 families.

Housing assistance is also provided through the implementation of the pilot programme "Studio flats for a senior." A studio flat is an independent flat separated from communal premises with an area of more than 80 m², equipped with a kitchenette and a bathroom. The City has made available 9 studio flats for seniors, the renovation costs of which amounted to PLN 515,630 (approx. 118,420 euro).

The objective of the programme is, among others, to improve housing conditions and create a tool enabling simultaneous implementation of tasks in the field of housing assistance and social assistance. Measures aimed at seniors consist in, among others, providing assistance in the form of care and other services dedicated to elderly and disabled people.

The city has also created a system of point qualification which enables objective assessment of the life situation of people applying for housing assistance from the City of Poznan.

The Mayor of the City of Poznan, by way of an ordinance, draws up annual lists of persons entitled to conclude a lease agreement for social premises or a lease agreement for residential premises. The lists include people who meet the criteria for obtaining housing assistance from the City, i.e. those residing in the administrative borders of Poznan and earning low income.

Lists are made on the basis of the point qualification system. The order of persons placed on the lists results from the number of points obtained. Points are awarded, among others, to people with disabilities, homeless people, those staying in premises in a poor technical condition, affected by domestic violence, seniors over the age of 70, living in allotments. Additional points are also awarded to families with many children and single parents.

The number of people entitled to housing assistance from the City has been increasing every year. In 2016, rights were acquired by 335 people, in 2017, 500 people were placed on the lists, and in 2018, 578 people.

Access to social housing for those in need is also provided through the realisation of municipal housing investments by the City.

In January 2018, the European Investment Bank granted a loan in the amount of EURO 41,400,000 to Zarząd Komunalnych Zasobów Lokalowych sp. z o.o. – a municipal company based in Poznań which manages municipal property on behalf of the Mayor of Poznań. The loan amount will be allocated for the construction of over 1340 premises of social housing as well as extensive overhauls of old tenement houses and modernisation of buildings of health centres. The concluded agreement is one of the first agreements of this type in Poland signed by the European Investment Bank in the framework of the European Fund for Strategic Investments.

The above-mentioned actions taken by the City are to protect and improve the living conditions of people the most in need and at risk of homelessness.

Bearing in mind the principles adopted for the Housing Policy of the City of Poznań, such as: solidarism, justice and equal accessibility, co-responsibility of entities, active participation of citizens and partnership, the following objective are established, which together with the actions already taken form an efficient mechanism to protect the residents of Poznań against housing and social exclusion:

1. Implementation of a support programme for people leaving homelessness.
2. Implementation of the strategy of populating the municipal stock by acquiring new premises from the municipal stock.
3. Effective management of premises, i.e. proposing current tenants premises adapted to their needs in terms of structure and location, with particular emphasis on age, disability, material status and personal circumstances.
4. Preventing evictions by implementing the procedure for a quick identification of the emerging rent debt of tenants of the municipal stock and early intervention in this area.
5. Introduction of active forms of getting out of debt (e.g. working off the debt, cooperation with social co-operatives in which debtors would be employed).
6. Cooperation with non-governmental organisations, including residents' NGOs, in the field of providing support to people affected by homelessness or at risk of losing premises.
7. Increasing the number of premises as part of the offer of intervention housing for people affected by a sudden deterioration of the housing situation, e.g. as a result of fire.
8. Development of assisted, protected and training housing systems which are to prevent homelessness and give a chance for becoming self-dependent.

ZASTĘPCA
PREZYDENTA MIASTA POZNAŃ

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