Commission for a
Socially Sustainable Malmö
A Sustainable Malmö

Malmö is part of the expansive Öresunds region and the development of health is a key factor for the city’s growth and sustainability.

As part of the wider goal to make all aspects of Malmö sustainable, ecologically, economically and socially, the city council decided to instigate a the Malmö Commission, the first of its kind in Sweden.

The differences in living conditions in Malmö between those who have work and those who are unemployed, between the well educated and those with a low level of education, have become more and more pronounced. The average lifespan can differ as much as eight years between the different districts and there are significant differences across the districts in the prevalence or lack of social factors contributing to health, such as income, work and education.

The wide disparity in the levels of health between Malmö’s different socio-economic groups is a pattern that is echoed in Sweden’s other major cities.

The commission’s mission is to assemble evidence which will then be used to propose strategies for reducing health inequalities and for improving the long term living conditions for the citizens of Malmö.
Social determinants of health

There are many different factors that contribute to physical and mental health.

Some of the key social determinants of health include upbringing, school, work, work environment, income, education, living conditions and social inclusion.

The Malmö Commission draws on the findings of the WHO report *Closing the Gap in a Generation* by the Commission on Social Determinants of Health, led by professor Sir Michael Marmot, a leading authority in the study of public health. The report provides recommendations to governing bodies, organisations and states about how the differences in health on a global scale can be reduced within the span of a generation. The report details, amongst other things, the fact that social determinants can be influenced. It also demonstrates how this can be done.

The strategic recommendations and findings of the Malmö Commission will highlight what Malmö City and other key players need to do to positively influence the social determinants of health, with the aim of increasing the possibility of good health for all of Malmö’s population under their lifespan.
EVIDENCE-BASED REPORTS ON DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH. CAN THEY BE INFLUENCED AND HOW?

For example
- How is Malmö feeling? - A measurement of the general levels of health and distribution of health within the city.
- How can we ensure that more children and young people graduate from school?
- How can we reduce levels of child-poverty within the city?
- How can city planning be used to positively affect peoples health?
- Correlation between growth, welfare and health?
- How can we measure Malmö’s growth and health equity development?

These reports will be produced by the commissioners and by experts within the different fields.
ANALYSIS/DISCUSSION OVER POSSIBLE STRATEGIES

- Analysis of the research material
- Interim report to the City Council
- Strategic recommendations for Malmö City
- How can strategic recommendations be made implementable? Discussion, hearings and dialogue.
- Production of final report

FINAL REPORT

The final report will be submitted to the City Council during December 2012 with a recommendation of strategies that answer the questions about what can be done in order to reduce health disparities in Malmö, and how it can be done.
Is **politically neutral**
Comprises of **fourteen commissioners**
Is lead by a **chairman and a head secretary**

**Initiator** for the project is **Malmö’s City Council**.

The **main task** of the commission is to assemble evidence and based on this, to propose strategies for reducing health inequalities and improving the long-term living conditions for the citizens of Malmö.

In order for the Commission’s **strategies to be implementable**, it must communicate with many people and players during its work.

The **final report** will be delivered to the City Council during **December 2012**.

The Commission is supported by a team of both international and local advisors. Michael Marmot, whose report on how the differences in health on a global scale can be reduced within the span of a generation has received global recognition, is senior adviser to the Malmö Commission.

*The reports and the City Council’s commission directive can be found at [www.malmo.se/kommission](http://www.malmo.se/kommission)*
The Commissioners

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The Commission for a Socially Sustainable Malmö is an independent commission appointed by the Malmö City Council to provide targets and strategies to decrease health inequalities. www.malmo.se/kommission