



KOUVOLA

Kouvola - Active City

The City of the Kymi River

Kouvola is at the same time in the middle of the natural environment and still just hours from metropolises and seaports.

Half a million people can be reached within one hour of Kouvola.

Kouvola offers a suitable combination of urban environment, countryside, culture and sports, space for living, peace of nature and stunning waterways.

Kouvola is also one of the most popular locations for a holiday house in Finland.



Safe city

- Kouvola is a non-congested and safe network of the urban centre, other urban communities and villages.
- Holds position 11 in the size ranking of Finnish towns in terms of the number of population, and position 1 in terms of the land area of Finnish towns in Southern Finland.
- At the end of 2021, Kouvola had 80,454 inhabitants.
- Net migration between municipalities turned positive for Kouvola for the first time in years in 2021. However, the natural increase in the number of population is negative due to the demographic structure of Kouvola.



Organisation

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2021

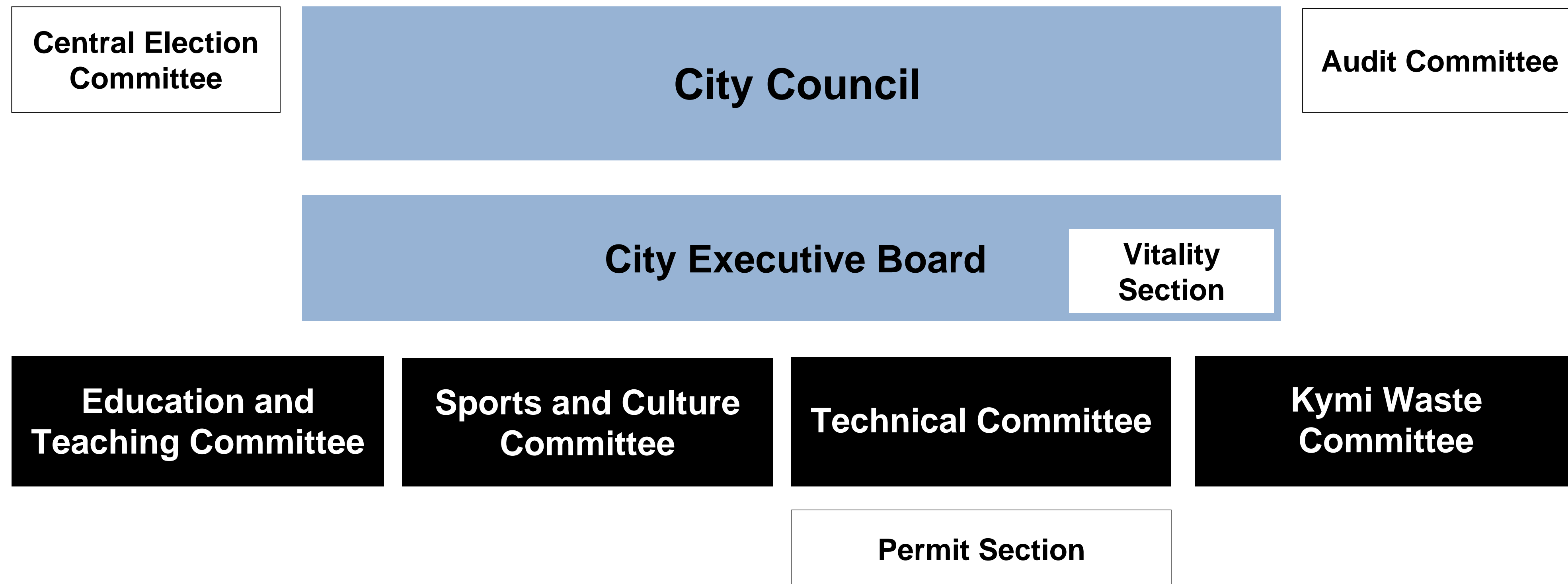
Turnout percentage 52,3 %

CITY COUNCIL

- National Coalition Party 14 seats
- Social Democratic Party 14 seats
- Finns Party 12 seats
- Centre Party 8 seats
- Greens 4 seats
- Christian Democrats 3 seats
- Left Alliance 2 seats
- Splendid Kouvola 1 seat
- Own council group,
name unconfirmed, 1 seat



Organisation of Elected Officials



Chairmen of the City Council and the Board

City Council 2021-2025

59 members

Chairperson

Paula Werning,
Social Democratic Party

1st Deputy Chairperson

Ville Kaunisto,
National Coalition Party

2nd Deputy Chairperson

Sheikki Laakso,
Finns Party

3rd Deputy Chairperson

Jenny Hasu,
Centre Party



City Executive Board 2021-2025

13 members

Chairperson

Jouko Leppänen,
National Coalition Party

1st Deputy Chairperson

Jukka Nyberg,
Social Democratic Party

2nd Deputy Chairperson

Ukko Bamberg,
Finns Party



Service Organisation 1/3

THREE SECTORS:

- Group Services
- Education and Culture
- Technology and Environment

PERSONNEL PROGRAMME 2021

- Principles of good management
- Personnel management vision
“Out of love for what we do –
we’re making Kouvola!”



Service Organisation 2/3

The three sectors have 10 services, under which the service units operate. The evaluation and inspection services examine the operation of the entire city organization.

Group Services:

- *Administration and procurement*
- *Financy and strategy*
- *Personnel services*
- *Facility services*

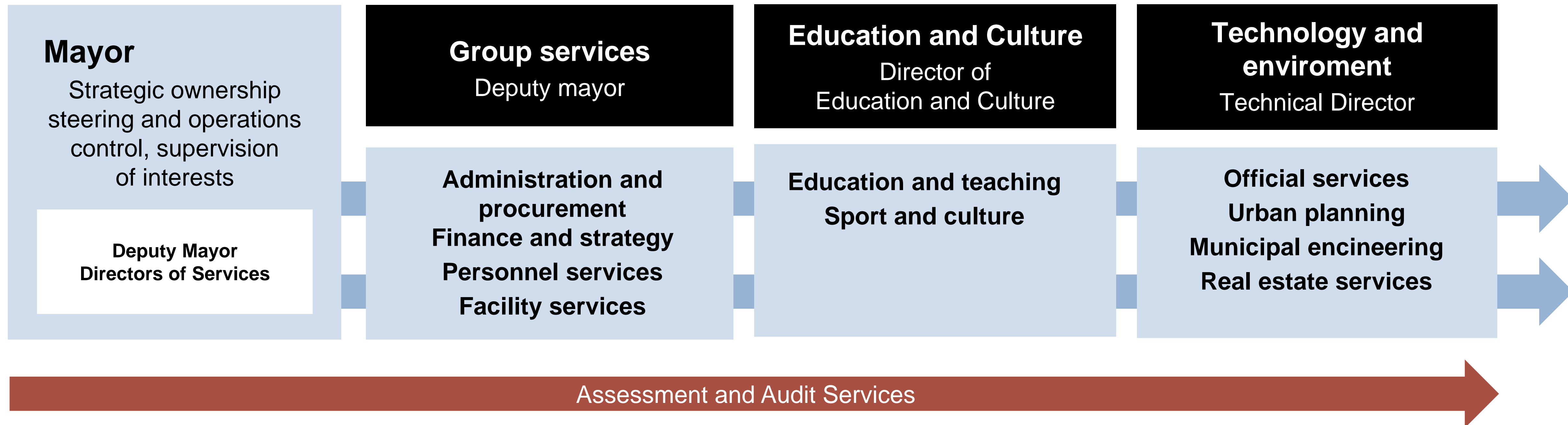
Education and Culture:

- *Education and teaching*
- *Sports and culture*

Technology and environment:

- *Official services*
- *Urban planning*
- *Municipal engineering*
- *Real estate services*

Service Organisation 3/3



Group Services

Service Organisation

| | | | | |
|--------------|---|--|--|--|
| INSTITUTION | City Executive Board | | | |
| SECTOR | Group Services Deputy Mayor | | | |
| SERVICE | Administration and procurement Administrative Director | Finance and strategy Deputy Mayor | Personnel services Personnel director | Facility services Facility Director |
| SERVICE UNIT | Administrative services Archival services Procurement services Parking supervision Public transport | Strategy Finance and data administration Communications and VisitKouvola Well-being | Personnel services | Facility services |

Education and Culture

Service Organisation

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|--|---------------------------|--|--|--------|---------|
| SERVICE UNIT | Education and Teaching Committee | | | Sports and Culture Committee | | |
| | Education and Culture Director of Education and Culture | | | | | |
| | Education and Teaching Director of Education and Teaching | | | Sports and Culture Education Director | | |
| | Support of growth | Early childhood education | Bacic education and upper secondary school | Non-formal adult education | Sports | Culture |

Technology and Enviroment

Service Organisation

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|---|--|
| INSTITUTION | Technical Committee | | | |
| | Permit Section | | Kymi Waste Committee | |
| SECTOR | Technology and Environment Technical Director | | | |
| SERVICE | Official Services Enviromental Director | Urban Planning Technical Director | Municipal Engineering Municipal Engineer | Real Estate Services Director of Real Estate Services |
| SERVICE UNIT | Environmental services Building supervision Rural services | Planning of urban environment Land property Geographical information | Management of public areas Development Maintenance Regional waste management | Real estate maintenance services Cleaning services Food services |

City Executive Management Team

Mayor **Marita Toikka**

Deputy Mayor **Tuukka Forsell**

Administrative Director **Katja Tommiska**

Personnel Director **Päivi Karhu**

Director of Education and Teaching **Vesa Toikka**

Development Director **Petteri Portaankorva**

Director of Education and Culture **Veikko Niemi**

Financial Director **Hellevi Kunnas**

Technical Director **Hannu Tylli**

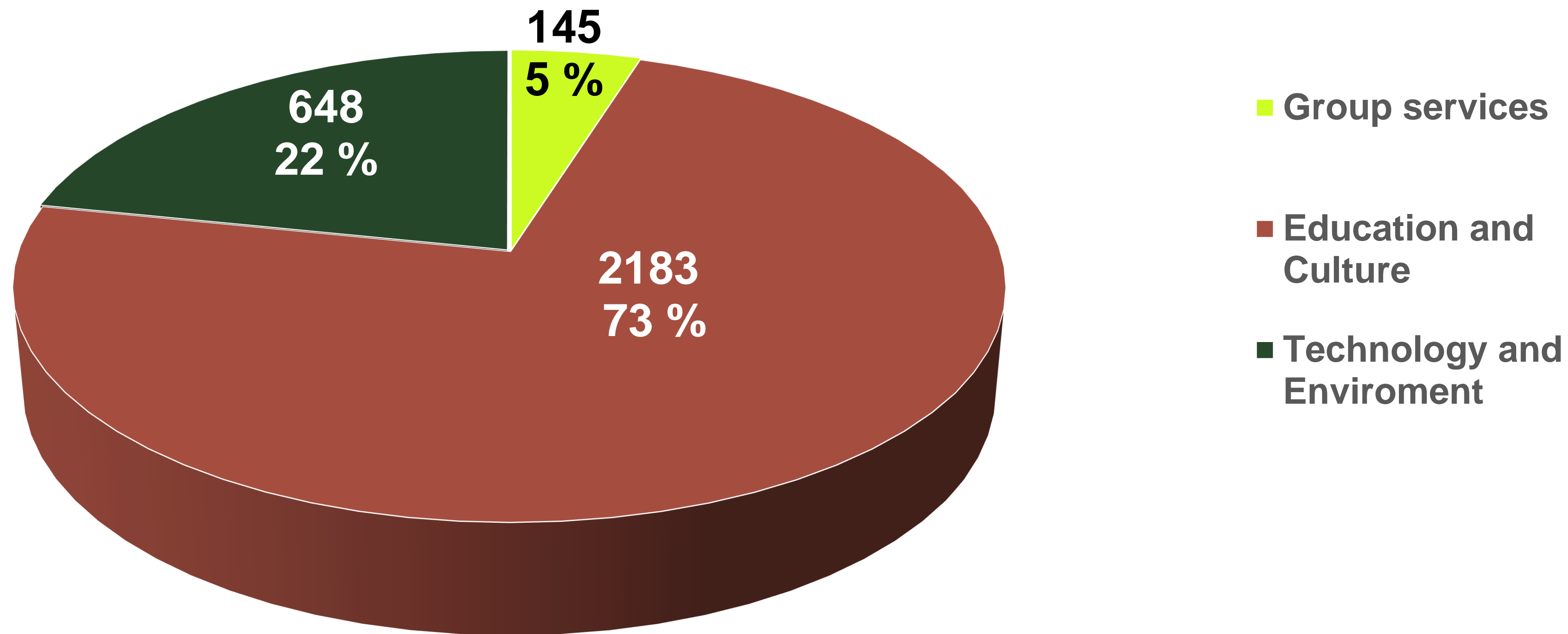
Communications and Marketing Manager **Kirsi Vainio**

Secretary **Siru Huuhilo**

Personnel representative **Heli Hamari**,
Chief Shop Steward, JHL



Personnel by Service Sectors 1/2022



Personnel by service sectors

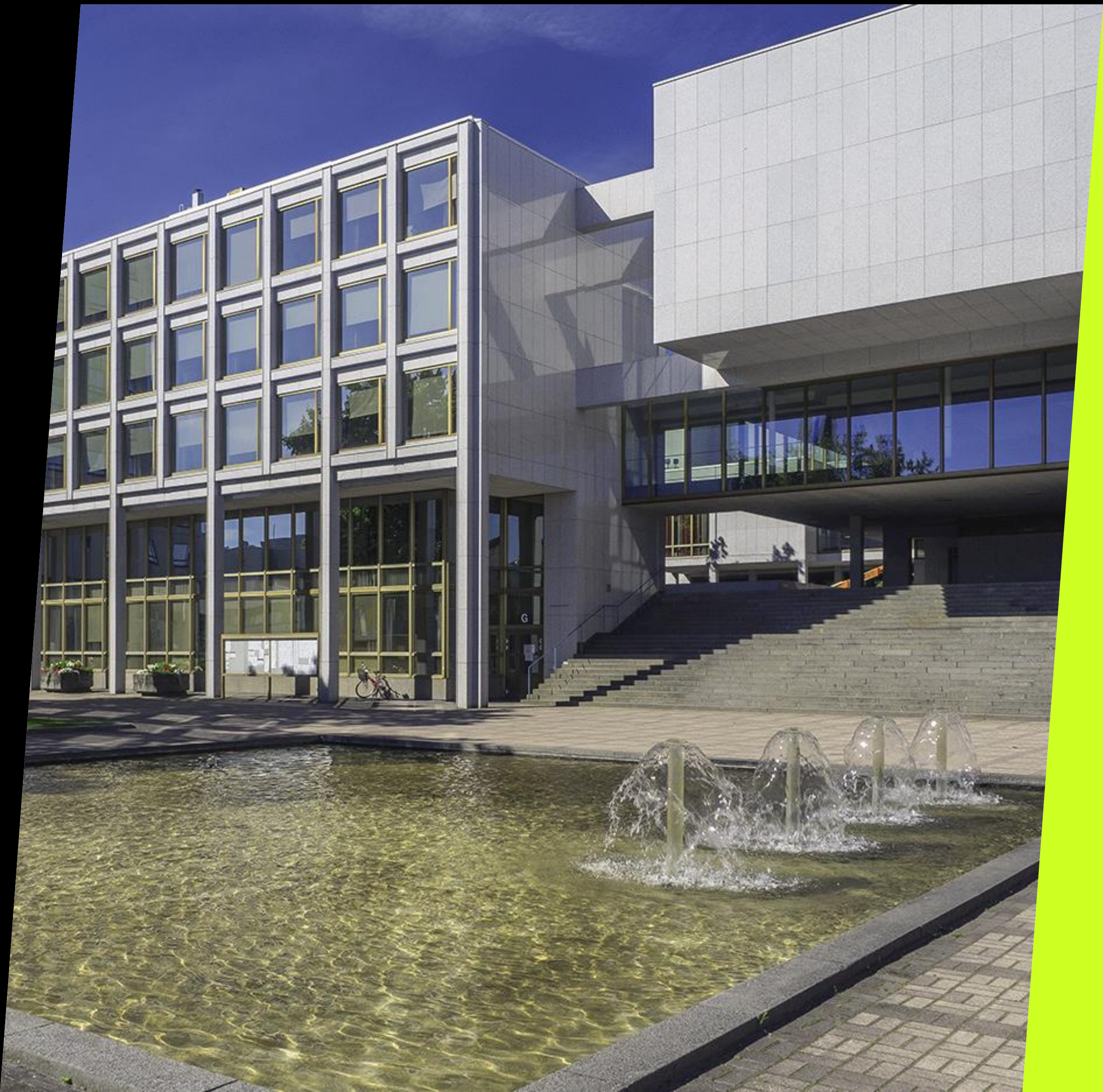
Finances into Balance

The finances of Kouvola have been balanced over a long time span using various measures.

The financial result for 2021 was 2 million euros in surplus due to the City's own adjustment measures and coronavirus subsidies received. The accumulated surplus is 19.9 million euros.

The financial plan for 2021 to 2024 still includes a number of adjustment measures.

There is still a need for financial adjustment. The decided changes to the service network and other planned measures must be completed in a determined manner.



Service Network Reform

- An economically sustainable service network based on the number and location of population.
- The review covers all sectors such as early childhood education, playgrounds, school network and sports services.
- Some services are local services while some are concentrated in areas where a large number of the inhabitants live.
- Quality instead of quantity.
- Five family centre areas.
- Significant investments in schools are part of a comprehensive 10-year development plan of teaching.
- Multi-functional multi-service facilities that are flexibly available to everyone 24/7.



Financial Figures

| Financial figures | Financial statements 2015 | Financial statements 2016 | Financial statements 2017 | Financial statements 2018 | Financial statements 2019 | Financial statements 2020 | Financial statements 2021 |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| Income tax rate | 20,5 | 20,75 | 20,75 | 20,75 | 20,75 | 21,25 | 21,25 |
| Tax revenue, million euros | 332,7 | 340,9 | 338,1 | 331,1 | 338,1 | 354,7 | 371,0 |
| Central government transfers to local government, million euros | 166,7 | 175,9 | 169,2 | 170 | 172,3 | 213,7 | 193,4 |
| Operating expenses, million euros | 74,9 | 75,4 | 69,1 | 68 | 52,2 | 48,4 | 51,6 |
| Total expenses, million euros | 570,8 | 577,4 | 569,9 | 584,5 | 578,8 | 569,7 | 600,1 |
| Personnel costs, million euros | 271,4 | 269 | 255,9 | 239,5 | 150,7 | 143,0 | 155,6 |
| Purchases of services, million euros | 207,1 | 212,6 | 221,2 | 261,7 | 382,7 | 385,3 | 404,2 |
| Annual margin, million euros | 14,6 | 24,6 | 22,7 | -5,7 | -5,2 | 58,6 | 28,4 |
| Surplus/deficit of financial year, million euros | -4,4 | 5,8 | -2,7 | -25,9 | -27,7 | 31,1 | 2,0 |
| Accumulated surplus/deficit, million euros | -1,0 | 4,8 | 2,2 | 10,1 | -13,7 | 18,0 | 20,0 |
| Investment expenditure, million euros | 30,1 | 29,2 | 32,4 | 32,3 | 47 | 30,3 | 40,7 |
| Loans per inhabitant, euros | 2 371 | 2 141 | 2 371 | 2 796 | 3 806 | 3 286 | 3 194 |

Kouvola Group

SUBSIDIARIES* (*total 25)

Kaakkois-Suomen Tieto Oy (61%)

Kouvolan Ammattiopisto Oy (60%)

Kouvolan Asunnot Oy (100%)

Kouvola Innovation Oy (100%)

Kouvolan Teatteri Oy (100%)

Kouvola Railway and Adult Education Company (100%)

KSS Energia Oy (100%)

MAJOR ASSOCIATED COMPANIES (approx. 40) AND JOINT MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES (total 4)

South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences
(24.5%)

Kymenlaakson Jäte Oy (47.5%)

Kymenlaakson Sähkö Oy (20.7%)

Kymenlaakson Orkesteri Oy (33.5 %)

Kymsote (51.8%)

Regional Council of Kymenlaakso (48.7%)



Kouvola to a Growth Track

**Urban strategy 2019-2030:
A chance for new growth.**

Everyone is taken care of, but
the growth must have spearheads:

- **Children's growth** - best everyday life of families
- **Growth of adolescents** - education and training
- **Growth of businesses** - logistics

The growth targets for Vitality and Well-Being
cover the future objectives of Kouvola for all action.

- **Growth in Vitality** programme 2020-2023
- **Growth in Well-Being** programme 2020-2023



KOUVOLA | 2030

KOUVOLA ON A GROWTH TRACK

- possibilities for new ideas and new growth.

2023 / BOLD

2030 / INSPIRING



**BEST LIFE
FOR FAMILIES!**

**CREATING
NEW!**

**BEST IN
TRANSPORT!**

WE DO NOT MAKE COMPROMISES WITH VALUES:

- Best interests of the inhabitants
- Responsible co-operation
- Reliability and safety
- Bold renewal
- Target orientation and efficiency

Children's Growth

Best everyday life of families

- Children's mobility has been activated through several projects, and it has become part of everyday life.
- A model for children's and adolescents' interest in different things has been introduced.
- The school network is being renewed and new learning environments are being built - the guiding principle is a safe learning environment that supports the child's growth and development.



Growth of Adolescents

City creating new

- “Ohjaamo” counselling activities for adolescents have been established.
- A model for children’s and adolescents’ interest in different things has been introduced.
- Free public transport has been introduced for secondary level students.
- Vocational training has been incorporated into Kouvolan Ammattiopisto Oy.
- Co-operation with higher education has been intensified; as an example, Master’s programme in industrial engineering and management by LUT University began in 2022.



Growth of Businesses

Best in making things move

- Rail and road terminal Kouvola RRT to be completed in 2022. New logistics plots in the area.
- Logistics operations in the current Tehola area to be intensified.
- New rail track to the east of Helsinki - putting half of Finland into motion.
- Support to SMEs. Purchasing agent service, more local purchases.



Excellent Location

Kouvola has an excellent logistics position: it has rail connections to all principal compass points and main road connections to six directions.

Kouvola has room for companies to operate flexibly, and short distances also for commuting: people who work elsewhere can travel easily home for the evening by train.

Half a million people can be reached within one hour of Kouvola.



Short Distances

| Travel times | Station |
|--------------|---------|
|--------------|---------|

| | |
|-----------|--------------------------|
| 1h 19 min | Train to Helsinki |
|-----------|--------------------------|

| | |
|--------|---|
| 1 hour | Finland's most important export port Hamina-Kotka |
|--------|---|

| | |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|
| 1h 30 min | Vuosaari Harbour, Helsinki |
|-----------|-----------------------------------|

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 1h 30 min | International airport Helsinki-Vantaa |
|-----------|---|

| | |
|--------|---|
| 1 hour | Russian border (Vaalimaa border station) |
|--------|---|

| | |
|-----------|-------------------------------|
| 2h 20 min | Train to St.Petersburg |
|-----------|-------------------------------|



Central Location



- Rail junction - rail connections to all principal compass points.
- Main road connections to six directions.
- Main route for rail cargo traffic.
- Hub in rail passenger traffic.
- Gateway between East and West.

Spacious Housing

- Kouvola is a place where you can live spaciously.
- More than half of the inhabitants live in a home that they own.
- The housing costs in Kouvola are among the smallest in Finland. The price of a two bedroom apartment in Helsinki will buy you an apartment and a holiday home in Kouvola.
- The natural environment in Kouvola starts right from your back yard.
- When you live in Kouvola, everything you need is just 10 minutes away!



Villages Along the City



60 VILLAGES

POPULATION DENSITY

31,5 person/km²

70 % LIVE IN HOUSING
THEY OWN

28 % LIVE IN RENTED
HOUSING

48 % HOUSEHOLDS OF
ONE PERSON

7,128 HOUSEHOLDS
WITH CHILDREN

Approx. **48,620**

APARTMENTS

Approx. **18,288** APARTMENTS
IN BLOCKS OF FLATS

Approx. **22,814** APARTMENTS
IN SINGLE-FAMILY AND SEMI-
DETACHED HOUSES

Approx. **1,277**
TERRACED HOUSES

PRICE PER SQUARE METRE
1,045 €/m²

RENT PER SQUARE METRE
10 €/m²



Holiday House in Kouvola

- Magnificent settings for leisure housing beside lakes and in small rural villages.
- Kouvola ranks 8th in Finland in the number of holiday homes (2020).
- A resident committee for leisure housing promotes co-operation, communication and contribution opportunities of holiday home dwellers.



More than **7,500**
HOLIDAY HOMES



Approx.
30,000
HOLIDAY HOME
DWELLERS



Approx. **500**
LAKES



Cornerstones of Vitality

Kouvola with solid industrial traditions is the biggest city in South-Eastern Finland.

Logistics, rail logistics in particular, and the food industry constitute the cornerstones of our vitality. Our region also has considerable potential in bioeconomy and circular economy.

The City of Kouvola invests in the logistics business, in particular in the development of rail logistics, and promotes the project for building a new rail connection to the east of the Helsinki region.

Growth in Vitality programme 2020-2023



Indicators of Vitality

NUMBER OF COMPANIES

4 792

2/2021



POINTS OF OPERATION
OF COMPANIES

5 205

2020



NET SALES OF
COMPANIES

4,983 million euros

2020

UNEMPLOYMENT
RATE

11,7 %

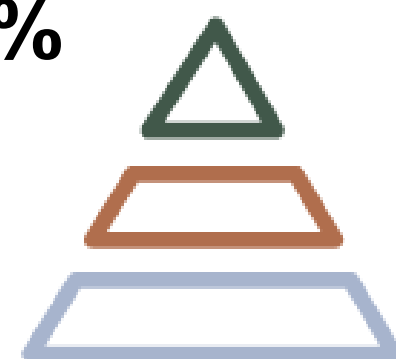
2021

EMPLOYMENT STRUCTURE
in 2019

Primary production **3,3 %**

Processing **21,7 %**

Services **73,4 %**



JOB

approx **29 549**

in 2020



INCOME TAX
PERCENTAGE

21,25 %

in 2022

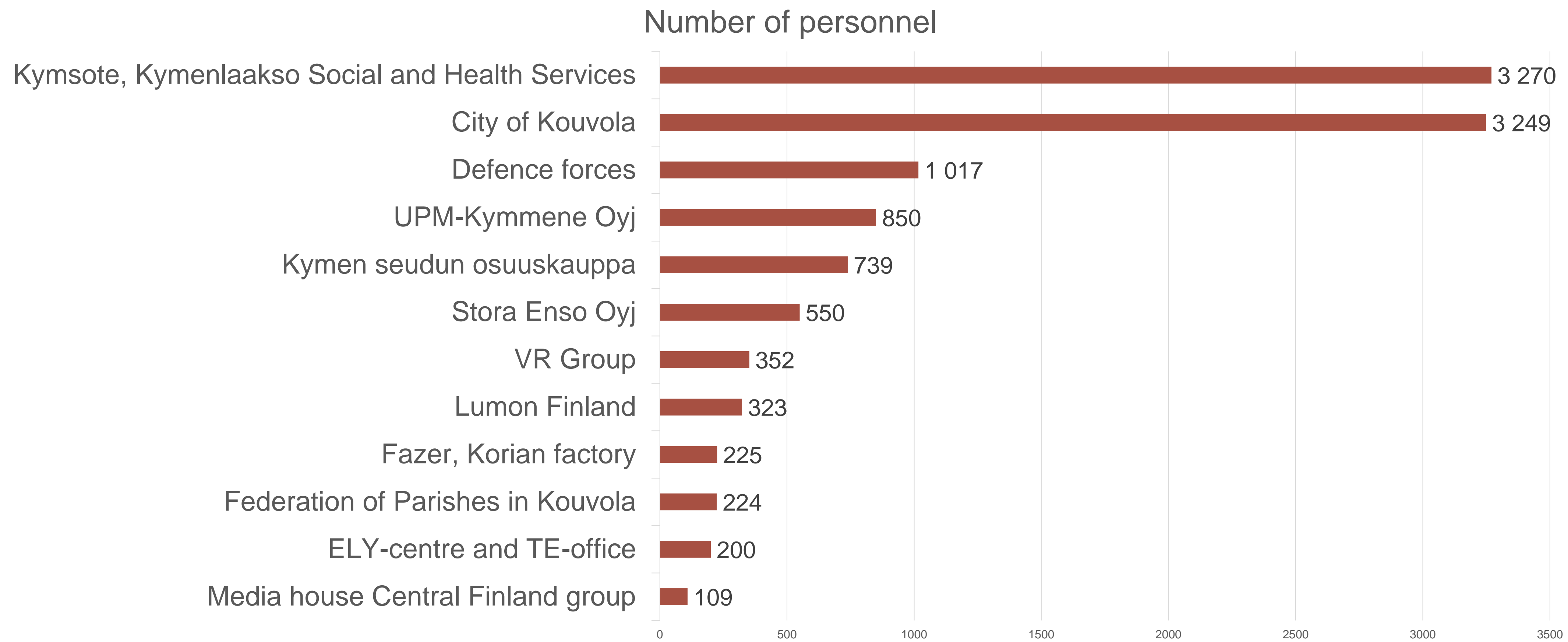
PROPORTION OF
LOCAL PURCHASES

46,4 %

in 2021



Biggest Employers



Vitality from the Forest

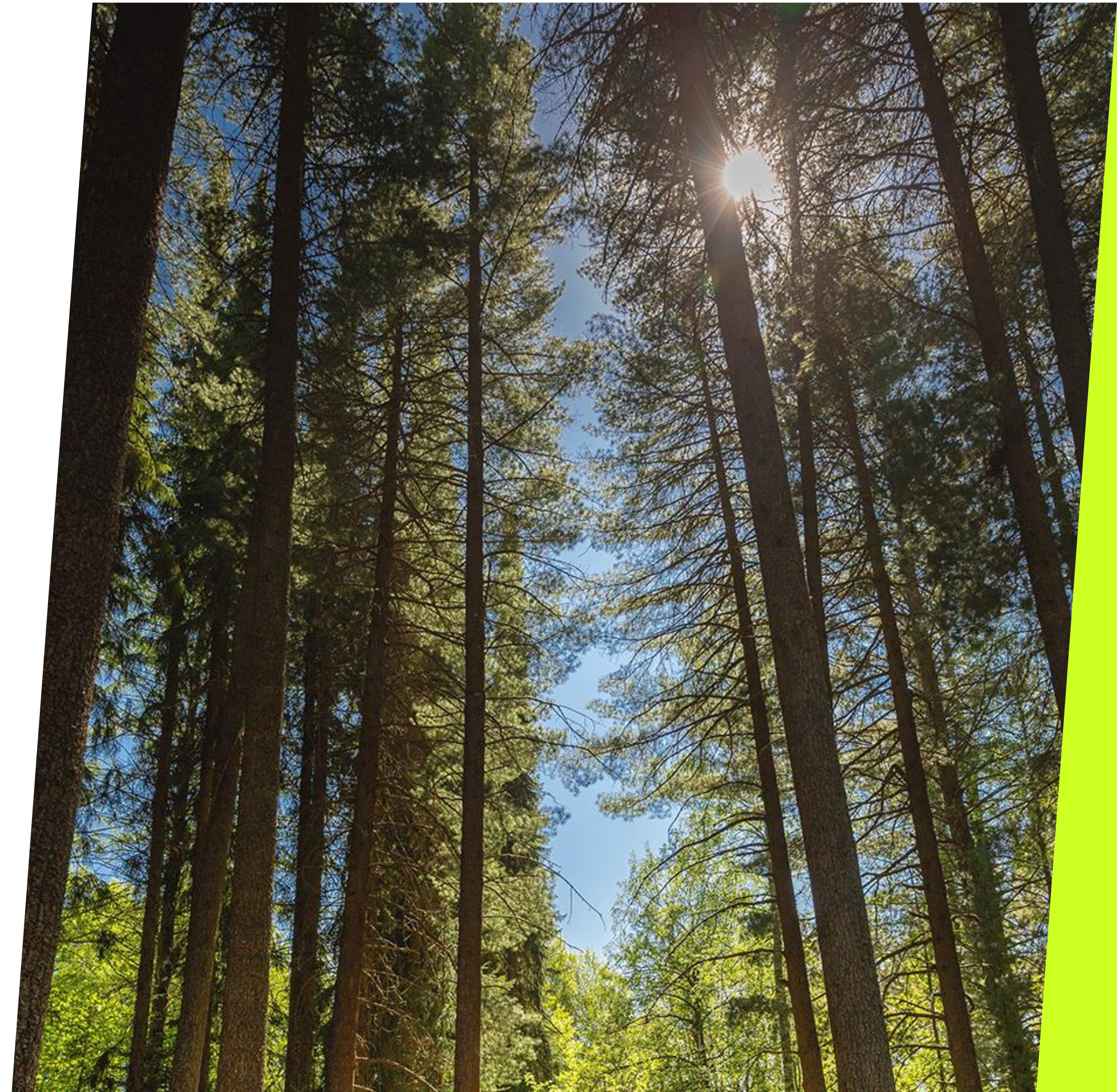
STORA ENSO

Anjalankoski Mills

- Anjala Paper Mill
- Ingeroinen Board Mill
- Ankkapurha Industrial Museum

UPM

- Kymi Paper and Pulp Mill
- Kalso Veneer Mill
- Verla Mill Museum



Bioeconomy and Circular Economy

KOUVOLA

- The industrial know-how and strong wood-processing and agricultural sectors of Kouvola constitute a solid foundation for the new bioeconomy and circular economy businesses.
- The spearhead is the Hyötyvirta business area in Keltakangas.
- We are also developing a digital environment to support co-operation and networking between companies, educational institutions and RDI players.
- Bioeconomy and circular economy are clearly present in the strategy work and decision-making of Kouvola and the entire region of Kymenlaakso.

The key objectives of the Environment 2030 programme of the City of Kouvola are a goal to achieve carbon neutrality, to preserve biodiversity and to increase circular economy.



Rail City

- The rail connections have laid the foundation for the development of vitality and for the creation of industries.
- Kouvola hosts the biggest railway logistics centre and freight railway yard in Finland.
- Hub in passenger transport: Kouvola-Lahti-Helsinki is one of the busiest rail links in Finland.
- Arterial route in cargo transport: The biggest freight volumes are carried between Kotka and Kouvola, and Kouvola and Vainikkala.
- Versatile rail ecosystem:
 - Biggest rail logistics centre in Finland
 - Training centre for rail technology and rail transport
 - Control centre for rail traffic
 - Rail and road terminal Kouvola RRT



Rail and Road Terminal

Kouvola RRT

- Future logistics hub and long-train terminal in Tehola-Kullasvaara. To be commissioned in 2023.
- Enables the handling of trains of more than one kilometre as block trains.
- Open access to all players
- The international significance of the terminal can be compared to that of key seaports and airports.
- The only railroad terminal of the EU's TEN-T core network in Finland, and part of the development of the network.



Eastern Railway – Putting half of Finland into motion

- Fast and fluent connections to Eastern Finland, Helsinki-Vantaa Airport and St Petersburg.
- Eastern Finland to a growth track.
- Boosting business and tourism.
- The rail connection also curbs emissions from transport.
- 24 municipalities involved in the project.



Logistics City

- The Tehola-Kullasvaara logistics area houses approx. 100 logistics companies, and the entire Kouvola region has almost 200 logistics companies.
- The logistics industry offers employment for almost 2,000 persons.
- Comparison between European logistics centres in 2020: Kouvola is no. 1 in the Nordic and Baltic countries, and 13th in the entire Europe.
(Comparison between 300 logistics centres in 30 European countries)



Rural City 1/2

885 FARMS



ORGANIC FARMS

13 %



FORWARDED
FARMER SUBSIDIES

26,7 million €



FIELDS

46,153

hectare



ORGANIC FIELDS

22 %

FINLAND'S NUMBER ONE
IN ORGANIC FARMING



81 BEEF AND
DAIRY FARMS



37 HORSE
FARMS



754 PLANT
CULTIVATION FARMS



Rural City 2/2

47WATER SUPPLY
CO-OPERATIVES**2250** km

OF PRIVATE ROADS

of which **63** %
are SUBSIDISED ROADS.**1550** kmOF OPTIC
FIBRE CABLE
in 2021**1800** km²

FOREST

**62** %OF THE
SURFACE
AREA IS
FOREST**114**NATURE RESERVE
AREAS**326** km²

WATER AREAS

**11,3** %OF THE
SURFACE
AREA IS
WATER

Approx.

500 LAKES

Diverse Education

- Comprehensive schools: 34
- Upper secondary schools: 2 daytime schools, 1 evening school
- Kouvola Railway and Adult Education Company, KRAO
- South-Eastern Finland University of Applied Sciences, XAMK, Kouvola Campus
- Kouvola Region Vocational College, Eduko
- LUT Kouvola
- Kouvola Community College
- Kymenlaakso Folk High School
- Kymenlaakso Summer University
- North Kymi Music Institute



Promotion of Well-being

- The objective is to gap the differences in welfare and health and to reduce inequality.
- GOALS:
 - Promotion of healthy lifestyle and cultural well-being
 - Strengthening of inclusion
 - Improving of employment, and
 - Everyday security
- Growth in Well-Being programme 2020-2023



Working Together

- The services are developed to promote healthy lifestyles in co-operation between the region, organisations and municipalities.
- The goal is for every inhabitant to find a suitable service or a way to strengthen their own well-being easily and in a timely manner.
- The coronavirus brought challenges that were different from the previous ones. This has required a change of functions and the development of new approaches such as more digital services.
- As a result of Kymsote, the joint municipal authority in health and social services, welfare work has expanded to a regional level, and there is more co-operation.
- Promotion of employment is carried out in all sectors, and well-functioning practices will continue.



Inclusion and Community Spirit

- The service pledge of Kouvola's inclusion plan is to create and enable a culture of working together.
- Regional committees support and promote development projects, well-being, local activities and culture in their own areas. Community facilities have been introduced.
- Community services work with associations and organisations. There are about 1,700 associations operating in Kouvola.
- Contributions and rewards for organisations and associations.
- Procedures for co-operation with organisations and for voluntary activities have been developed in Kouvola.
- Village Advisory Board and Village Associations.
- The family centre model brings services for families with children to a single place. The service is carried out in co-operation with Kymsote.

KOUVOLA



Garrison City

- The largest garrison in Finland, Karelian Brigade and the Utti Jaeger Regiment.
- Approx. 1,000 employees
- Approx. 4,400 conscripts per year are trained in the units.
- The garrison includes the Regional Office of South-East Finland, HQ of the 1st Logistics Regiment and the Vekaranjärvi and Utti health stations operating under the Centre for Military Medicine.
- Personnel of the Finnish Defence Forces Command System Centre and the Defence Administration Building Department also work at the garrison.



Cultural City

Kouvola is an active cultural city with surprisingly versatile cultural offerings.

Kouvola has many events of various types. Culture, physical activity, sports, festivals.

Kouvola's event production in cultural services and cultural education organise cultural and art events.



Cultural Houses

- The premises of the cultural facilities are suitable for seminars, meetings, lectures, concerts and various performances.
- Kouvola Hall and Poikilo Museums: Kouvola Art Museum and City Museum, KOUTA Gallery, Poikilo Gallery, Kino-Poikilo and Museum Shop.
- Kuusankoski Hall, also with an art gallery to rent



For the love of culture

- Kymi Sinfonietta
- Kouvola Theatre
- Kuusankoski Theatre and Anjalankoski Theatre. Also numerous other amateur theatres and theatre groups
- North Kymi Music Institute
- Vuohijärvi Nature and Culture House
- Kuusankoski Art Mill
- Antares Art Centre in Sippola
- Main library and eight local libraries, six of which have also self-service hours, plus a mobile library.



Events and Enjoyment

- Kouvola Day - Kouvola's own celebration
- Kuulas - international children's theatre event
- Children's Cultural Weeks
- Kymi GP - international horse racing event
- Local food fair - diverse local offerings
- Dekkaripäivät literary event focusing on detective stories
- Kymi-Libri literary event
- Kymijoki Beer
- Taikapäivät Magic Days - a competition and training event for Finnish magicians
- Wiipurintie Market - medieval event



Gems of Architecture

- Alvar Aalto: Tehtaanmäki area
- Kouvola City Hall
- Pohjolatalo
- Kasarminmäki
- Koria Housing Fair area
- Koria Bridge
- Cultural houses: Kouvola Hall and Kuusankoski Hall
- Kouvola Main Library and Kuusankoski Library
- Ankkapurha Cultural Park
- Lars Sonck: Kuusankoski regional history house
- More than 20 mansions



Sports City

- Top-ranking teams KOOKOO, KPL and KOUVOT in professional sports keep Kouvola on the sports map.
- More than 110 sports clubs and organisations. Club parliament to promote co-operation.
- Service network reform: sports facilities that are in a poor condition and used little will be removed from use - the quality of the remaining facilities will be improved.
- Everyday physical exercise will be supported and there will be more local sports facilities; for example, low-threshold active parks open to all.
- The goal of Kouvola's sports services is to activate and help the local residents to take sufficient exercise for their health.



Sports facilities owned by the City

- | | |
|--|--|
| 4 INDOOR SWIMMING POOLS AND ICE RINKS | 11 BEACHES |
| 13 INDOOR EXERCISE FACILITIES | 2 WINTER SWIMMING PLACES |
| | 34 OUTDOOR ICE FACILITIES AND SKATING AREAS |
| | 8 GRASS FIELDS |
| | 5 ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELDS |
| | 2 ARTIFICIAL TURF FIELDS WITH SAND FILL |
| | 8 ATHLETIC FIELDS |

Also numerous local sports facilities such as skateboarding venues, tennis courts, outdoor gyms, beach volley courts, fitness steps and multifunctional playgrounds.



Kouvola also has

5 SHOOTING RANGES

3 GOLF CENTRES

3 BOWLING ALLEYS

12 FRISBEE GOLF COURSES

- Sami Hyypiä -Arena
- Mielakka Ski Resort
- Utti and Selänpää airports for parachute sports and glider flying
- Good opportunities for motor sports, e.g. Tykkimäki Motor Sports Centre.



Excellent setting for outdoor exercise

- Easy access to exercise - 128 km of jogging and skiing tracks.
- Comprehensive network of cycle paths - 292 km.
- 350 km of nature trails.
- Nature trails have been refurbished extensively and new exercise trails have been built, such as the River Kymijoki outdoor route in the river landscape..
- Excellent canoeing routes, one of the most well-known of which is the Välliväylä route from the River Kymijoki to Lake Saimaa.
- There are also orange city bikes and blue electric scooters available.



Visit Kouvola

Kouvola has many places to see, experience and visit. Most famous tourist destinations in Kouvola:

- **Käyrälampi-Tykkimäki area**
- UNESCO World Heritage Site
Verla's Groundwood and Board Mill
- **Arboretum Mustila**
- **Repovesi National Park**
- **Kimola Canal**



Repovesi National Park

- The varied and rugged landscapes render the Repovesi National Park one of the most popular hiking destinations in Finland.
- Approximately 45 km of marked hiking trails from Ketunlenkki (3.5 km) to Kaakkurin Kierros (26 km).
- Olhavanvuori Hill for climbing.
- Scenic canoeing routes.



Käyrälampi-Tykkimäki

- The Käyrälampi area has become an attractive tourist attraction and recreational oasis.
- It caters for a wide range of entertainment, swimming and sports.
- Tykkimäki Amusement Park, Aquapark and Camping.
- Beach, frisbee golf course and beachvolley.
- Tykkimäki Motor Sports Centre.
- Tykkimäki Resort
- New outdoor routes being planned.



Arboretum Mustila

- The biggest and oldest arboretum in Finland.
- The area has been developed since 1902.
- 120 hectares of park forest.
- 100 species of coniferous trees.
- About 200 species of hardwood trees.
- Hundreds of different shrubs and perennials.



Verla Mill Museum

- In 1972, Verla's Groundwood and Board Mill was converted into the first industrial museum in Finland.
- The unique UNESCO World Heritage Site emanates the atmosphere of the late 19th century and early 20th century.
- Verla combines culture, history, architecture, activities and nature.
- Verla's rock paintings, the oldest of which are as old as 7,000 years.



Kimola canal

- Connects the River Kymijoki to Lake Päijänne and further to the waterways of lakes Vesijärvi, Keitele and Kansallisvesi.
- The canal is approx. 5.5 km long.
- Special features include a unique rock tunnel and a 12-metre lock height.
- The canal is owned by the City of Kouvola and maintained not only by Kouvola but also by the municipalities of Iitti and Heinola.



Distinctive Kouvola

- Sometimes referred to as a concrete city, Kouvola is actually anything but.
- We have shopping opportunities and active villages and businesses.
- Active people are building the local identity of Kouvola.
- Our specialities, nice places to visit and distinctiveness can be found in many places.



Shopping and delicacies

- Veturi – The biggest shopping centre in South-Eastern Finland with over 80 shops.
- Prisma in Kouvola is one of the largest ones in Finland.
- Pedestrian street Manski. Shopping centres in the centre of Kouvola: Valtari, Hansa and Manski.
- From a liquorice town to a candy town: There are two liquorice factories (Kouvolan Lakritsi and Lakumesta) in Kouvola and now also candy factory Micaro Makeiset.
- Sysikymi and Kouvola coffee and Kouvola Gray tea can be enjoyed in Papulaari, the personable coffee shop in the center, which also has a roastery.
- Fazer's oat products are made in Kouvola.
- Vihis made by Hoviruoka Oy has become a symbol of the vegan boom.
- Café Kaarnasydän in Valkeala.



Versatile attractions

- Mielakka's rag rug painted on a ski slope.
- Jättömaa - a cross-art festival.
- Karaoke restaurant Mutteri.
- Rock city - Kouvola is the birthplace of many well-known bands and musicians such as Peer Günt, Viikate and Tuure Kilpeläinen.
- Äijäkanteleet: rock with kantele, the Finnish zither.
- Vitriini, modern music a capella.
- Pato Areena and Pato Klubi for live music.
- Museum quarter and Onnenkukko in Kaunisnurmi in the centre.
- Youth Centre Anjala in the cultural landscape of Ankkapurha.
- Kymen Paviljonki in the area where Anu Pentik was born.
- Virtakivi sauna at the starting point of the Kimola Canal.

KOUVOLA



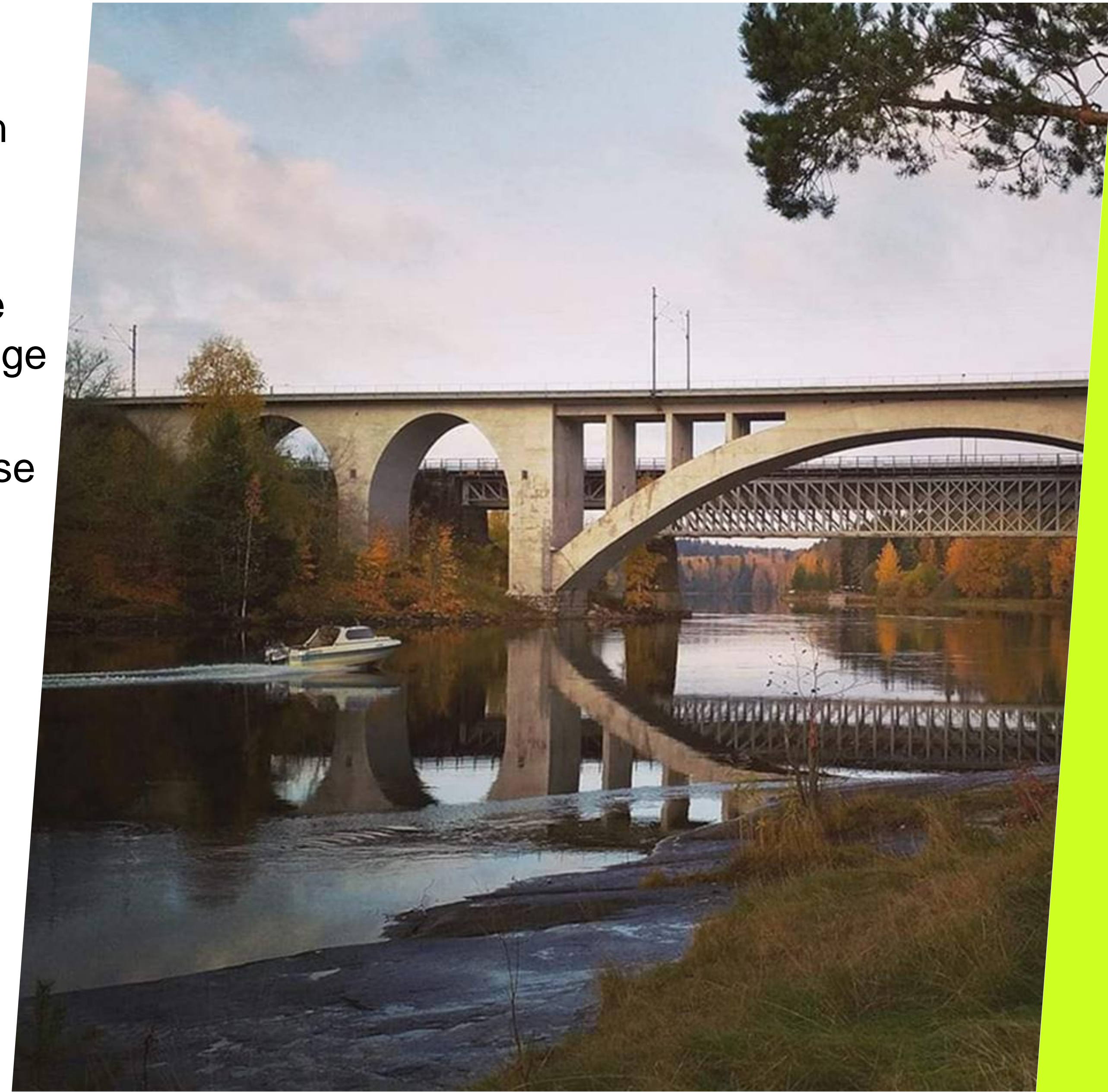
History 1/2

- The story has it that Kouvola was named after a resident named Kouvo. The word means bear, among other things.
- The present Kouvola came about in 2009 when six municipalities (Kouvola, Kuusankoski, Anjalankoski, Elimäki, Jaala, Valkeala) merged.
- An important milestone in the history of Kouvola was the building of the railway track to St Petersburg in 1870.
- Kouvola's later history includes paper mills, Alvar Aalto and many mergers of municipalities.
- Elimäki has the longest recorded history in the region. It was an independent municipality as early as the 15th century.
- When the River Kymijoki became the border between Sweden and Russia in 1743, the Kouvola region was the scene of many battles and other events. Among other things, the Anjala Union was created here.



History 2/2

- **1743-1809** River Kymijoki, the border between Sweden and Russia.
- **1756** Anjala cruciform church completed.
- **1874** Kouvola got its own railway station in line with the construction of the St Petersburg railway; a station village began to develop into a rail junction.
- **1856** Sippola Manor produced the first emmental cheese in Finland.
- **1870** Kaipiainen station and Koria lattice bridge completed on the Riihimäki - St Petersburg railway.
- **1872** Kymi and Kuusankoski paper mills started operations.
- **1887** The oldest building in the Inkeroinen mill area, cardboard mill made of bricks, completed.
- **1902** Arboretum Mustila founded.
- **1911-1914** Kasarminmäki in Kouvola is a garrison area built during the era of the rule of the Russian Tsar.



A golfer in a dark blue shirt and light blue trousers is captured in the middle of a golf swing on a green field. In the foreground, a golf bag on a trolley is visible. The background features a line of trees and a body of water under a bright sky. A large, bold, white text 'KOUVOLA' is overlaid across the middle of the image.

KOUVOLA

Thank you!

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