



Creating
opportunities
for the future

NEOS- LETTER PERCHTOLDSDORF

DECEMBER 2025 / ISSUE 4

NEOS
Die
Reformkraft



IN A NUTSHELL

In March, we deliberately entered a coalition with the ÖVP, knowing that austerity would dominate the coming years. The 'consolidation letter' from St. Pölten, which is sent to municipalities whose revenues are no longer sufficient to cover their expenses, made us acutely aware of the tight financial constraints we face. Nevertheless, we took on responsibility because we are convinced that NEOS is necessary as a driving force for reform in Perchtoldsdorf.

Every day, we ask ourselves whether things must continue as before. It is more difficult than we thought to change entrenched structures. Under the pressure to save money, new legacies are constantly emerging that we have to deal with.

Together with the ÖVP, we have implemented a genuine austerity budget for the first time. Whereas half a million euros in savings in the municipal budget was previously considered impossible, around 1.5 million euros are now budgeted for 2026. Will that be enough? We are optimistic in this regard, but risks arising from the complex 'Finanzausgleich' system could jeopardise our plans at any time.

Not surprisingly, financial issues and savings dominate local politics. Cutbacks and service reductions are inevitable: duplicated subsidies and little-used mobility services are being scrapped, subsidies for associations are being cut, and spending on culture

is being reviewed. Further measures depend on the municipality's income. Fee increases, for example for water and sewerage, are also necessary to cover the rising costs of this infrastructure.

Nevertheless, we are designing the future: the range of services offered in kindergartens and compulsory schools will remain unchanged, and all-day services in primary schools will even be expanded. In terms of spatial planning, we have understood the message that the initial approach to reform was not bold enough. Together with local experts who care deeply about the appearance of our town, we are working on solutions that will create the conditions for more affordable, smaller apartments to be built. And this without 'spoiling' the town.

We knew that the difficult financial situation would require far-reaching and unpopular measures.

We have learned that structures that have grown over decades cannot be fundamentally changed in a few months.

We promise that we will continue to work to make Perchtoldsdorf better, more transparent and more fit for the future, step by step.

Please take our word.

Tony Platt



REVITALISATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF DOWNTOWN PERCHTOLDSDORF



Challenges

The increasing number of properties standing empty, particularly in Wiener Gasse, poses a major challenge to the revitalisation of our town centre. The reasons for this include the shift in consumer behaviour towards online shopping, difficult ground floor layouts in old buildings and, in some cases, the unwillingness of owners to rent out their properties. Add to this the structural crisis in brick-and-mortar retail and the high mobility of the population. For decades, our towns were designed more for cars than for people, which has further reduced the attractiveness of town centres.

The importance of a vibrant town centre

A vibrant, multifunctional town centre is much more than just a business location: it is the social, cultural and identity-forming hub of community life. A functioning centre contributes significantly to the quality of life, regional value creation and the attractiveness of our community for residents, businesses and visitors. Especially in view of climate change, a sustainable, climate-friendly design of the town centre is of great importance.

Our goals

NEOS are committed to actively counter the creeping increase in vacant properties, especially in Wiener Gasse. Our goal is to work with politicians, administrators and property owners to create the conditions necessary to revitalise the centre of Perchtoldsdorf and make it fit for the future.

To achieve these goals, we are focusing on the following steps:

- Appointment of a town centre coordinator: This person will act as a central point of contact for town centre and vacancy management and co-

ordinate cooperation between owners, potential users (retail, commercial, service providers, restaurants, leisure facilities) and the municipality. The appointment is to take place before the end of this year.

- Strengths and weaknesses profile: Creation of a profile of Perchtoldsdorf town centre, including an analysis of the parking situation.
- Survey of industry occupancy and vacancies: Establishment of a vacancy database and contact with affected owners.
- Development of an ideal mix of businesses and uses: Consideration of the catchment area and competitive situation in order to specifically target potential tenants and establish contact with landlords.
- Promotion of the establishment of new businesses: The town centre manager supports companies wishing to relocate and facilitates their move to Perchtoldsdorf.
- Use of all funding opportunities: We examine and utilise all available funding programmes to support our measures.

We need your participation!

We are convinced that revitalising the town centre can only be achieved by working together. Do you have any suggestions, ideas or proposals for developing the town centre?

If so, please feel free to write to me:
Dr. Sabine Schober, local councillor,
sabine.schober@neos.eu.

Sabine Schober



COMBINING WINE-GROWING AND GREEN ENERGY? IT WORKS!

When climate adaptation, regional value creation and scientific expertise come together, real progress can be achieved. The planned 'VINO-PV' project in Vierbatz shows how Perchtoldsdorf can benefit from innovative and sustainable solutions.

Shading vines and protecting them from storms, reducing water requirements and the use of pesticides, and producing electricity at the same time – all without compacting soil. These are the objectives of VINO-PV. The project will be supported by BOKU Vienna, which will scientifically investigate the effects on grape yield and quality.

The project also offers clear economic advantages: the energy generated by the 600 kWp photovoltaic system could be supplied to the town at a rate below the market price, enabling long-term cost reductions. In addition, citizen participation in the financing would be conceivable – a model that strengthens local responsibility and anchors energy transition locally.

NEOS Perchtoldsdorf support this project. It makes our town more energy self-sufficient, climate-fit and economically resilient. The system can compensate for grid fluctuations, reduce the risk of blackouts and increase wine yields at the same time.

We do not share fears that Natura 2000 areas or vineyards that characterise the town-scape – for example in Soßen or Hagenau – will be used for PV systems in the future. The applicable zoning regulations clearly rule that out and there is no intention to change this.



Some people are still sceptical about the chances of this project. Here, it is important to convince them.

NEOS say: **VINO-PV is a win-win situation – for the climate, the community and the population.** It is a project that shows that sustainable energy production and local viticulture can go hand in hand. And it is an example of how Perchtoldsdorf could shape the future. You can find the detailed arguments of the project promoters on our website. See for yourself.

Sabine Schöber





RENEGOTIATION OF CIVIL SERVANT SALARIES THANKS TO PRESSURE BY NEOS

NEOS strongly criticised the previous public sector pay rise agreement and were the only party in parliament not to approve it in 2024.

The across-the-board pay rise in civil servants wages approved by the previous government – at a time when the budgetary situation was already serious – contributed massively to the current financial crisis.

Thanks to our pressure, an existing agreement was opened up and renegotiated for the first time – and after many intensive negotiations, a responsible, financially viable result was achieved, providing noticeable relief for the budget. The contribution to budget relief will amount to €300 million in 2026. The salary agreements for 2027 and 2028 are also

well below inflation and represent another important contribution.

The path of restructuring must continue

Now it is important to follow this path consistently. Bold structural reforms, sustainable savings in administration and a clear commitment to research and innovation are crucial to securing Austria's finances in the long term and making the country competitive as a business location. NEOS is the driving force behind reform in this federal government.

Martina von Künsberg Sarre



The youngest member of the Lower Austrian state parliament is from Perchtoldsdorf.

After five years on the Perchtoldsdorf municipal council, **CHRISTOPH MÜLLER** is moving into state politics. We congratulate our team member and look forward to having a 'direct line' of communication with the state parliament.





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NEOS CALLS FOR A REFORM PLAN FOR THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The problems facing the WKO cannot be attributed to any one individual. **Over recent decades, the chamber has become detached from entrepreneurs** and grown a structure that often falls far short of its members' needs. **What is needed are not cosmetic changes, but far-reaching reforms.**

1. Three modern regional chambers of commerce

Our proposal: Instead of nine provincial chambers, three regional chambers, divided into West (based in Innsbruck), Central (Linz) and South-East (Graz), should take on the tasks of a modern chamber of commerce.

2. Abolition of the Kammerumlage 2 (KU 2)

Amounting to EUR 440 million in 2024, the KU2 represents a considerable burden for all companies. It is due to be halved between 2026 and 2028 before being completely abolished from 2029 onwards.

3. Fair contribution limits

A maximum of €100 for sole proprietorships and a maximum of €100,000 per year for the largest companies – once per company and not multiple times.

4. Transparent balance sheet

In future, consolidated financial statements with a detailed breakdown of income and expenditure from all areas of the chamber are to be published.

5. More democracy through electoral reform

The introduction of e-voting and a simplification of the electoral system should increase voter turnout.

This task cannot be achieved by a new presidency alone. It requires the solidarity of all those who want to create a modern, transparent and member-oriented Chamber of Commerce so that entrepreneurs feel well represented.

Tony Platt



LONG-TERM VISION INSTEAD OF SURPRISES – WHY OPEN COMMUNICATION BUILDS TRUST

Clear communication is crucial, especially in difficult times. People sense that a lot is changing and budgets are tightening. Politicians who only react in the short term and come up with solutions out of thin air are asking too much. It is better to address developments openly and explain possible steps – even unpopular ones – at an early stage. This is not scaremongering, but honest information.

Transparency creates trust. People only support decisions when they feel that they are based on careful consideration rather than knee-jerk reactions. It's like an open kitchen: when you can see what's going on, you understand more – and you trust.

This is also the principle behind our local councilor Zsolt Janos' podcast 'Über die Schulter g'schaut' (Looking over your shoulder). The podcast is aimed at those interested in politics who are not satisfied

with headlines alone. Current local political issues are discussed with those responsible, and background information and decision-making principles are explained. This creates clarity, saves time and provides a common thread – just like far-sighted communication in politics.

Zsolt Janos



PODCAST



ROMAN NOSSAL, OUR NEW FACE IN THE LOCAL COUNCIL

Living in Perchtoldsdorf since 2014 and being politically active within NEOS Perchtoldsdorf for six years, I want to put my interests into action. What could be more rewarding than helping to shape your own community and supporting positive change?

I have been a member of the local council since September 2025 and have also taken on the role of education councillor. Education is not only a key concern for NEOS, but as a father of two school-age children, it is also a matter very dear to me. Even though education is largely a matter of the federal government, there is certainly scope for the local

authority to play a role, whether in further developing the already excellent elementary education system or in establishing more all-day programmes at primary schools.

Education is the key to the future – I will devote all my energy to promoting education.

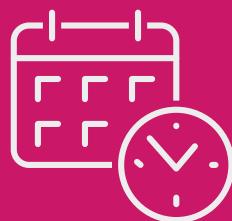




MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Save the date NEOS POLIT-TALK

For those interested in local politics, we are offering a new programme: NEOS Political Talk. Following an initial meeting with Deputy Mayor Tony Platt on 1 December 2025, the next meetings will take place on:



**29 JANUARY 2026 FROM 4:30 PM
with Martina Künsberg-Sarre and Tony Platt
at Café Mühle**

**12 MARCH 2026 FROM 4:30 PM
with Christoph Müller and Sabine Schober
at Café Mühle**

What do NEOS say?

In our blog, we discuss current topics in the town. Have a look!



 [niederoesterreich.neos.eu/gemeinden/
perchtoldsdorf/perchtoldsdorf-blog](http://niederoesterreich.neos.eu/gemeinden/perchtoldsdorf/perchtoldsdorf-blog)

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