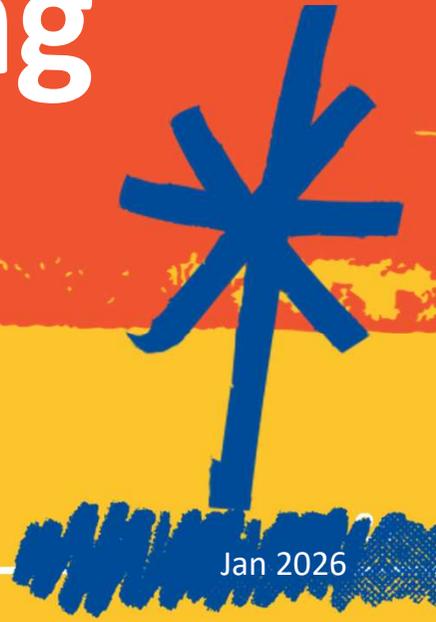




Inclusive Partnerships and Decision-Making

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Director of Innovation and Practice and Interim CEO



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involve

Our vision is of a vibrant democracy where **everyone can shape a society that works for us all.**

Our mission

is to lead the UK in making participation and deliberation an everyday part of democracy, to help meet the challenges of the 21st century.

We focus on

public engagement in decision-making – the activities undertaken by an organisation to create opportunities for the public to participate in informing and influencing decisions, policies and/or service delivery.



What We Will Cover

The Pride in Place Partnership Challenge	
	Inclusive Decision-Making to Deliver Pride in Place
Public Engagement in Pride in Place	
	Barriers to Participation
Methods of Participation	
	Principles of Inclusive Engagement
Where's the Tension?	



Pride in Place Brings Together:

- Residents leading decision-making through Neighbourhood Boards
- Local Authorities acting as accountable bodies for up to £20 million over 10 years
- VCS organizations supporting community engagement and delivery
- Local MPs and independent chairs working alongside boards
- Ward councillors representing local voices





The Challenge

1.

How do you strengthen local decision-making while ensuring accountability for public money?

2.

How can residents in Pride in Place areas be meaningfully involved in shaping priorities?

Inclusive Decision-Making Delivers Pride in Place Objectives

- Build stronger communities with belonging, cohesion and resilience
- Create thriving places with vibrant high streets, amenities and quality infrastructure
- Empower local people so everyone can shape their community's future

Inclusive Decision-Making Based on Public Engagement

Engagement is a process that allows people* to play a role in shaping projects, decisions and services.

It creates a **two-way dialogue** that benefits both the public/actors and those commissioning the engagement.

...and it can take place in many, many different ways.

* people as residents, citizens, service users, key actors or representatives of groups

What it is:

- Residents and local actors shaping priorities for their neighbourhood
- Intentional outreach beyond those who usually participate
- Dialogue and deliberation that informs plans, not just validates them
- Gives local people decision making power
- Long-term: 10-year vision with phased investment
- Flexible: iterative engagement with scope to propose others based on local needs

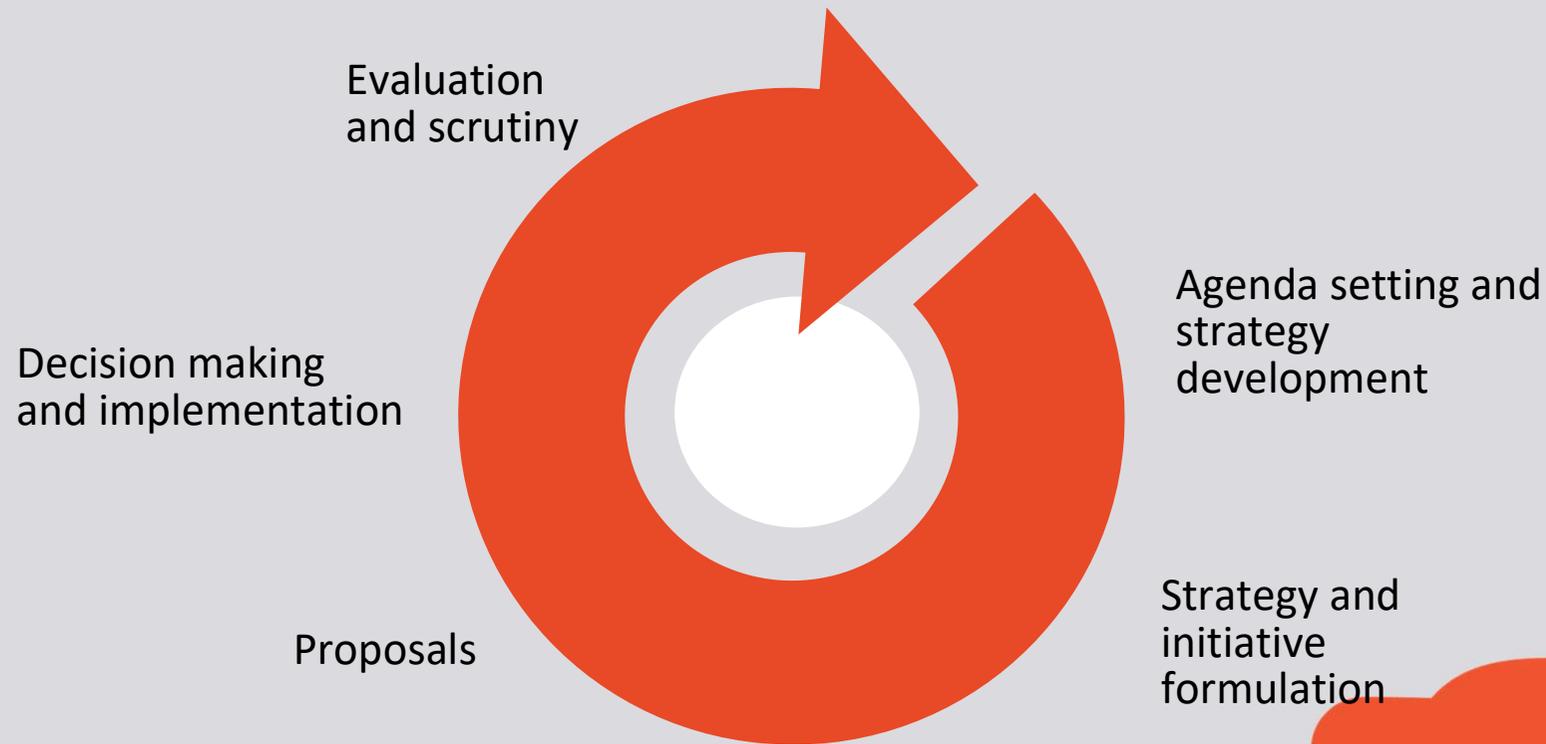


What it is not:

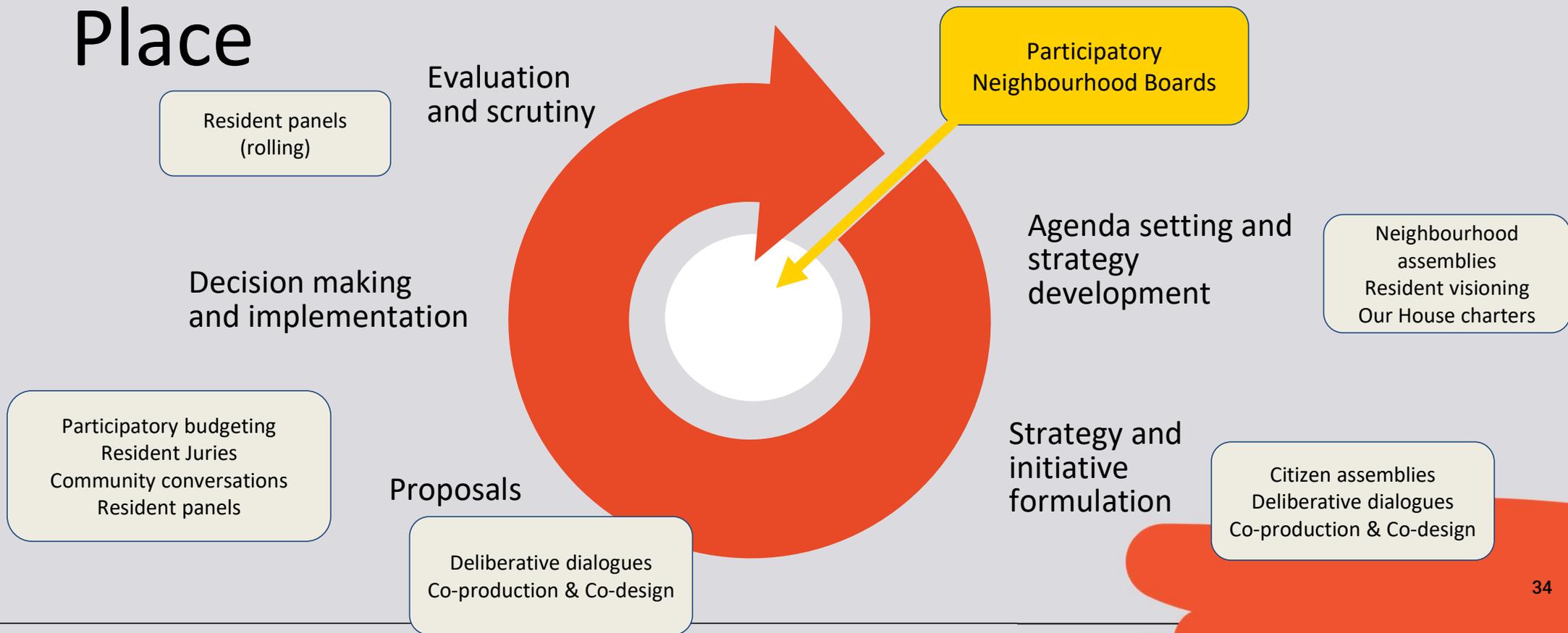
- The same small group speaking for everyone
- Shallow engagement that is consultative but not influential
- Local authorities setting priorities by default
- Copy-and-paste solutions from other places
- Tokenistic, not linked to decisions
- Seen as add on and not properly resourced
- Isolated, one off, with no feedback
- Disconnected from other local engagement



Public Engagement in Pride in Place



Public Engagement in the Pride in Place



In pairs/threes

- What's your experience of engaging the public in decision making?
- What questions do you have?



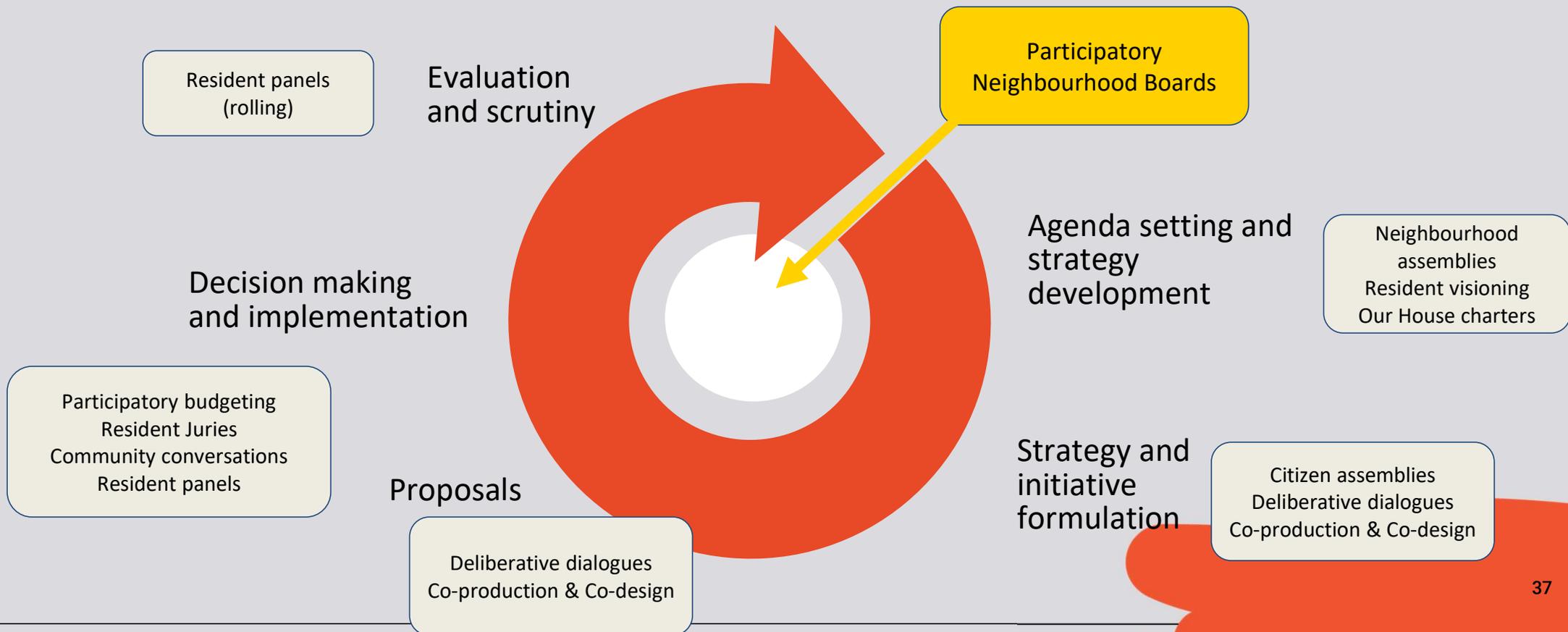
Agree a question to ask



How Could Participation Work for Pride in Place?



Public Engagement in Pride in Place



The Inclusive Neighbourhood Board - Crucial Local Infrastructure

- A diverse selection of residents, alongside other actors, selected using a citizen lottery
- Designed to be run in a way that ensures that everyone can contribute equally
- Group selection is on the basis of demographic and/or attitudinal characteristics, so that it reflects the **diversity** of the population
- Clear purpose, decision making status and accountability to residents
- Instigate different forms of engagement appropriate to the area and the decisions
- Resident members are **paid** for their time
- **Collective** decision making, facilitation and ability to deal with conflict (with capacity built over time)
- Connected to other initiatives and engagements
- **Transparent** process and outputs
- Properly resourced

Methods of Engagement



Citizens' jury / assembly

Agenda setting & strategy

Tough trade-offs / legitimacy

Neighbourhood deliberation

Local priorities & sequencing

Low trust / fatigue

Deliberation + Experts

Complex evidence and recommendations

Co-produce products & services

Standing panels

Accountability & scrutiny

Targeted co-design

Speed & delivery / special interest or need

Deliberative Mini Publics - Examples

Hackney Citizens' Climate Jury

How can Hackney Council make sure that residents, especially those who are most affected, are protected from very hot weather as our climate changes?

→ Read more [here](#)

Waltham Forest Citizens' Assembly on Neighbourhood Policing

What should the future of neighbourhood policing look like?

Delivered with the local police.

→ Read more [here](#)

WMCA Greener Together Citizens' Panel

Various topics:
Air quality in the region,
Retrofitting of homes,
Climate resilience and adaptation, Transport.

→ Read more [here](#)

Deliberative Mini Publics - Examples

Blackpool Community Conversation

20 residents engaged with their communities to shape the Council's strategy on climate change.

→ Read more [here](#)

Wakefield Citizen Visioning

Residents and young people asked what they wanted for Wakefield and how action on climate and nature could support that.

→ Read more [here](#)

Gwynyddni Participatory budgeting

Communities deciding how to allocate funds for action on climate

Read more [here](#)



Barriers to Participation

- Physical
- Methodological
- Attitudinal
- Financial and resource issues
- Timing
- Consultation/ participation fatigue
- Volunteer fatigue



Principles of Inclusive Engagement

- **Transparency and accountability:** engagement doesn't have predetermined conclusions or outcomes
- **Proactively plan for accessibility and inclusion:** design the entire engagement plan with the aims of maximising accessibility and inclusion for all
- **Intersectional engagement:** communities should be viewed as internally diverse
- **Build trust, respect and reciprocal relationships with communities**
- **Tailor engagement plans to the local context:** work with key stakeholders (including participants) to shape engagement plans to suit the specific topic, objectives, location, resources, and needs of an area
- **Commit to continual learning cycles:** there is no perfect model so you need continual feedback, learning, and development
- **Apply a power lens to the entire engagement process:** challenge existing norms and structures to work towards greater diversity and equity in systems and leadership
- **Work with diverse groups of speakers and team:** consider who is present in the room, the roles they have, and their skills and experiences
- **Embed a power lens in process design:** all issues disproportionately impact marginalised communities, from housing and health and social care, to climate change and taxation

3 key questions

Who

do you want
to engage

**On
what**

decision do
you want
them to feed
into

Why

do you want
to engage
them

In pairs/threes

- What are the barriers and opportunities for doing this in your area?
- What do you need to make it work (beyond £)?

(Capture on post-its notes)



Share one barrier or concern
Share one opportunity
Share one need





Have a question?

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