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The Centre for Translational Research in Public Health

Putting collaborative research opportunities into action: Fuse principles, models and networks?

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Fuse Knowledge Exchange Broker
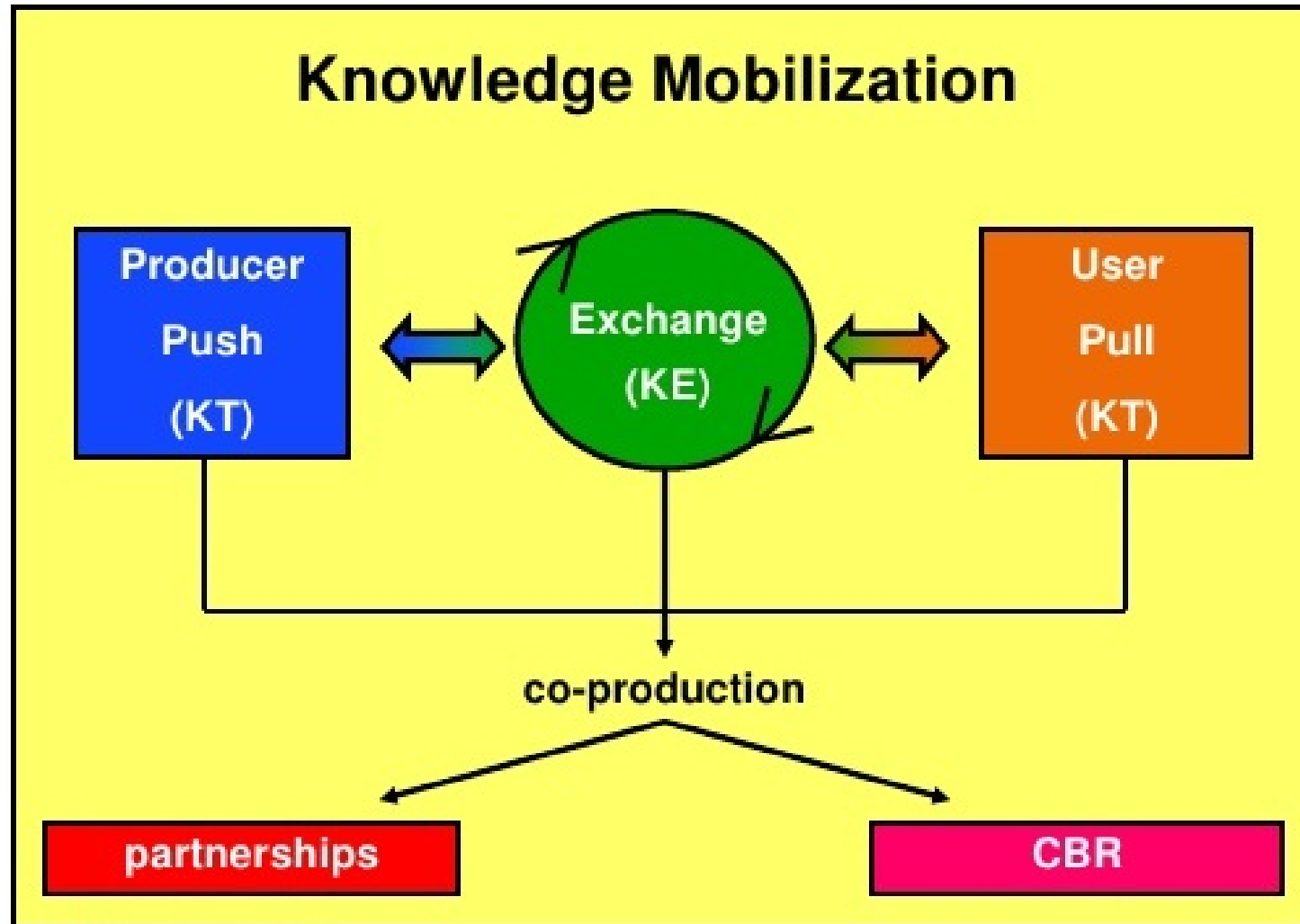
www.fuse.ac.uk

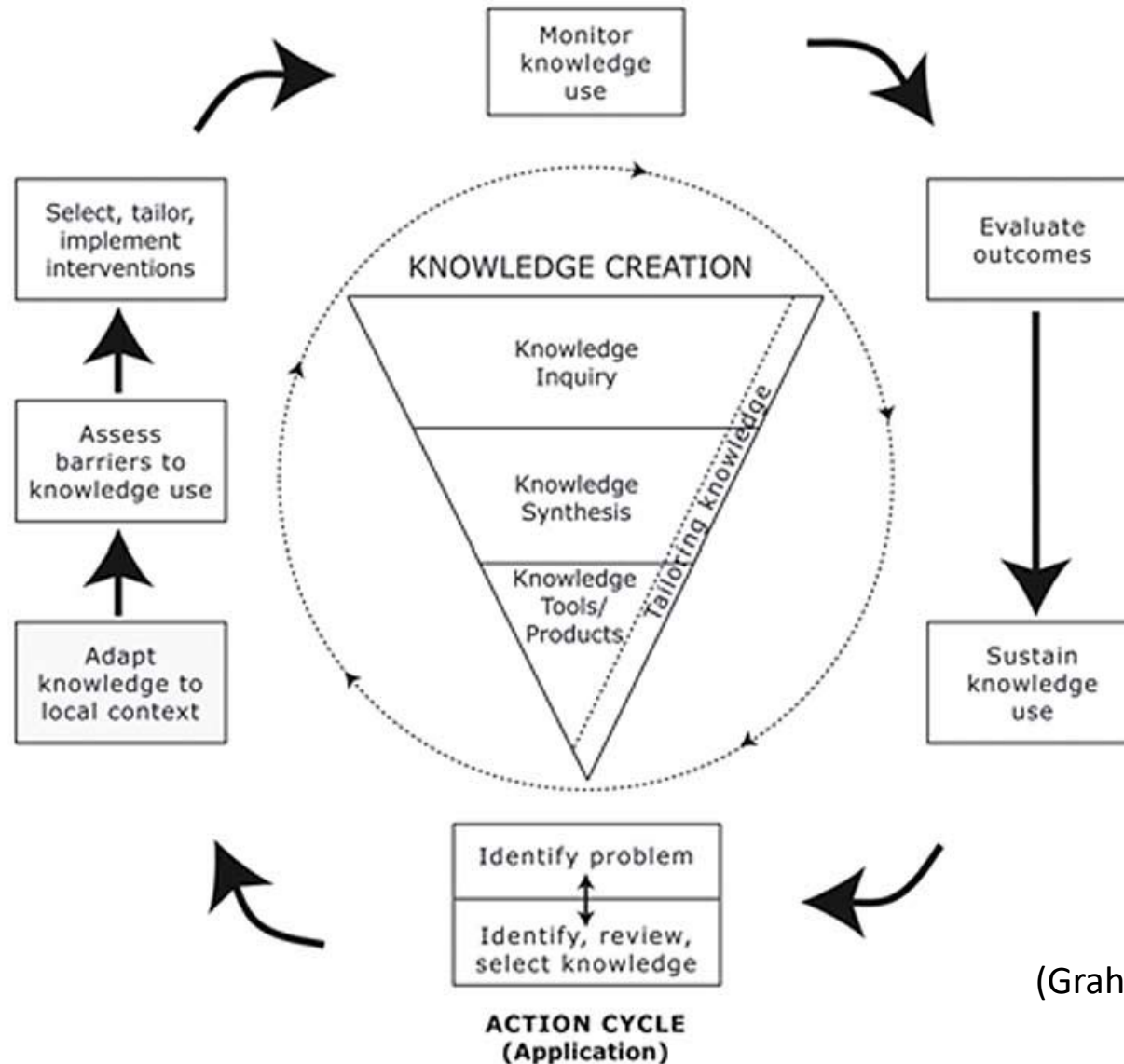# Transition of public health to local government: new challenges in evidence use

- Policy makers can't access research findings
- Value different types of evidence (tacit knowledge, practical wisdom)
- Decision making influenced by personal, social and political processes
- Research timescales not aligned with policy processes
- Austerity and public sector funding cuts: less resources for research / evaluation
- Renewed focus on prevention and the wider determinants of health
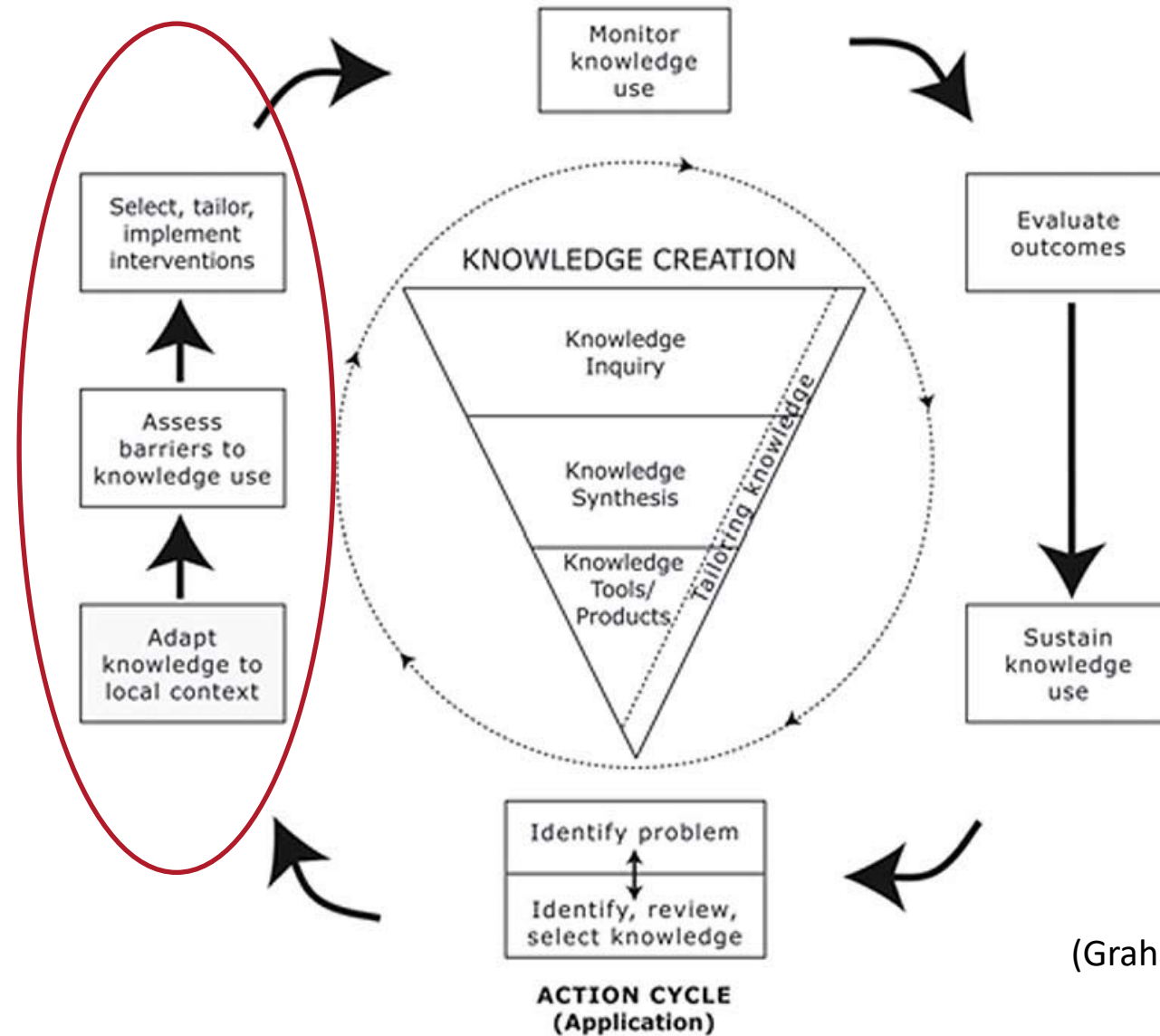
How to bridge the gap?

Knowledge to Action Framework

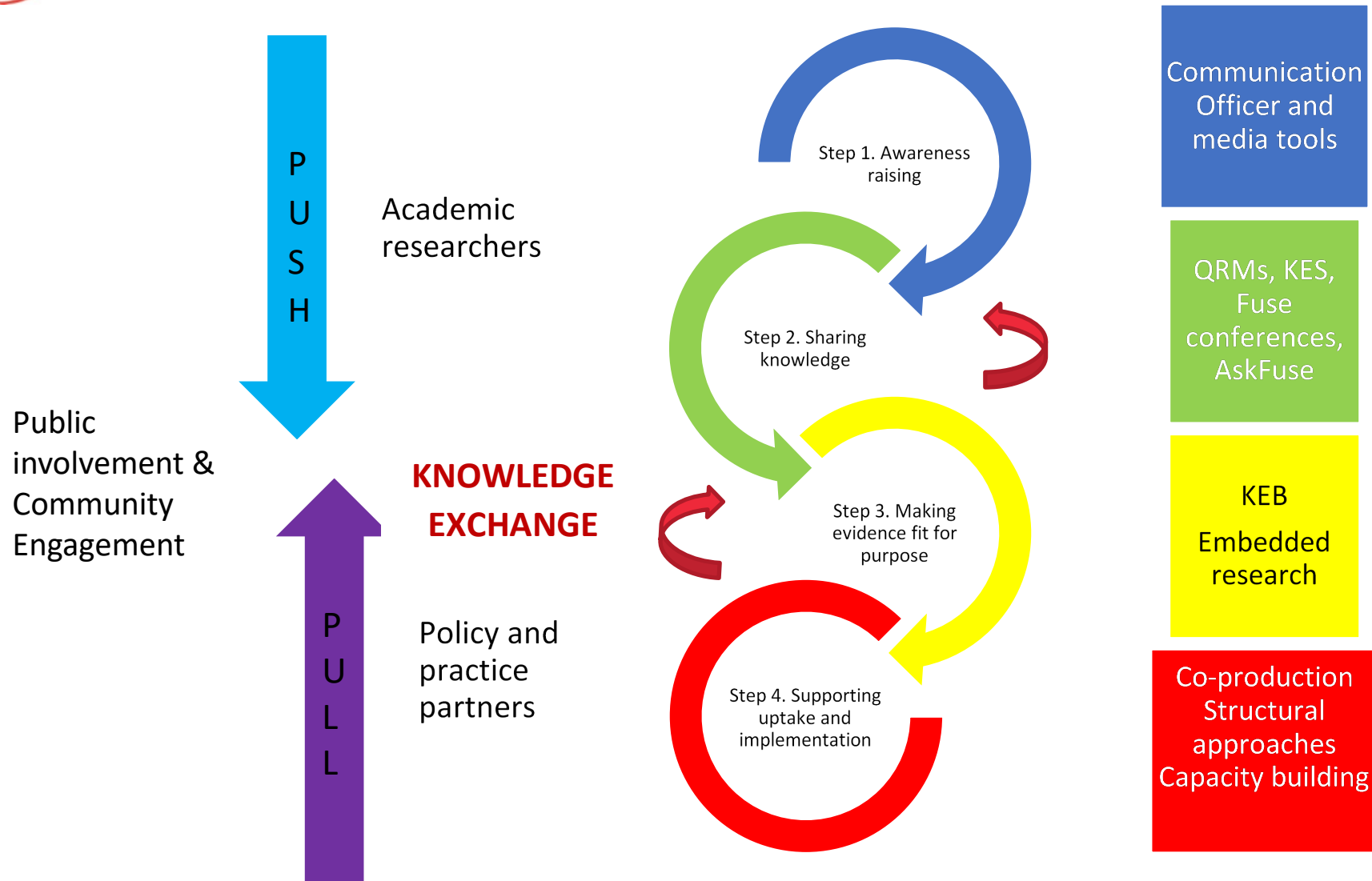(Graham et al. 2013)

Knowledge to Action Framework

(Graham et al. 2013)

Fuse Knowledge Exchange model

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PUSH — Academic researchers

Public involvement & Community Engagement

KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE

PULL — Policy and practice partners

Step 1. Awareness raising

Step 2. Sharing knowledge

Step 3. Making evidence fit for purpose

Step 4. Supporting uptake and implementation

Communication Officer and media tools

QRMs, KES, Fuse conferences, AskFuse

KEB Embedded research

Co-production Structural approaches Capacity building

(Van der Graaf et al. 2019)

How does Fuse translate research?

1. *Awareness raising*: Communication Manager, Fuse website, newsletter, social media

2. *Knowledge sharing*: QRMs, international conferences, AskFuse

3. *Making evidence fit for purpose*: KEB, AskFuse, embedded research

4. *Supporting uptake & implementation*: capacity building, co-production, linking KE activities

Step 1. Awareness raising

Step 2. Sharing knowledge

Step 3. Making evidence fit for purpose

Step 4. Supporting uptake and implementation

Van der Graaf et al. 2019

Underlying assumptions

- **Multiple types of knowledge** used differently across many contexts
- **Sharing** expertise **across** professional, organisational and sector **boundaries** to get knowledge into practice
- Knowledge exchange is a **social process**, requiring trusting relationships to be developed and maintained
- Opportunities for KE need to be **actively created and fostered** over time
- Sharing knowledge is not sufficient for impact
- Ongoing **support and capacity building** is required, alongside understanding of the local **context**. Implementation takes time!
- New ways of producing and using evidence are critical, such as embedded research and co-production

SPHR Knowledge sharing principles

1. Clarify your purpose and knowledge sharing goals

What do you want your findings to do, or to change?

2. Identify knowledge users and stakeholders

Who would be interested in this research, or need to know about it?

3. Design research to use expertise of the knowledge users and stakeholders

How will you design the research to benefit from their expertise and knowledge?

4. Agree expectations

How will you get a shared understanding what is expected of everyone and what can be achieved?

5. Monitor, reflect and be responsive in sharing knowledge

How will you know if your knowledge sharing activities have met your goals?

6. Leave a legacy
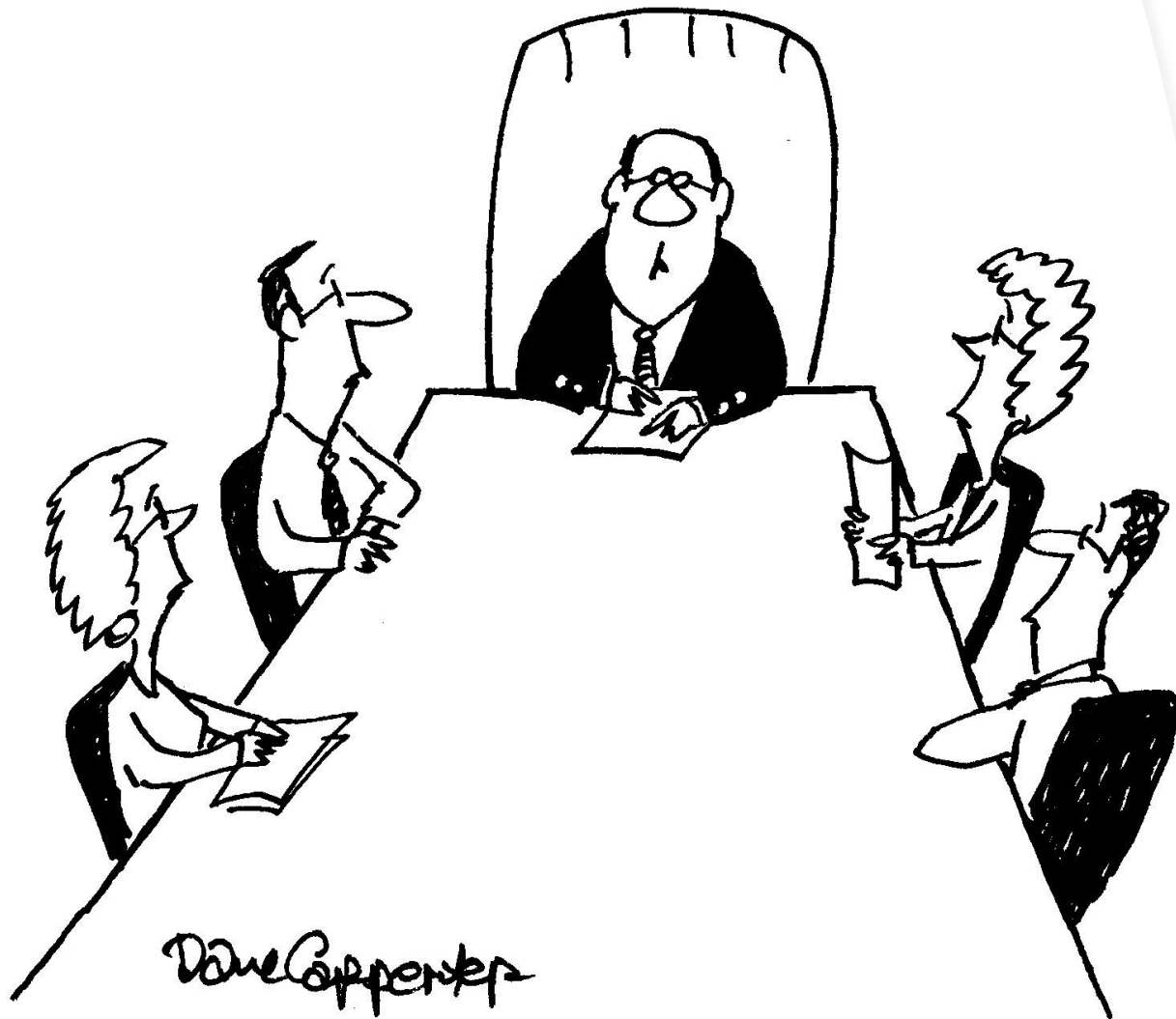
How can you develop, capture and sustain any benefits?

Supporting future collaborations

- Create collective spaces for reflection between local government and partners (universities, third sector, industry)

- Co-produce knowledge in context; develop and evaluate new methods

- Build capacity for sustained evidence use in LG (Knowledge Brokers, Research Fellowships, honorary contracts)

- Develop knowledge mobilisation skills among academics (online courses, embedded research posts)

"My job is to make decisions. Your job is to make them good decisions."

Thank you!

Any questions?

References

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