

From consultation to capability

The “how” of local empowerment:
shaping decisions meaningfully



What we heard last time

Empowerment requires more than being consulted



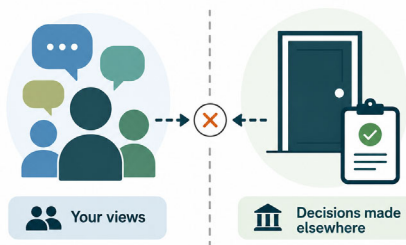
Influence is uneven

It varies by places, resources, organisations and decision processes.



Local actors can help develop solutions

The shift is from siloed input to working through problems and options



Consultation often stops at views

People may be asked for input, while decisions still happen elsewhere.



Responsibility needs support

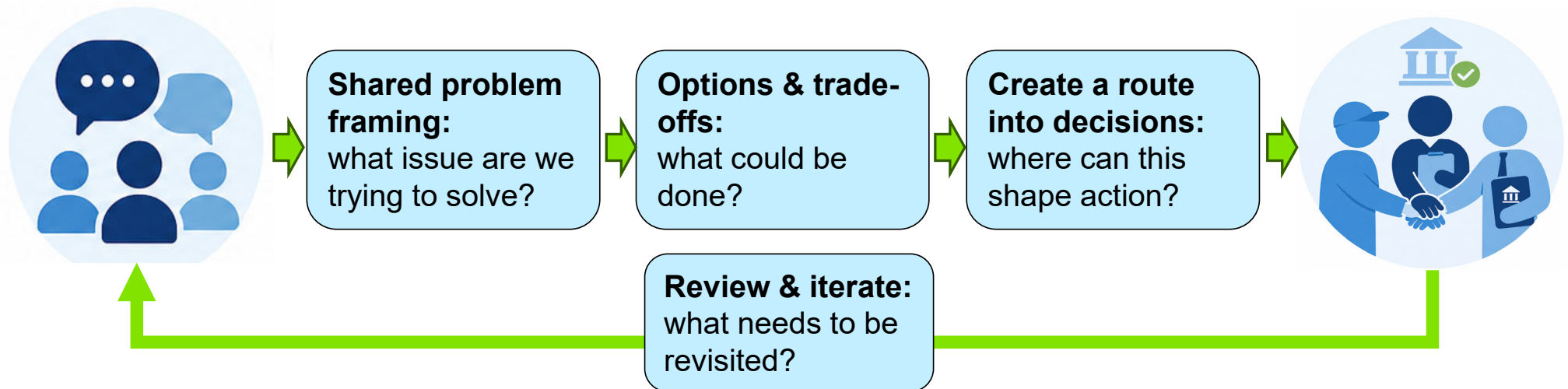
Devolved responsibility needs funding, authority, information and backing

The practical challenge

“How does local input become real influence?”

Participation/Input

Influence/Decisions



➤ The ‘how’ is about creating the pathway between participation and decisions.

From consultation to capability



- what other capabilities?
- what enabling conditions?

SHIFT

From gathering views to being able to shape problems, options and decisions



Capability

Being able to act and influence decisions

? Consultation

Being asked for input

- Who has been heard?
- What input was gathered?
- What concerns were raised

- Can people shape the problem?
- Can they work through options and trade-offs?
- Can local knowledge connect to decisions?
- Can stakeholders work differently?

Capabilities need enabling conditions

