



Independent funders working with the public sector

Photo credit: SELFA



IVAR we listen, and learn together

**What interests you
about collaboration
between independent
funders and the public
sector?**

Why collaborate?

The image features a dark teal background. In the upper-left quadrant, there is a light green rounded rectangle. The text "Why collaborate?" is written in a dark teal font inside this rectangle. A thick cyan line starts from the right edge of the green rectangle, curves downwards and to the left, then curves back to the right and continues horizontally across the bottom of the frame.



Propel

A 10-year funding programme to build long-term collaborations: recognising that the challenges we face are too big for any funder, community or charity to tackle alone.



Improving access to healthcare in rural North Yorkshire



Why collaborate?

- Ways of achieving change
- Responding to the external environment
- Desire to engage with an area, issue or community more meaningfully
- To give more effectively

Key elements of collaborative funding in place

Independent funding as a source of support for developing new ways of working



Listening and responding to communities



'Collaborative champions' or key individuals that can drive the work



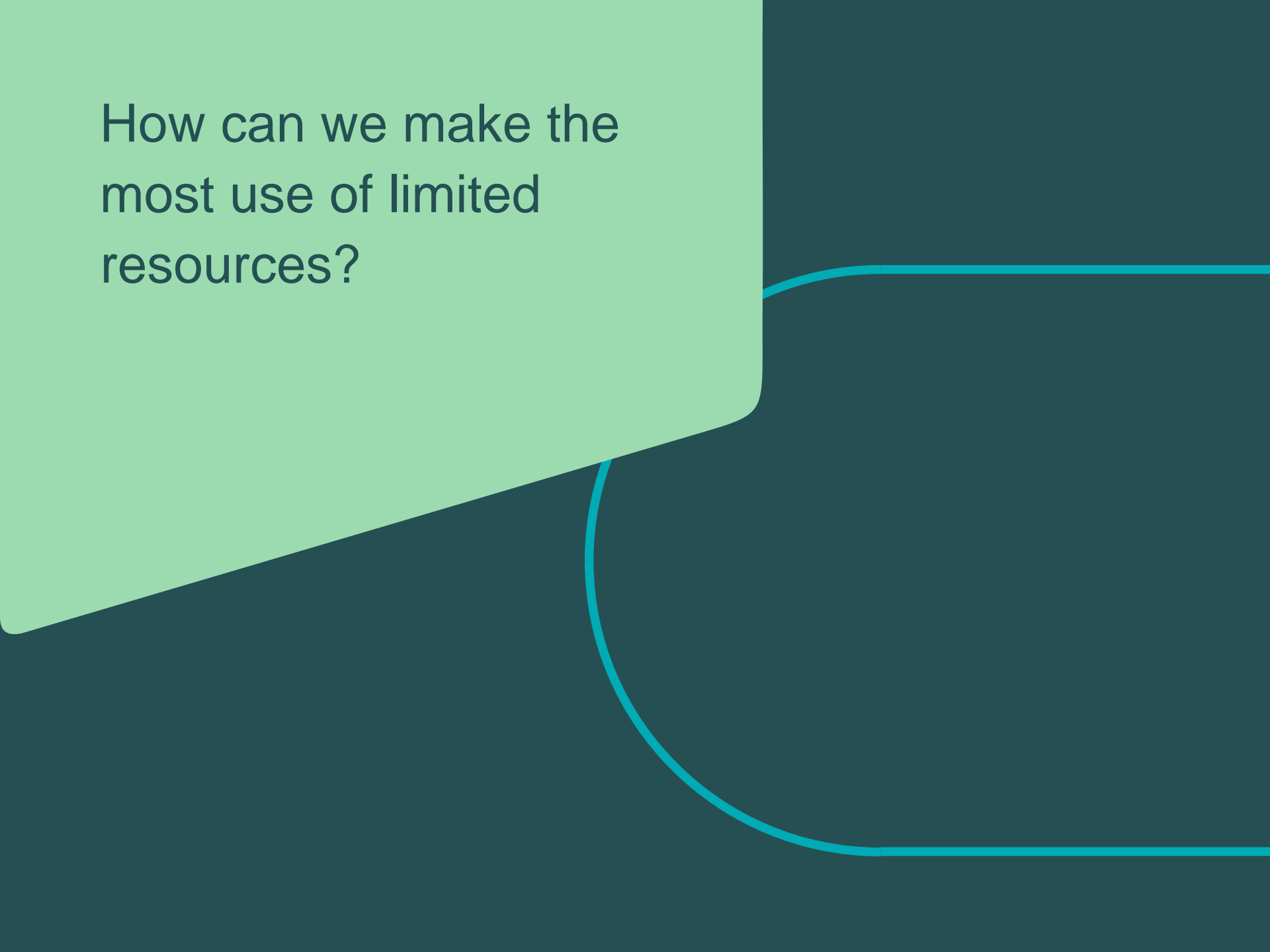
Investment of time and resources in building relationships





There is value for all funders in knowing what their peers are doing and understanding the local ‘funding jigsaw’, even if they decide to go their own way.

How can we make the most use of limited resources?



Open and Trusting Grant-making

Voluntary organisations need flexible funding to deliver better outcomes for residents and communities. So, we make and manage grants in a way that enables them to respond directly to changing needs.

Working in a context of limited resources and increasing demand, we believe that working together towards shared goals, making the most use of precious resources on all sides, will lead to greater impact.

Ultimately, our vision is that:

- Grant processes feel easy, straightforward and trusting
- Voluntary organisations are respected and trusted to know best how to deliver their missions
- We work with communities to design what success looks like, A culture of mutual understanding and respect becomes the norm

How we make grants matters: who we reach, how we judge applications, the kind of funding we give and the relationships we build.

The eight commitments

1. Don't waste time

2. Ask relevant questions

3. Accept risk

4. Act with urgency



5. Be open

6. Enable flexibility

7. Communicate with purpose

8. Be proportionate

The spirit of Open and Trusting



Each funder faces different constraints and different opportunities



There is no single way to be open and trusting



There are multiple entry points



Everyone can go further

Key messages from local authorities

1. Share examples and build the evidence base
2. Local authorities are seen as a 'closed system'
3. Challenges around being 'proportionate'
4. Go beyond grant-making
5. Balance tradition with change

Where to start?



Where to start?

1

Be clear
about your
purpose

2

Start
somewhere

3

Think about
who is in the
'room'

4

Test and
learn

5

A dual focus
on action
and
relationships

6

Identify
collaborative
champions

Discussion

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So...

1. How does this land with you?

What interested or intrigued you? Did anything surprise you? How does your experience relate to the insights shared today?

2. What contribution are you seeking to make? Can you identify others in the room with shared goals/objectives?

3. What is your role? What assets do you bring?

Roles a funder can play include:

Advocate; Brokering or providing information; Catalyst; Convener; Infrastructure support / building capacity; Independent voice