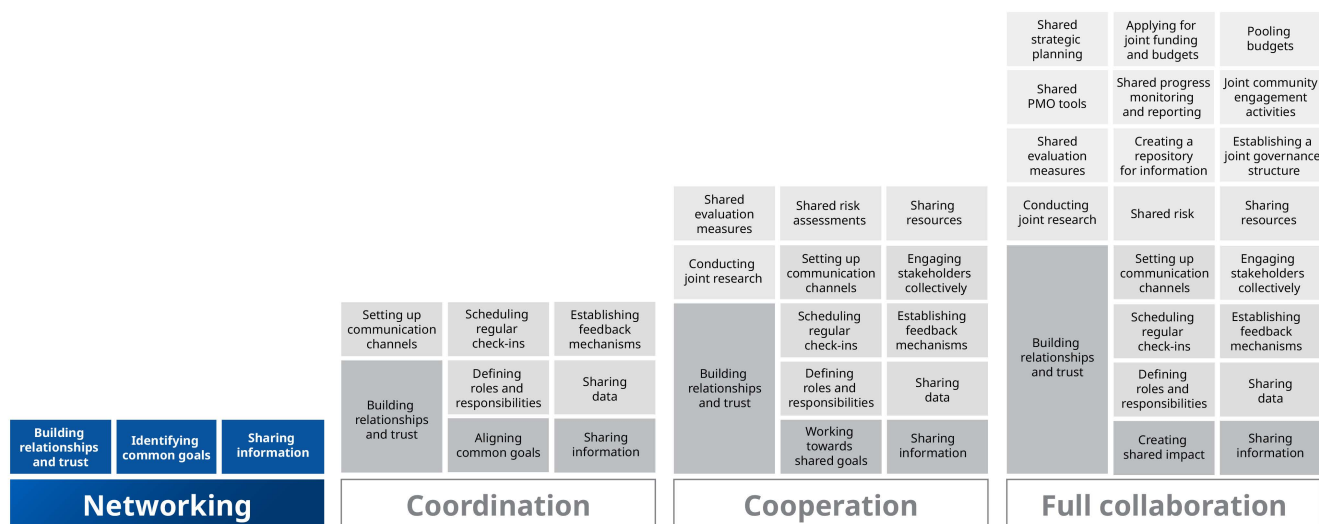




## Exchanging ideas and information



Networking is the most informal level of collaboration. It focuses on sharing information, building relationships and staying informed about work happening across other agencies.

It's a useful way to connect with others early in a project and lay the groundwork for deeper collaboration down the track.

Being intentional about how you approach networking can lead to stronger relationships and greater visibility of your work across the sector.

[Explore tools and resources](#) for networking.

- You have clear goals but need more information
- You're still defining the project scope or exploring a topic, issue or opportunity
- You're looking to build relationships or stay connected with others.

1. Identify others working on similar challenges
2. [Join a cross-agency group](#), event or forum
3. Share updates or examples of your work
4. Support your team to connect with others across the sector

## Reflection activity

Use these reflective questions to consider how you're using networking in your project or role:

### Are we building relationships that could lead to future partnerships?

Invite someone from another team to share input or talk about their work. This can open doors for future collaboration.

### Are we duplicating work that's been done elsewhere?

Use the networks you are building to ask if others are doing similar work. This can save time and effort.

### Who should know about this work?

Make a simple contact list and share regular updates. Even informal check-ins help build trust and support for future collaboration.

### Are we learning from others doing similar work?

Use networking as a chance to share lessons and hear what's worked (or hasn't) from others. This helps improve your approach through social learning.

## Build the skills

Networking is more valuable when supported by the right skills. These help you build trust, connect meaningfully across teams and create the foundations for future collaboration.

### Key skills include:

- Strong relationship building skills
- Listening to understand different perspectives
- Communicating clearly and helping others find common ground
- Being open to different ways of working
- Understanding how teams, policies and systems connect.

Networking skills can be applied across roles, from frontline to leadership.

[Learn more about the skills you need for networking.](#)

Assessment questions and responses
Q1) Which of these options best describes the challenge you are working on?
Q2) Which of these options best describes your main reason for collaborating?
Q3) Which of these options best describes the people involved and their required level of involvement?
Q4) For the collaboration to achieve its goals, how dependant are you on other people involved?
Q5) Which of these options best describes the type of contributions that collaborators will need to make to support success?
Q6) Which of the following best describes how you need to approach your challenge?
Q7) Which option best describes the governance and processes needed to achieve your shared goals?

## How to use these results

These results give you a starting point for thinking about the primary level of collaboration needed for your work. Use them to guide conversations with your team, identify practical next steps and find the right tools and resources to help you along the way.

**Collaboration needs can shift over time.** Different parts of the work might need different levels of collaboration. As your project moves forward or the scope changes, you can come back to this tool to reassess your approach with your team.

## For more information

If you have questions, need support, or want to provide feedback contact [engage@psc.qld.gov.au](mailto:engage@psc.qld.gov.au) or [complete the feedback survey](#).

This tool was developed by the [Public Sector Commission](#) (2025).