



# Recommendations for practitioners and organisations

Co-production doesn't require large budgets or complex systems. It requires intentional practice.

## 1. Start with relationships

Trust is essential, especially where trauma is present:

- ▶ Use consistent facilitators where possible
- ▶ Allow time for trust to develop
- ▶ Do not rush participation to meet deadlines – safety and predictability matter.

## 2. Be clear and honest about purpose and influence

One of the biggest mistakes with co-production is over-promising the decision-making power that women will have, when certain courses of action have already been ruled out. Women should understand from the start:

- ▶ What the work is about
- ▶ What decisions are open to change as well as those that are not
- ▶ How their input will shape outcomes – transparency prevents frustration and builds trust.

## 3. Provide practical support to participate

Consider that removing barriers is part of sharing power. This includes:

- ▶ Accessible materials
- ▶ Easy-read summaries
- ▶ Travel reimbursement
- ▶ Flexible meeting formats
- ▶ Additional preparation time
- ▶ Advocacy support if requested.



## 4. Adapt communication

- ▶ Use clear, respectful language
- ▶ Avoid jargon and acronyms
- ▶ Check understanding without being patronising
- ▶ Don't dilute complex information, break it down and explain it accessibly.
- ▶ Make sure that the meaning of an easy read document is the same as the original document. Don't let things get lost in translation.

## 5. Share power intentionally

Professional roles carry real and perceived power. Co-production requires you to actively balance this by:

- ▶ Inviting women to co-chair discussions
- ▶ Sharing draft materials early
- ▶ Documenting how decisions were reached
- ▶ Showing clearly what changed because of lived experience input.

## 6. Close the loop

After engagement:

- ▶ Share what was agreed
- ▶ Explain what could not change and why
- ▶ Show how people's input influenced final outcomes.