

# Transparency in your Municipality

What it is  
Why it matters  
How to uphold it

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February 17, 2023  
Sofia, Bulgaria

# What is **Effective** Transparency



# Principles and Norms



"Transparency is all about knowing who, why, what, how and how much. It means shedding light on formal and informal rules, plans, processes and actions. Transparency helps us, the public, hold all power to account for the common good."

## ACCESS INFO EUROPE

### Open Government Standards

1. Right to know
2. All information, all public bodies
3. Access is the rule, secrecy is the exception
4. Proactive Publication
5. Free of charge and free for reuse
6. Open formats
7. Compilation of information
8. Independent review mechanism

# Legal Requirements

- Article 41 of the Bulgarian Constitution of 1991
- Access to Public Information Act 2000/2008/2015
- Public Procurement Act 2016
- Anti-corruption and Forfeiture of Assets Act 2018
- ...

## VCA findings

- *Municipalities commit to transparency and comply with national law*
- *Publication without accessibility (for example, budgets)*
- *Communication for public relations*
- *Transparency in procurement, but not in implementation*
- *Websites can be incomplete, outdated, or hard to navigate*
- *Limited capacity of public officials to strengthen transparency*

# What should reasonable citizens expect?

*Regulations and directives*

*Policy-making process*

*Budget allocations*

*Calls and adjudication of contracts, grants, jobs*

*Public events and forums*

*Complaints and responses*

*Public officials' roles and salaries*

*Politicians' asset declarations?*

*Public officials' performance?*

*Meetings with lobbyists?*

...

# Why Transparency Matters



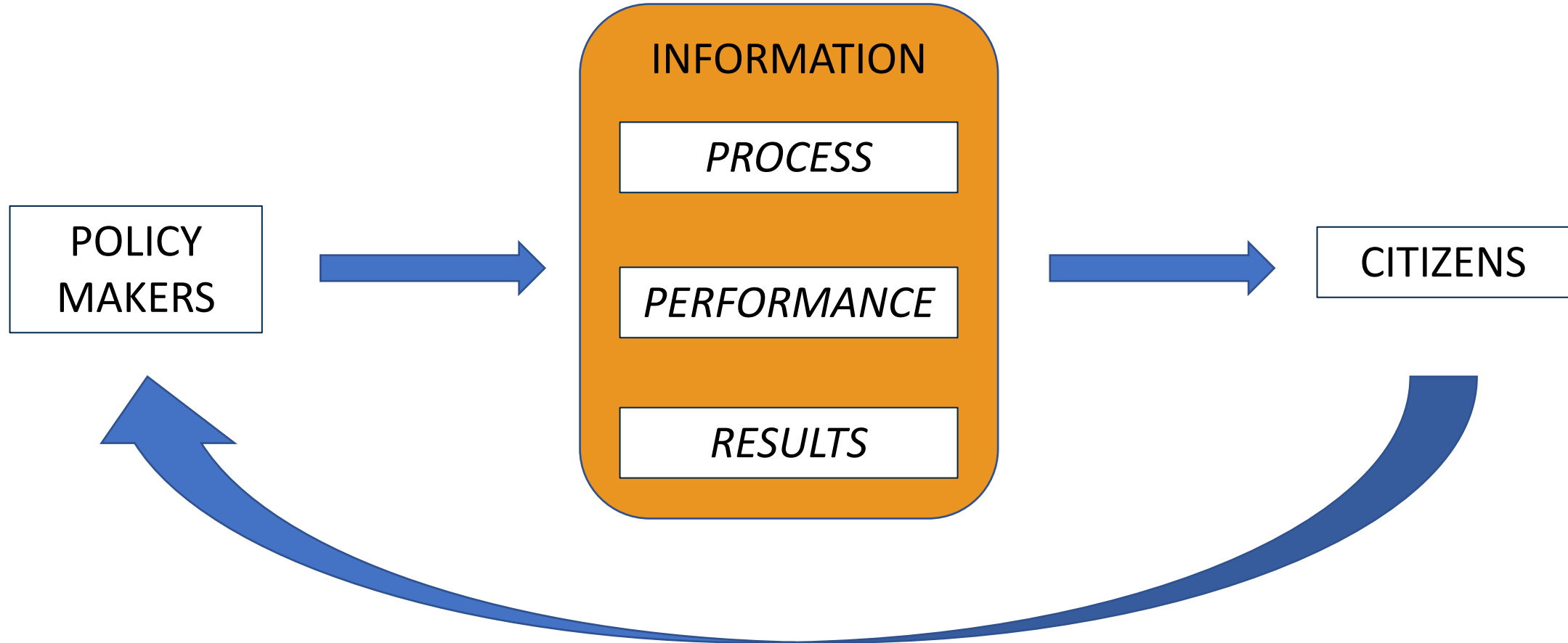
## QUESTION

*Can we fight corruption without transparency?*

*Можем ли да се борим с корупцията без  
прозрачност?*



# Enabling Accountability



# Deterring Corruption

Incentives: Risk of **punishment** outweighs potential gain.

Norms: **Shame**/social sanction outweighs justification.

Habit: Corruption becomes **unthinkable**.

# Stimulating a Culture of Openness

FROM...	TO...
<i>Reactive</i>	<i>Proactive</i>
<i>Letter of the law</i>	<i>Spirit of the law</i>
<i>Citizen as intruder</i>	<i>Citizen as owner</i>
<i>Control</i>	<i>Sharing</i>
<i>Fear</i>	<i>Pride</i>
<i>My office</i>	<i>Your service</i>

**Culture change is HARD + Bureaucracies are not set up to be comprehensible**

# What is the Role of CSOs in Ensuring Transparency



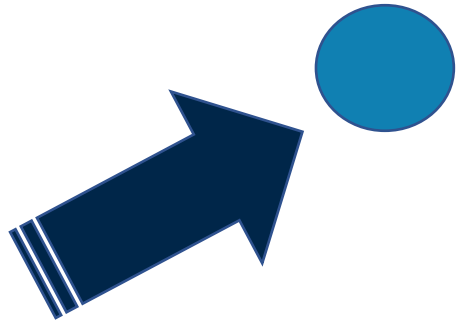
## QUESTION

*Can CSOs advocate without access to public information and data?*

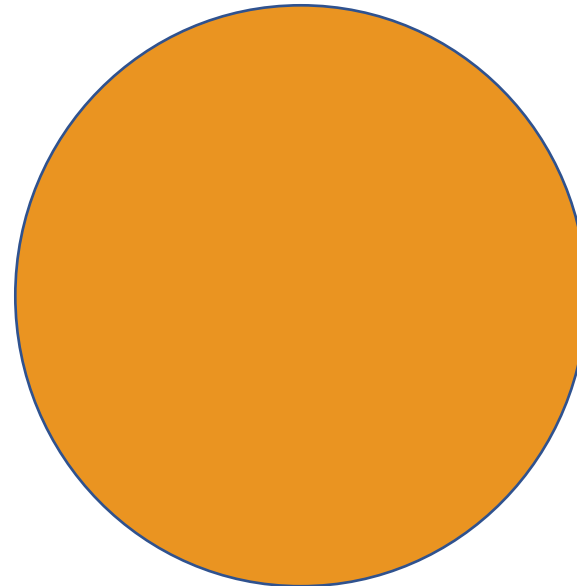
*Могат ли организациите на гражданското общество да извършват застъпническа дейност без достъп до публична информация или данни?*

# Working with Existing Transparency

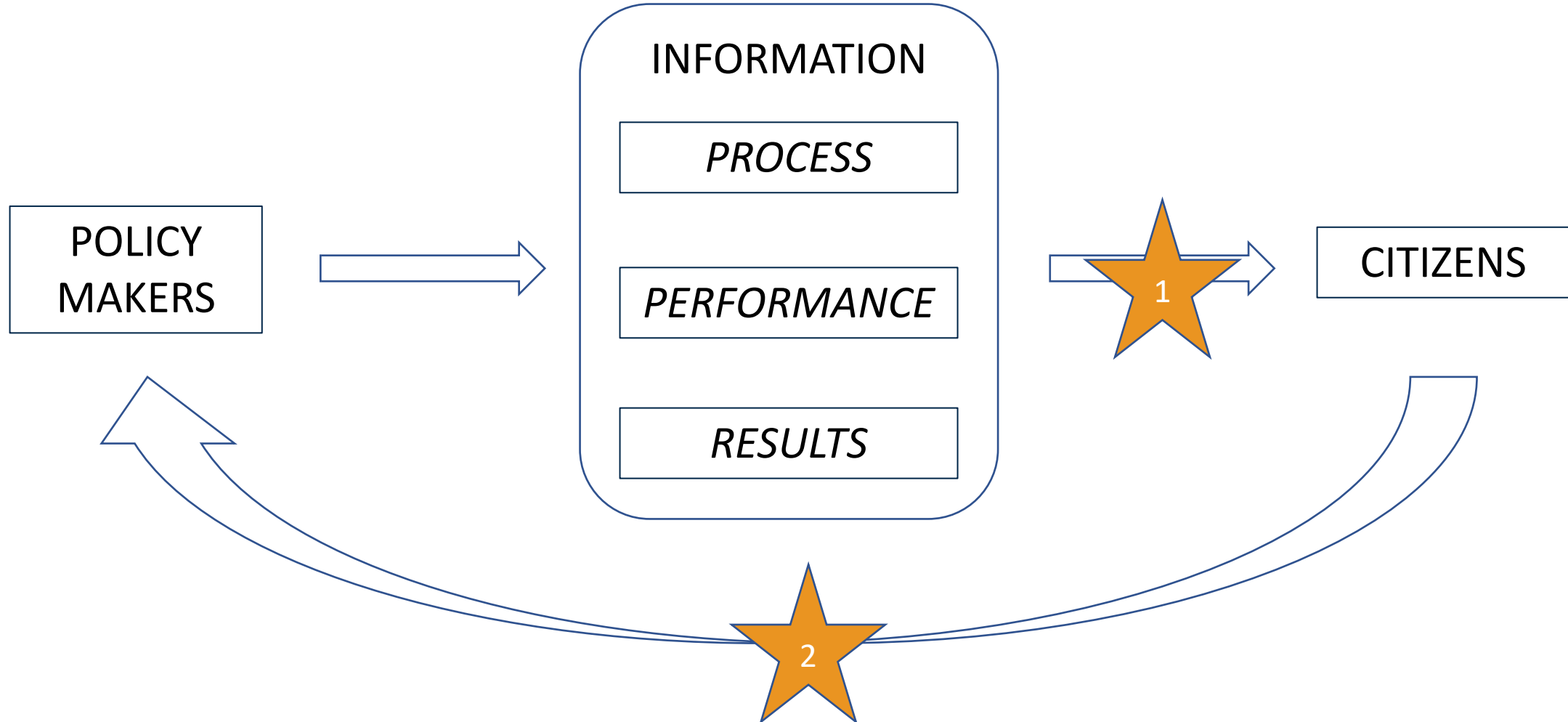
WHAT WE KNOW



WHAT WE DON'T KNOW



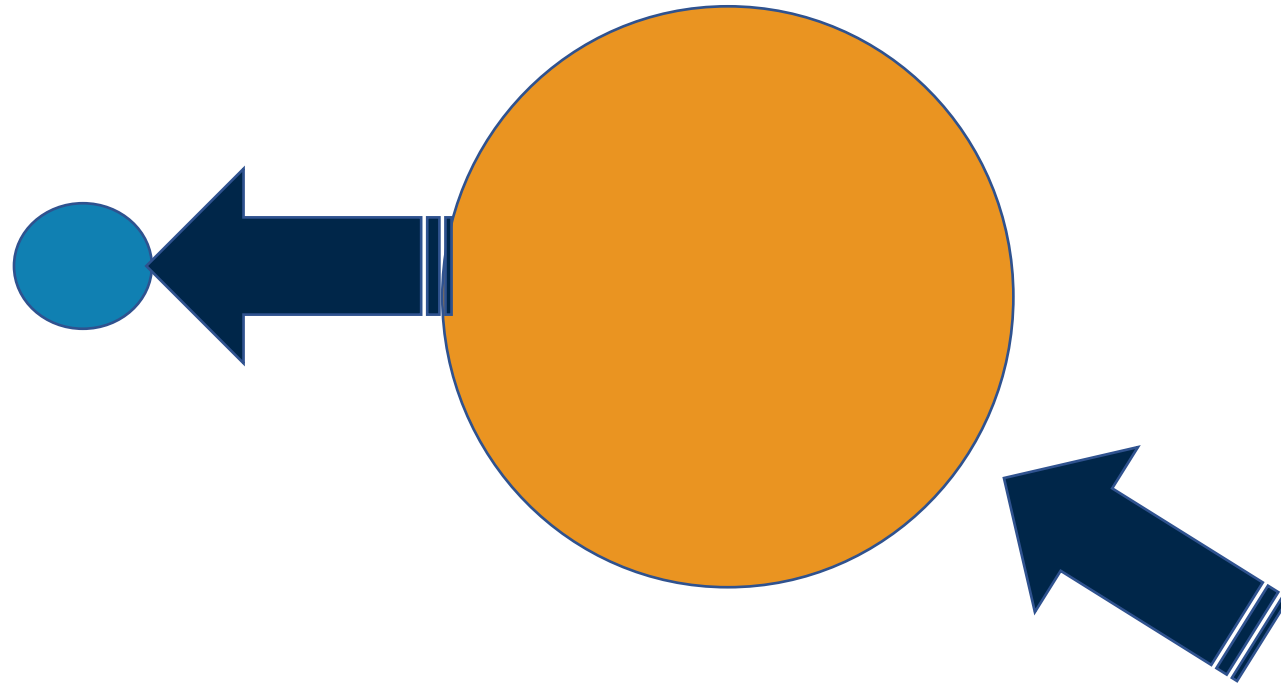
# Working with Existing Transparency



# Working to Advance Transparency

WHAT WE KNOW

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW

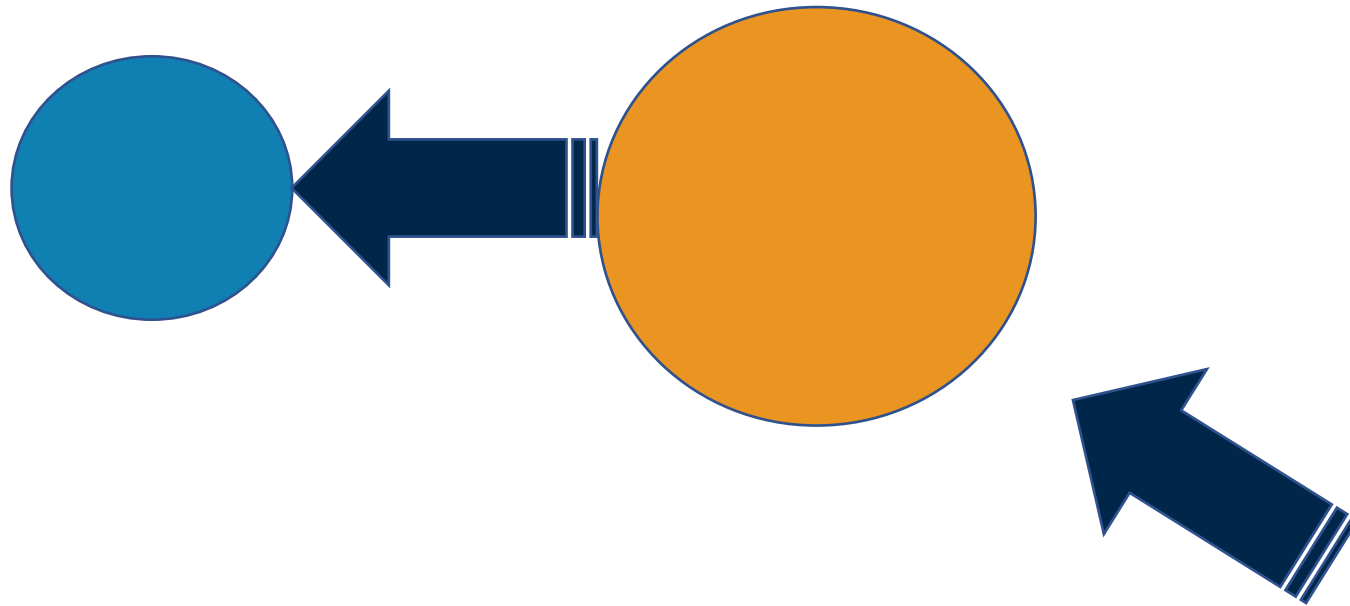




# Working to Advance Transparency

WHAT WE KNOW

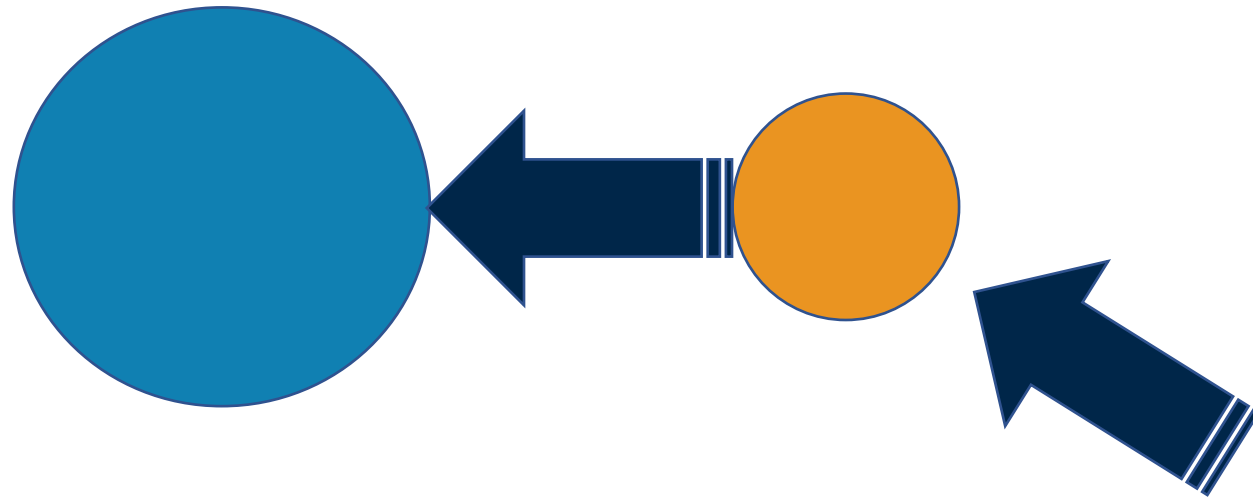
WHAT WE DON'T KNOW



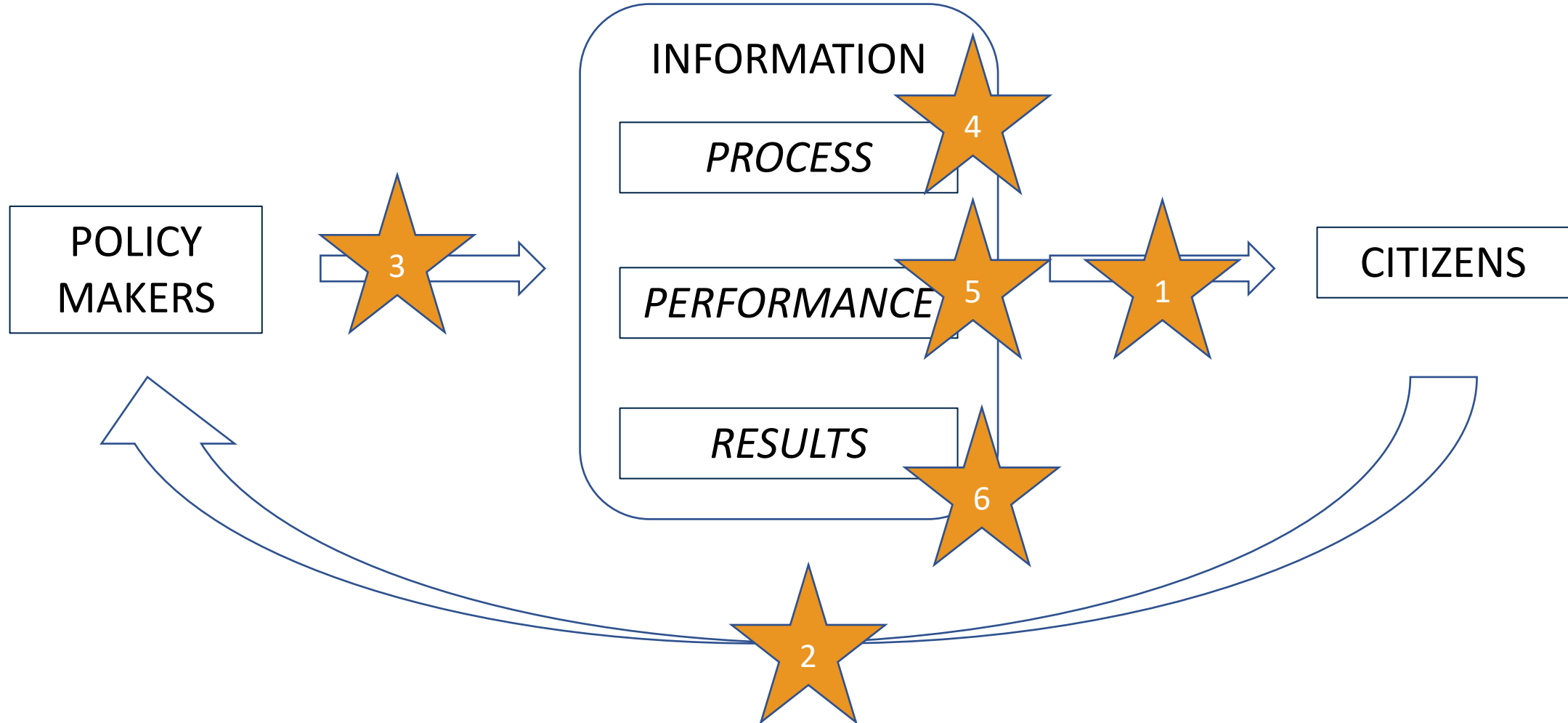
# Working to Advance Transparency

WHAT WE KNOW

WHAT WE DON'T KNOW



# Working to Advance Transparency



# What are some **Effective Mechanisms** at the Local Level



# Open Data Portals

Portal de datos abiertos del Ayuntamiento de Madrid

MADRID

datos abiertos ¿Qué estás buscando?

## Tu ciudad más cerca

Gracias a nuestra plataforma de datos abiertos podrás encontrar todos los datos de Madrid que necesitas para tu proyecto

En portada | Acerca de Datos Abiertos | Catálogo de datos | Colabora | Visualizaciones | Solicitud de reutilización

Lo más visto ⓘ  
Deportes. Competiciones deportiva... / Zonas del Servicio de Estacionami... / Zona de Bajas Emisiones de Especi...

En portada

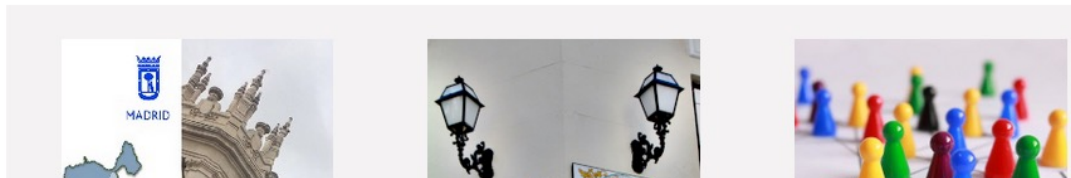


## Destacados

¿Qué contiene el portal?

Datos de uso del portal

Novedades en el portal



# Open Government Partnership - Local

From ensuring safe water to supporting schools, local governments provide the key services impacting people's daily lives. Through the OGP Local initiative, participants can learn how to use open government values such as transparency, accountability, responsiveness, and inclusion to better meet the needs of the citizens they serve.



## Local Members

Filter by **Europe** ▼ **All Statuses** ▼

### A

Aragón, Spain  
Asturias, Spain

### B

Banská Bystrica, Slovak Republic  
Basque Country, Spain

### C

Catalonia, Spain

### D

Detmold, Germany

### E

Elbasan, Albania

### G

Glasgow, United Kingdom

### H

Hamburg, Germany

### I

Iași, Romania

### K

Khmelnyskyi, Ukraine  
Kildare, Ireland

### M

Madrid, Spain

### N

Northern Ireland, United Kingdom  
Novi Pazar, Serbia

### P

Palermo, Italy  
Paris, France

### S

Scotland, United Kingdom  
Sveti Nikole, North Macedonia

### T

Ternopil, Ukraine  
Timișoara, Romania  
Tirana, Albania

### V

Valencian Community, Spain  
Vinnytsia, Ukraine

### Ž

Žilina (Region), Slovak Republic

# Posting and Tracking Signals

## Manchester City Council

### New for council staff

Don't miss our stats dashboard, only available to council staff. Access detailed reports and statistics – for free. [Log in here.](#)

Show  reports about

Sort by

1 to 100 of 4509

[Next](#)

### House goods

**Fixed** 15:24, 9 Jan 2023, last updated 15:38 today



### In alleyway

**Fixed** 09:47, 9 Jan 2023, last updated 15:09 today

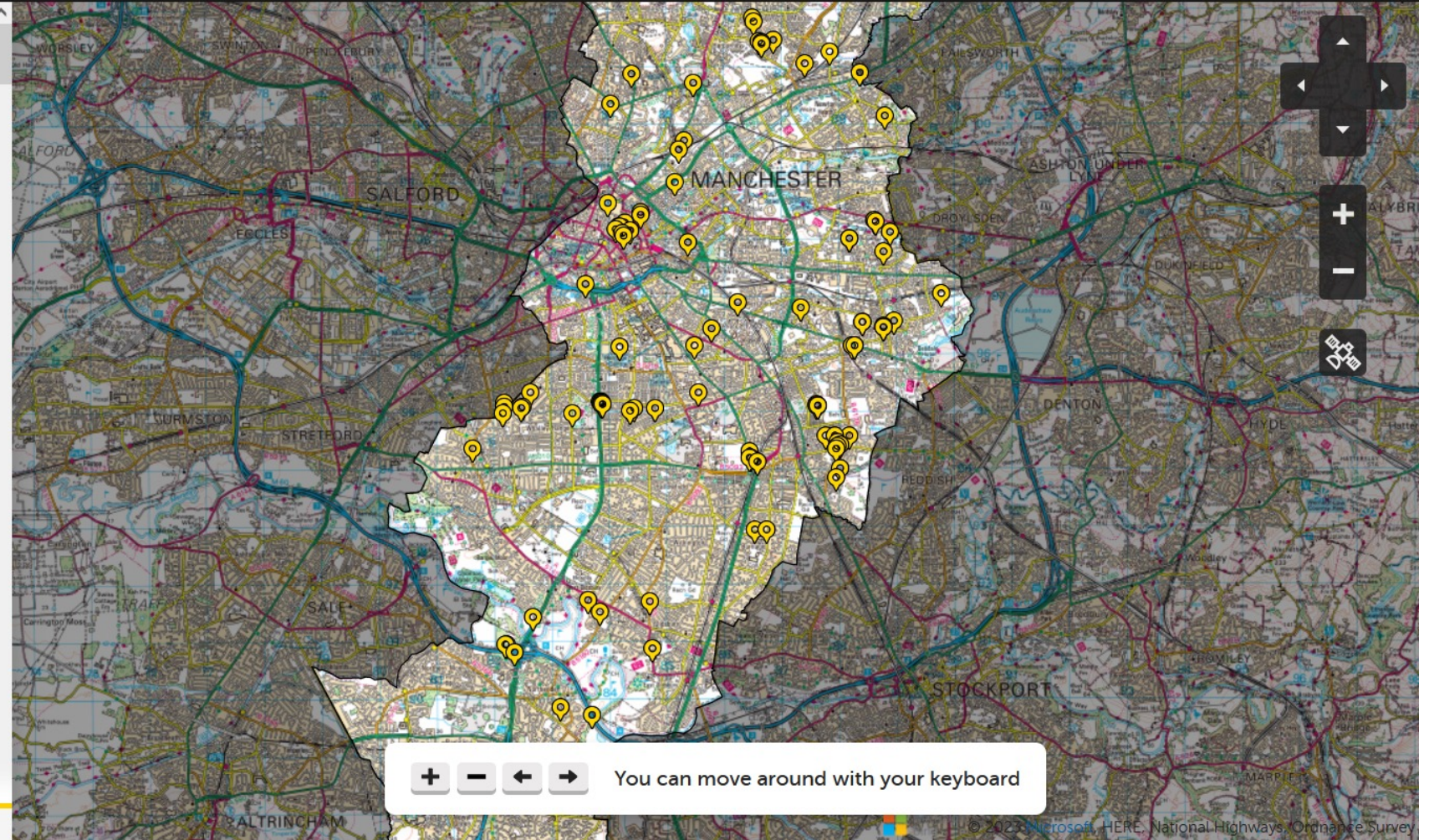


### Rubbish dumped

**Fixed** 14:59, 4 Jan 2023, last updated 21:17, 4 Feb 2023

### Flytipped rubbish in alley off Manchester Rd

Chorlton



You can move around with your keyboard

# THANK YOU!



[IRI.org](https://iri.org)



[@IRIGlobal](https://twitter.com/IRIGlobal)



[pyanguas@iri.org](mailto:pyanguas@iri.org)