



Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

SCIPS Company News

SCIPS Extraordinary General Meeting

We held an EGM on the 15th June 2021 in order to amend the memorandum and Articles of Association in order to enable the company to hold virtual meetings and use postal voting in the future.

The vote was carried in favour of the changes. This will allow the Board of Directors to use a variety of methods to make sure that the membership have every opportunity to have their say and influence the business of SCIPS.

The Board would like to thank the attendees for taking the time to come along to the virtual meeting and supporting the company.

Rest assured that this does not mean that we will not meet in our more traditional way once restrictions allow for face to face gatherings of sufficient numbers.

SCIPS Annual General meeting 2021

Following the EGM it is now time for the Board to look at setting a date in late summertime for our Annual General Meeting .

We will continue to monitor the Government guidelines and will hold a physical meeting if restrictions are either lifted or allow a meeting of sufficient numbers

So watch this space it will be lovely to meet with our membership after such a long time.

Remember that your support is very important to SCIPS and we welcome any suggestions as to how we can help support the tenants and residents of Sandwell.

AGM

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AGM

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Our Number
0121 544 1230

New Contract with Hateley Cross Big Local

SCIPS have successfully completed their contract with HCBL finishing on the 30th June 2021.

We are delighted to announce that HCBL partnership have asked SCIPS to carry on providing support for the next two years with a view to extending that for a further 2.5 years .

The final plan covering the next 4.5 years has been sent to Big Lottery for sign off by the end of June 2021.

There are lots of exciting plans around green spaces, small grant, increased involvement and fun activities for the communities of Hateley Heath/Stone Cross which make up the HCBL area.



Pictured here are the Hateley Cross partnership attending a covid compliant socially distanced meeting to sign off their new plan for submission to Big Local to gain plan approval.

The plan covers a number of themes including Community Pride, Community Aspirations and Community Spirit and Involvement

Consultation around Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans



Home Office



It has been four years since the Grenfell tragedy, which had a grave impact upon lives, and the community of Grenfell. In the wake of the tragedy there has been a public inquiry. Phase one of the inquiry has made several recommendations and is having a significant impact to social housing legislation.

One of the recommendations from the inquiry so far, has been Personal Emergency Evacuation Plans (PEEPs), for residents living in high rise residential buildings. PEEP's are evacuation plans prepared in advance of an emergency, for people who may require assistance to leave a building in the event of a fire. This could be someone who is elderly, frail, a person with a disability or someone who has a temporary injury such as a broken limb, which impacts on their ability to leave a building safely in the event of a fire emergency.

The publication of Phase 1 of the Grenfell enquiry has made a recommendation 'that the owner and manager of every high-rise residential building be required by law to prepare personal emergency evacuation plans (PEEPs) for all residents whose ability to self-evacuate may be compromised (such as persons with reduced mobility or



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cognition)'. As a direct result of the recommendation, proposals are now being considered as to how PEEPs may be utilised for tenants and residents living within high rise accommodation.

On the 8th June 2021 the government published a consultation paper about PEEPs, the consultation closes on the 19th July. The general public are being invited to provide comment on four proposals within the consultation document. The outcome of the feedback given, is to devise legislation to extend PEEPs to high rise accommodation by the autumn of 2021. Responses to the consultation are being sort out from anyone who has an interest. Including tenants, residents, groups or other interested parties such as key stakeholders. The consultation focuses on the following proposals:-

Proposal 1: We propose to require the Responsible Person to prepare a PEEP for every resident in a high-rise residential building who self-identifies to them as unable to self-evacuate and to do so in consultation with them. Key to this proposal is the proactive role the Responsible Person would need to take to actively share fire safety information with residents. .

Proposal 2: We propose to provide a PEEP template to assist the Responsible Person and the residents in completing the PEEP, and to support consistency at a national level.

Proposal 3: We propose to require the Responsible Person to complete and keep up to date information about residents in their building who would have difficulty self-evacuating in the event of a fire (and who have voluntarily self-identified as 26 such), and to place it in an information box on the premises to assist effective evacuation during a rescue by the Fire and Rescue Service.

Proposal 4: We propose, in order to assist the Responsible Person and support consistency at a national level, to provide a template to capture the key information to be provided in the information box.

As a member of SCIPS you may have an interest in responding to this consultation, either as a resident of a high-rise block, a TRA whose members live high-rise accommodation or you may have family or friends or know someone who might want to contribute. There are two ways which you can respond to the consultation. For anyone who is confident with their digital skills, information about the consultation can be found here

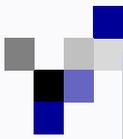
<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/personal-emergency-evacuation-plans>.

For anyone else who would like to respond to the consultation but would prefer to use a paper document, you can contact SCIPS directly and we can provide further support and assistance to you.

Please note that responses should be sent directly to the Home Office via the consultation document NOT sent to SCIPS

The Government is determined to continue to learn lessons from the Grenfell Tower fire to ensure such a tragedy can never happen again.

If you need any assistance filling in this consultation document please contact SCIPS on 0121 544 1230

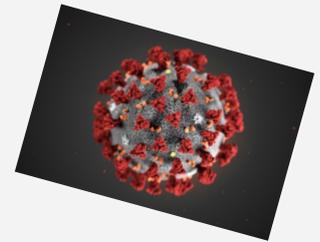


England Remains in Step 3



Restrictions remain in place across the country including for people who have been vaccinated.

- ◆ You can meet indoors in a group of up to 6 people or a group of any size from 2 households
- ◆ You can meet outside in a group of up to 30 people
- ◆ Work from home if you can and travel safely
- ◆ If you have symptoms get a test and stay at home
- ◆ Continue to wear face coverings
- ◆ Continue to be 2 meters away from anyone you do not live with



Expect to move to Step 4 on **Monday 19th July 2021**

Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service Ltd



NMC Venue
 47 Birmingham Road
 West Bromwich
 West Midlands
 B70 6PY
 0121 544 1230
 Fb: @sandwellcips



SCIPS is a registered charity no 1097702. If you would like to find out more about us and the work we are involved in, please visit our website at www.scips.org.uk

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