


SCIPS

Sandwell Community

Information &

Participation Service

SCIPS General Meeting

19th July, 10:30—12:30

Date for you diaries!

Our upcoming general meeting will be at our offices the National Metalforming Centre on the 19th of July between 10:30 and 12:30.

Our speaker will be an Officer from SMBC Community Partnership Team to speak about the new approach to supporting communities

These meetings are a great chance for you, as members of SCIPS, to voice any opinions and suggestions you may have.

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New staff member

Meet Ellie, our new member of staff. Ellie studied History and graduated from the University of Birmingham and will be working with us at SCIPS for a temporary period until September



Our Annual General Meeting is being held at our offices on the 17th of September. Please look out for your AGM mailings.

The timeline of our mailings and further information is on the next page

AGM
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Hateley Cross Big Local

Application re—launch for our HCBL Community Small grants programme

Hateley Cross Big Local re – launched their applications on the 23rd of June for the Hateley Cross Big Local Community Small Grants Programme. These grants are between £250 and £2500 and if received will be for projects that benefit residents of Hateley Heath and Stone Cross. These projects must meet the Hateley Cross Big Local Priorities:



Community Pride – Be cleaner and greener. Green spaces and enhanced environment .

Community Aspiration – Improve well being, education, training and work

Community Spirit and Inclusion – Increased neighbourliness, bringing people together through events and activities

Are you in the Hateley Cross area and have an idea for a project that will benefit the community? If so. Get in touch!!

To find out more about HCBL, visit the website www.hateleycross.org.uk or to request an application form please contact us at hateleycross@gmail.com or call us on 07873614730 or 01215441230.

Or check out our new Instagram : @hateleycross

Shine a Light Festival

Shining a light' on the rich and diverse culture of Sandwell

Over the past few months the 'Shine a Light' Festival has been making it's way around the 6 towns of Sandwell. The goal of the festival is to 'Shine a Light' on the culture of Sandwell and provide creative and enjoyable activities or events for members of our community to get involved in. It's final stop is in Tipton Town Centre on the 16th and 17th of July.

To end the festivities, there will be a 2 week programme of events from the 25th of July to the 8th August , all with the goal of engaging and bringing the community of Sandwell, together.

Haven't had a chance to get involved? This is your chance!

Visit www.shinealightfestival.co.uk for more information



Annual Report

The Annual Report of 2021—22 for Tenants in Sandwell

An Annual Report is a regulatory requirement under the Tenant Involvement and Empowerment Standard so all boards / Councils should be signing off to the HCA that they have done one.

The annual report was introduced to allow tenants to hold landlords to account for their performance and the information provided should equip tenants to challenge as well as being a useful document to share information and celebrate success.

HCA standard

Registered providers shall support their tenants to develop and implement opportunities for involvement and empowerment, including by:

- (a) supporting their tenants to exercise their Right to Manage or otherwise exercise housing management functions, where appropriate
- (b) supporting the formation and activities of tenant panels or equivalent groups and responding in a constructive and timely manner to them
- (c) the provision of timely and relevant performance information to support effective scrutiny by tenants of their landlord's performance in a form which registered providers seek to agree with their tenants. Such provision must include the publication of an annual report which should include information on repair and maintenance budgets.



AGM



Further information on our 2022 AGM



Digi—Comm

Update on our Digi—Comm project

SCIPS Digi-Comm project has gone from strength to strength.

In January we secured additional funding from SMBC to support community centres develop their digital offer. We provide training for staff and volunteers and support them to deliver a Click and Chat course. With the additional funding from SMBC we can work with individual centres to improve their connectivity ensuring they have a strong reliable broadband connection. We have recently completed this work with 2 centres, Jubilee in Tipton, and at Wednesbury 2000, and have a programme to roll this out to a limited number of centres throughout the year. This is currently a pilot and if successful we will look to push it out in future years.

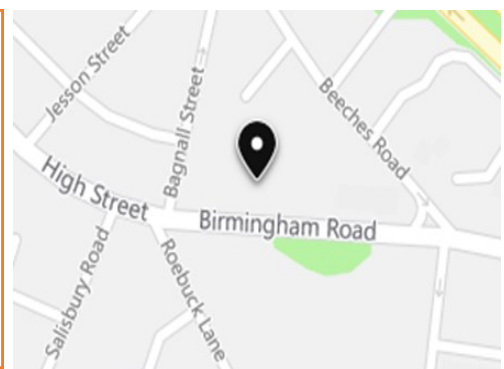
The current funding from Big Lottery finishes in May 2023. Both SCIPS and our partners St Albans Community Association are committed to continue to develop and deliver digital support to our communities beyond the current funding commitment. We have already held a planning day to explore how the project could develop and will be applying for bids to enable us to continue this valuable work.



Sandwell Communication & Information Participation Service



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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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