

Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service



HAPPY

NEW YEAR

General Meeting 28th January 2025

SCIPS would like to invite you to our January General Meeting



We will be joined by Sarah Ager, Assistant Director for Asset Management and Improvement (SMBC), who will be presenting on the Council's recent C3 judgment and improvement plan. Tom Hogan, Head of Customer Experience - Housing (SMBC) will also be presenting on the latest Tenant Satisfaction Measures (TSM) Perception Scores for 2024 / 2025.

In addition you will have the opportunity to meet Hana and Seunghwan - two international students from the University of Birmingham who are on placement with SCIPS - and hear about their work whilst with us.

As always, SCIPS doors will open at 10am for a **10.30am** prompt start. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

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Cost of Living Pilot Project

From our work across Sandwell we know that the cost of living is continuing to have a huge impact on our communities.

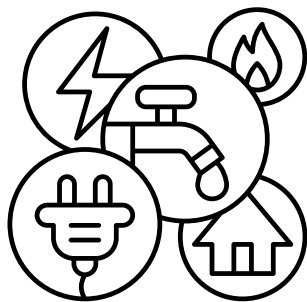
In recognition of this SCIPS and St Albans are working jointly to explore if we can provide support and guidance to individuals that could save them money in terms of their everyday expenditure.



Building on our well-established Digi Comm model, we are currently developing a 6 week pilot course - highlighting a range of digital resources and showcasing some of the measures that people can take to save money - across a range of topics including food, non-grocery purchases, utilities, broadband and mobile and energy saving as well as highlighting additional sources of support. We have initially called this pilot Digi Saver.



We are looking to develop content, deliver the pilot, and evaluate its success in the next 4-5 months. We will then take a view as to if / how this could be rolled out as part of a wider programme. Hana and Seunghwan will be undertaking much of the work on this pilot, under the careful guidance of SCIPS and St Albans.



We look forward to reporting back on this over the coming months. Watch this space!



Digi Comm

We are now in the second year (of our three year funded programme) and we are on track - and in some cases have already exceeded - delivery targets across the Digi Comm Partnership of SCIPS and St Albans.

SCIPS have already delivered a full course at Yew Tree Community Centre, we are currently part way through delivery at Lion Farm Action Centre, and we also have plans to deliver at Hurst Road Community Centre in 2025.

We are also due to begin two additional mini-courses this month as follows...



When

13th, 20th and 27th January
12 noon - 2pm

What

Setting up MySandwell,
Reporting Repairs,
Reporting ASB.

Where

Jubilee Park Centre, DY4 0RJ

To find out more or book a place on either of these courses please call Sarah on 0121 544 1230 or email sarah@scips.org.uk



When

16th, 23rd and 30th January
6th and 13th February
10am - 12 noon

What

Setting up MySandwell,
Reporting Repairs,
Reporting ASB,
Online shopping,
NHS app.

Where

Dorothy Parkes Centre, B67 6EH

JOIN US

TRA Networking Event

We are currently making plans to host our next Tenants and Residents Association (TRA) Networking Event in February 2025.

Every registered TRA should have received an invitation to this event (check with your TRA secretary if you are unsure). If you are a member of a TRA, please let us know whether you intend to attend this event, along with any dietary requirements, by calling Dean or Sarah on 0121 544 1230 or by sending an email to enquiries@scips.org.uk.

We will report back on what we are sure will be another successful event in a future newsletter.

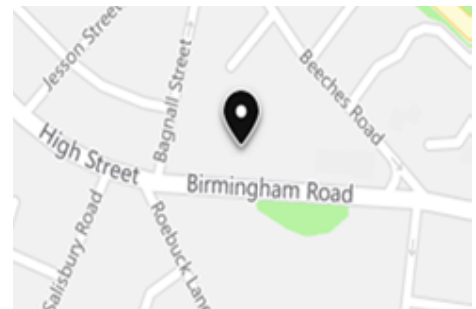


Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service



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SCIPS is a registered charity no 1097702.

If you would like to find out more about us visit our website
www.scips.org.uk

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Sandwell Council