



Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

TRA NETWORKING SESSION

On Saturday 14th June 2025, we will be holding the second session of the year.

The session will give all of our Tenant and Residents Associations [TRA] the opportunity to network, as well as receive information and presentations on issues that are important to them as individual groups.

The session will be supported by Sandwell Council's Engagement Team. We will report back on what we are sure will be another successful event in a future newsletter.

Inside this issue

TRA Networking. DIGI-COM power up.	1
DIGI Saver update.	2
Task & Finish Group.	3
SCIPS membership. Ccontact us.	4

DIGI-COMM POWER UP
We will commence delivery of the next community centre on Tuesday 24th June 2025.

Tanhouse Community centre will receive a train the trainer session, 5 sessions of click and chat and a further 3 looking at accessing local services.

This has been a well subscribed centre and we look forward to commencing the training.

The logo for DIGI COMM POWER UP consists of three overlapping circles. The top circle is green and contains the word "DIGI" in white. The bottom-left circle is blue and contains the word "COMM" in white. The bottom-right circle is orange and contains the words "POWER UP" in white.

DIGI SAVER NEWS UPDATE....



We recently finished delivery of our Cost of Living ‘Digi Saver’ 6 week pilot at Friar Park Millennium Centre.

The course was a huge success and participants have told us they have used the digital training provided to save money on broadband, utility bills and through using price comparison sites (to provide just a few examples).

In addition participants have joined food pantries, accessed free mobile sim cards through the Good Things Foundation, and have received support with debt through the charity Step Change.

Due to the overwhelming feedback received we have decided to run an additional two pilots;

1. **Delivery at the Bangladeshi Islamic Centre started on 4th June.** This is a really exciting opportunity as we are delivering training to those who don't speak English as a first language. More details on this will be provided in a future newsletter.

2. **We would also like to offer YOU, our membership the opportunity to attend a course!!!!** We will be running this at our offices in West Bromwich for six consecutive Mondays, 2pm - 4pm, starting **Monday 23rd June 2025**. You will need to attend all six sessions. Please contact **Dean on 0121 544 1230** or email **enquiries@scips.org.uk**. Places are limited, so there is a possibility that not all who express an interest will be allocated a slot.

Once we have completed these courses, we will evaluate all the pilots – including one(s) delivered by St Albans – to identify if there is a potential for a larger project, and if so, apply for funding as necessary.

Watch this space!

TENANT ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

SMBC has established a Task and Finish Group made up of tenants to help them to develop a new Tenant Engagement Strategy for Sandwell.

They have engaged SCIPS to support them to deliver an approach that ensures the strategy is developed through a co-design process with all stakeholders.

There will be lots of opportunities for tenants to make comments, and a feed into the process with a formal 6-week public consultation later in the year.

To date the group has met once and discussed key messages and priorities along with undertaking an assessment of strategies from other local authorities.

The group will meet regularly and aim to have a final strategy negotiated by the end of 2025.



SCIPS Website - 'Members Only' Area

We recently shared details of our revised membership offer we worked on during 2024, and launched a new '**members only**' area of our website that pulls together lots of information that you have told us you would like.

This includes; fact sheets detailing chairperson, treasurer and secretary basics, public liability, risk assessments, health & safety, safeguarding, and equality and diversity. We will continue to add content as time goes by.

Are you a Member of SCIPS? If not

JOIN US

To gain access to the members only area you must already be a member of SCIPS.

Members can apply for access as follows :

- 1 Visit our website www.scips.org.uk
2. Click on 'Members Area' at the top of the page.
3. Click on 'Don't have an account?' underneath the log-in section.
4. Complete the registration form that appears and click 'Register'
5. Go to your emails, open the one from us, and click the blue link to confirm you are trying to apply for access to the members area.
6. Wait for SCIPS to approve your request. This will only happen in work hours (you will get an email confirming we have done this).

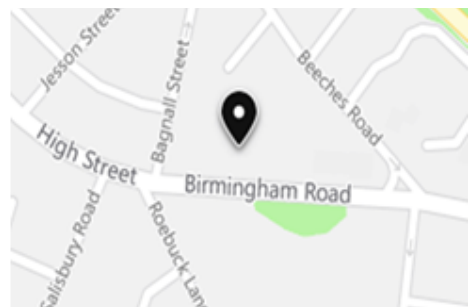
Log in and enjoy!

Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service



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