



Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

SCIPS would like to invite you to August's General Meeting:



- Tuesday 5th August 2025
- 10am arrival for 10.30 start
- National Metalforming Centre

In light of the forthcoming changes to Sandwell's weekly bin collections, our guest speaker will be Heidi Marsh-Geyton.



Please join us if you can



TRA Networking Session

On Saturday 14th June 2025 we held our latest TRA Networking Session with invitations extended to all committees of TRAs across the borough.

Inside this issue

General Meeting TRA Networking	1
Digi Saver Update	2
SCIPS AGM 2025	3
Tenant Engagement Strategy	4

Dean spent time workshopping how these events could become more 'By TRAs, for TRAs', Sarah provided guidance on 'Managing Challenging Behaviours' and Paul Smith from the Sandwell Community Partnerships and Support Services Team advised TRAs on the ongoing development of a new 'Tenant Engagement Strategy' and 'Communications Plan'.

It was lovely to be joined by many familiar faces, and some new ones too. Thank you to everyone who attended and took part. We very much look forward to carrying on working with TRAs on the issues that are important to you in the months ahead. See you next time!

DIGI SAVER NEWS UPDATE....



Training is now well underway on the extended Digi Saver pilots

We are delivering two courses simultaneously; one at the Bangladeshi Islamic Centre (BIC) and one for SCIPS members at our West Bromwich offices.

A selection of feedback so far includes;

- *“Good so far and I expect it to get even better as the course progresses” (SCIPS)*
- *“Pitched just right... Very informative and enjoyable” (SCIPS)*
- *“I was quite clueless about energy bills as I had no idea how they worked. Now I feel more equipped for the future and would like to help my family when I go home” (BIC)*
- *“I learned how to compare prices online, use discount codes and save on medication” (BIC)*



We piloted the Digi-Saver Course at the Friar Park Millenium Centre. We undertook a detailed evaluation of the impact on those that attended. The following are the savings participants made as a results of attending the course.

Three accessed free sim cards from EE	Three accessed free sim cards from EE	Two accessed the social tariff – one saving £20 per month and one £15 per month
One shared what they had learned at their Knit and Natter group	One contacted their internet provider and negotiated a cheaper tariff whilst still in contract	Two joined a local pantry – one of whom is now volunteering for their pantry
One accessed debt support	One changed from a pre-payment meter to monthly billing saving on their monthly utility costs	One bought a cheaper product online after comparing the specification with a known brand

COMING SOON.....

NEW SCIPS AGM 2025

SCIPS would like to invite you to our next AGM which will take place as follows:

**Saturday 4th October 2025
National Metalforming Centre
10am Registration**

More information and details of how to vote will be included in our August newsletter.

Please note that following consultation with our members the month when we traditionally hold our AGM has been changed from September to **4th October 2025 this year**

SAVE THE DATE

Tenant Engagement Strategy Task and Finish Group Update

The Task and Finish Group have met twice and has made significant progress in the development of a new Tenant Engagement Strategy for Sandwell.

They have developed a survey which will be circulated to tenants who are actively involved in various groups to establish their views on the current engagement opportunities and to identify areas for improvement.

It is planned that the final strategy will be considered by Sandwell Council's Cabinet in December 2025 and prior to that there will be a number of opportunities for tenants to give their views on the proposed document.

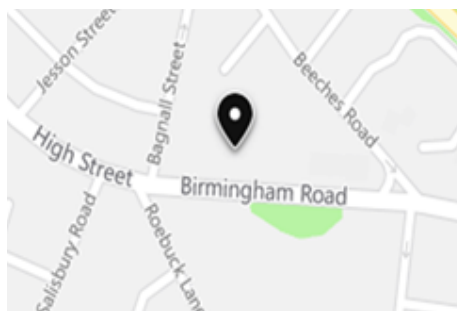


Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service



NMC Venue
37-47 Birmingham Road
West Bromwich
B70 6PY

SatNav postcode - B70 6QE
Facebook - @SandwellCIPS
You Tube - @scipsb70



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www.scips.org.uk