



Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

Councillor Newsletter

SCIPS AGM NEWS

SCIPS Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place on Saturday 4th October 2025 @ the NMC Venue, West Bromwich. Members were joined by Cllr Vicki Smith Cabinet member for Housing and Built Environment, Tonia Flannagan CEO St Albans Community Association, Lindsay Delaney LTO HCBL.

Who are SCIPS?

SCIPS or Sandwell Community Information and Participation Service, are a tenant led voluntary organisation that provides support services to community groups including TRAs and individuals. SCIPS are led by a Board of 15 Directors who are all residents of Sandwell and elected from the membership by the membership.

Result of the elections and the new Board for 2025/26

Directors newly appointed

Ann-marie Docker	3 year position
Gloria Francis	3 year position
Alex Lipton	3 year position
Paula Lezama-Pegus	3 year position
Jenny Porter	3 year position

Officers elected for 2025/26

Ann-marie Docker - Chair
Trevor Purcell - Vice chair
Alex Lipton - Treasurer
Gloria Francis - Honorary Secretary



The winners of the raffles for the day

Nicole Lewis
Jenny Porter
Kate Gordon
Kevin Vile



Key messages from the day

Building a strong tenant voice is vital to meet the new regulatory framework. The Regulator want to see Local Authorities giving tenants meaningful opportunities to engage and be part of decision making.

Partnership working is key to delivering projects across Sandwell and SCIPS have worked in partnership for the last 5 years with St Albans Community Assoc to provide digital training including setting up a MySandwell account, reporting a repair and reporting ASB.

We are currently looking for funding to deliver a new project in partnership with St Albans around money saving advice and recycling of food, furniture and clothing.

What does SCIPS do to support SMBC

SCIPS support SMBC both at a strategic level around the new regulatory framework and supporting TRA's and other tenant groups such as Tenant Auditor Group.

We have worked with SMBC supporting a task and finish group of tenants to co - produce a Tenant Engagement Strategy. As part of our bi monthly General meetings staff from the SMBC Tenant engagement team will come along and present updates and highlight current consultations around housing/environment

Projects that SCIPS supports/delivers



HCBL a programme funded by Big Local to spend 1 million over a ten year period in the communities of Hateley Heath and Stone cross

Digi-Comm is in the final year of a project funded by Big Lottery which was funded in partnership with St Albans to address the digital need in Sandwell



AGM 2025 in Pictures

Our top table



Our Chair Ann-marie Docker



Our Speakers



AGM 2025 in pictures

The Community Foundation Community Inspiration Awards Sandwell finalists and winners



Sandwell Special Olympics



St Albans Community Association



HCBL Partnership



Edna Dunn

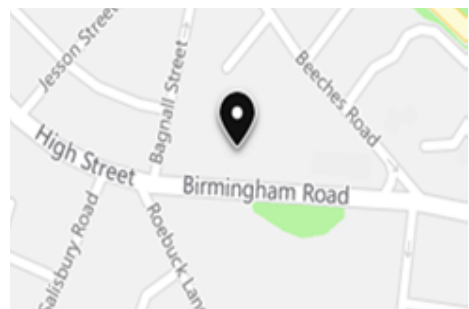


Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service



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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