

AUGUST 2022:



Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service AGM 2022

17th September 2022

A reminder that our AGM is on Saturday 17th of September at our offices in the NMC building in West Bromwich. We have 3 speakers lined up:

Gillian Douglas

Director of Housing Sandwell MBC

Phillippe Brown

Chair of SMBC Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny Group

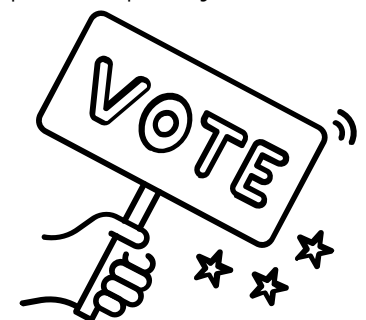
Jan Macmillan

Manager of SCIPS

There are cash prize draws and lunch provided!

It is not too late to call up and book onto the AGM. Voting members are also welcome to turn up on the day. The AGM is a chance to meet other members, staff at SCIPS and hear more about what is going on in and around Sandwell.

If you can't make the AGM you can still exercise your vote. In the upcoming mailing for the AGM you will have the chance to sign up for a proxy vote. With a proxy vote you can nominate another voting member to vote on your behalf, ensuring you get your say.



Don't
Forget!

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AGM 2022

Digi Comm

At the end of July we began our Click and Chat Sessions at Riverside in Wednesbury. We are now half way through the course and have already seen an increase in confidence amongst the participants. Many had not used a tablet before but now feel confident to use one with our support. We know with the progress they are making they will be confident without our support by the time the course is completed. One of the group has even been looking at booking flights to India on their tablet!



As we continue to deliver our Click and Chat Sessions this is what participants have previously said about our sessions:

"I booked my theatre tickets online"

"The dress I kept looking at online, I have now ordered, I am so pleased with myself"

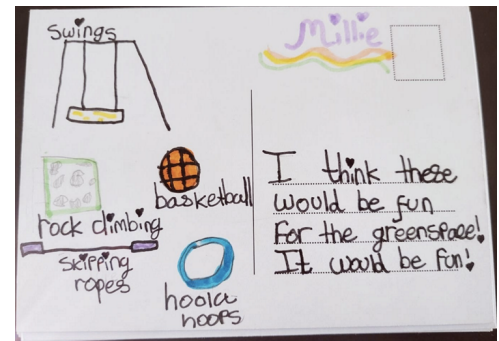
"I find it difficult to retain information and the practice time is really important to me"

"I love coming to sessions, everyone is so friendly"



Hateley Cross Big Local

Hateley Cross Big local commissioned a number of Go Play activities over the past month as a part of the Young Voices programme. SCIPS staff have been to see how they are going. It has been great to see the children having fun in the sun while giving us their views on what HCBL can do to improve their community.



After launching HCBL's new Community Small Grants application last month we are pleased to announce that we have already had our first successful application, Gayton Road Indoor Bowling Club.



SMBC update

SCIPS is continuing to support Sandwell MBC with its new tenant engagement framework.

Staff attended the Tenant and Leaseholder Scrutiny group meetings and supports the leader officer with development/training.

The Group have completed the first of four service areas they wish to scrutinise in their current work program. They are now looking at the process around SMBC Home Checks.

Tenant Auditors have now received 4 weeks of training via the Council and have started their first audit into the process around termination of tenancy.

Look out for opportunities to get involved yourself in tenant engagement and see how you can influence services in Sandwell.

TRA Update

A familiar face for many of our members has joined SCIPS for 3 months to support us with our TRA work. Derek Fletcher worked in community development with Sandwell MBC and Sandwell Homes. Derek has already met with several groups and taken part in Bilston Road TRA door knocking exercise to encourage new members to join. As well as working with our existing TRAs Derek is supporting a number of new groups as they look to set up in the future.

If you want to know more about setting up a TRA call either Sarah or Derek on 0121 544 1230 and have a chat.



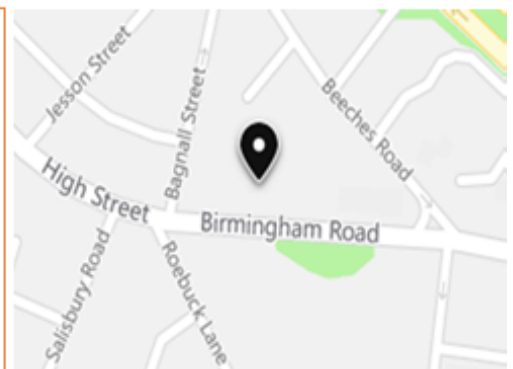
Derek dressed up as Buzz!



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 and the work we are involved in, please visit our website at www.scips.org.uk.

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