



# Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

## Welcome to the summer from SCIPS!

Everyone at SCIPS hopes that the return of the summer brings with it lots for you to look forward to.

The summer is certainly a time traditionally when we are busy, with lots of our Tenants and Residents Associations (TRAs) and Community Groups hosting events, meetings and opportunities to bring the communities of Sandwell together.



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This year it seems is no exception and we are busy supporting the Hateley Cross Big Local (HCBL) Partnership, rolling out delivery of our new Digi Comm Unity project, supporting the development and delivery of Sandwell Council's Tenant Conference as well as providing that ongoing support to our TRAs, community groups and individual members.

We hope to see you all soon, but for now please stay safe and look after yourself and each other in the sun and warm weather.

# Green spaces - Improvements celebrated by local youngsters

Children from the Young Voices Project and Children's Craft Club submitted art work for new signs for the improved entrances to the Mill Pool, locally known as The Milky.

The competition was to celebrate the completion by Hateley Cross Big Local (HCBL) and Sandwell Council of a number of improvements to green spaces across the Hateley Heath ward.

The winners' work will be displayed at entrances to the Mill Pool area. Winners included Sehajroop (10), Lilly-May (10), Roxy (9), Tiffany (11) and Casey (10). The winners also won an art material set.

A spokesperson for the HCBL Partnership said: "It is great to see the improvements to our green spaces achieved through our partnership with Sandwell Council."

Sandwell Council's Cabinet Member for Leisure and Tourism, Councillor Charn Singh Padda, said: "Green spaces are so important to people's health, well-being and quality of life and I hope local residents make use of these fantastic new facilities. I would like to thank the Hateley Cross Big Local Partnership for showing that when residents are committed to making life better for their community, they can achieve great results such as this."





# New project launches

We are pleased to announce that our brand new Digi-Comm project - delivered in partnership with St Albans - has started. Funding from our 12 month 'Know Your Neighbourhood' Lottery grant is being used to deliver **Digi-Comm Unity** within Sandwell.

SCIPS are leading on delivery of our well established 'digital for beginners' training package, but through this project we are taking learning for the first time into communal facilities within high rise buildings across the borough.

St Albans are leading on the recruitment, training and deployment of 'digital champion' volunteers to support digital inclusion activity both for this project and beyond.

We have commenced training initially at Hamstead House, enabling internet connectivity in the community room and offering a tablet loan to all participants. The support of Hamstead Village TRA has been key to delivery of this pilot. We will then review our offer and embed any learning before taking the Digi-Comm Unity project to an additional three venues across 2023/24.



**REMINDER**

## SANDWELL COUNCIL TENANT CONFERENCE 2023

YOUR HOME - YOUR VOICE

**Saturday 01 July 2023**

**9.15AM registration, 10AM start, 3PM close**

**West Bromwich Albion FC, The Hawthorns, B71 4LF**



The Tenant Conference is an opportunity to find out more about the changes taking place in Housing at Sandwell Council and to share your views with other tenants and housing staff. There will also be a market place where you can find useful information about housing and other council services.

**BOOK NOW**



If you are a Sandwell Council Tenant and would like to register your interest, please contact [Comm\\_Partnerships@sandwell.gov.uk](mailto:Comm_Partnerships@sandwell.gov.uk) or call 0121 569 2537 and leave a message and someone will get back to you.





## Digi Comm Power Up - new project

SCIPS and St Albans have recently commenced start up of our new 3 year 'Reaching Communities' Lottery funded **Digi-Comm Power Up** project. This project will continue roll out of - and introduce new elements to - our hugely successful first 3 year project that ended in May 2023.

More details on Digi-Comm Power up will be released as they become available.



# SCIPS

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### SATURDAY

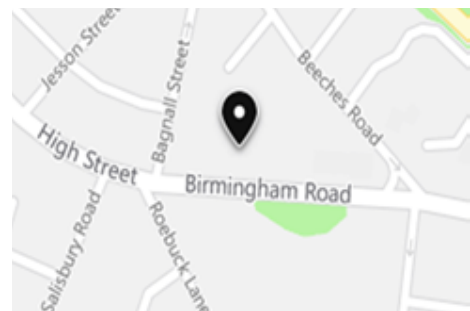
### 23RD SEPTEMBER 2023

## 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](http://www.scips.org.uk)