

Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service

AGM details including CHANGE TO DATE



Saturday <u>30th</u> September 2023

National Metalforming Centre

10am start

We have changed the date of our AGM due to West Bromwich Albion fixtures and the likely impact of traffic congestion on members departing. Our AGM will now be held on Saturday 30th September 2023.

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July General Meeting

Tuesday 25th July 2023

 National Metalforming Reminder Centre

• 10am start

We look forward welcoming you all.



Digi-Comm Unity Update





Delivery of our new Digi-Comm Unity project is now well underway at Hamstead House, facilitated kindly by Hamstead Village TRA.

We have 7 individuals in total attending the 10 week course; a combination of participants and Digital Champion volunteers, supported closely by colleagues from St Albans Community Association.

We have now identified St Mary's House as the next venue with delivery scheduled to commence in September. We will be advertising locally and recruiting in the coming weeks, but if you are interested - either in learning some basic digital skills as a participant, or volunteering as a Digital Champion to support delivery - please contact Dean or Sarah on 0121 544 1230 or via enquiries@scips.org.uk

Digi-Comm Power Up Update

We have just confirmed that our new Digi-Comm Power Up project will commence delivery at Boscobel TMO Estate Office, providing access to basic digital skills for some older residents that live in the area. Training for Digital Champions starts on Friday 21st July.



Sandwell Tenant Conference 2023

On 1st July the Council held the Sandwell Tenant Conference 2023. The aim of the conference was to;

- Raise awareness amongst tenants that the Council wants to change the Landlord/Tenant relationship
- Provide more ways for Tenants to challenge the service
- Look at how the Council can co-produce services with tenants

To help facilitate the day there were a number of keynote speakers;

- Councillor Laura Rollins Cabinet member for Housing who presented the key aspirations for Sandwell over the next 5 years.
- Gillian Douglas Director of Housing, who outlined the new housing regulations including building safety and the housing ombudsman.
- Emma Gilpin TPAS
 the national
 engagement
 specialists, outlined the
 support they provide
 for tenants nationally
 and at a local level.
- Jan Macmillan SCIPS who highlighted the engagement agenda locally showcasing the work being done by residents across Sandwell.



We were also joined by national activist Kwajo Tweneboa, who shared his moving story about how disrepair and poor housing standards tragically impacted on his family. Kwajo's story was both harrowing and inspiring.

Funding Workshop

On Friday 23rd June SCIPS hosted a funding workshop for members who had previously expressed an interest in taking part in one of these sessions.

Jan and Derek delivered training to a combination of TRA and HCBL representatives, with content focussed on what a good application looks like; clearly explaining aims and objectives, expected benefits, the difference between outputs and outcomes etc.





Sandwell Community Information & Participation Service



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