



The Annual meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 26th June 2026

Present: Cllr Page
Cllr L Robertson-Collins
Cllr K Brown
Cllr Norris
Cllr Gibson
Cllr Harvey
Cllr Baldwin
Cllr Ainsworth

1. **Appointment of Chair**

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Page be appointed Chair.

Resolved that Councillor Page be appointed Chair for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

2. **Appointment of Deputy Chair**

It was moved and seconded that Councillor Norris be appointed Deputy Chair.

Resolved that Councillor Norris be appointed Deputy Chair for the 2026/27 Municipal Year.

3. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Nolan and Councillor Powell.

4. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 24th April 2026**

Resolved that the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 24th April 2026 be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**

The were no declarations of interest by Members and Officers

6. **Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9**

There were no questions submitted by Members in accordance with Procedural Rule

7. **Question(s) from Members of the Public under Procedural Rule 10**

There were no questions submitted by members of the public in accordance with Procedural Rule 10.

8. **Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15**

There were no motions proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15.

9. **WDA/16/26 Appointments and Committees**

The Authority determined the appointments and representations set out in this report for the 2026/27 Municipal Year and granted delegated powers of the Authority to the Clerk to complete any outstanding appointments.

Resolved that:

1. Approval of the Terms of Reference and delegations for the Appeals Committee, Audit and Governance Committee and the Investigating and Disciplinary Committee and the appointment of Members to those committees.
2. Appointment of Chair to the Investigating and Disciplinary and Appointments Committee.
3. Appointment of Members to the Forward Planning Panel.
4. Representation on the Boards of Mersey Waste Holdings Limited, Bidston Methane Limited and the North West Employers' Organisation; and

5. Delegated powers of the Authority were granted to the Clerk in consultation with all Members to finalise any outstanding appointments in relation to the above.
6. Agree a Member of the Authority to sit on the Procurement Project Board in addition to the Chairperson
7. The appointments and representations were subject to a vote by Members and were determined to be:

Appeals committee:

Cllrs Page, Brown, Harvey, Ainsworth

Audit and governance committee:

Cllrs Brown, Baldwin, Ainsworth, Powell

Investigating and disciplinary and Appointments committee:

Cllrs Page, Robertson-Collins, Ainsworth

Forward planning committee:

Cllrs Page, Brown, Ainsworth, Powell

Procurement Project Board:

Cllrs Harvey (Deputy), Page, Norris

Outside Bodies-

Mersey Waste Holding Ltd:

Cllrs Norris, Harvey, Ainsworth

North West Employers:

Cllr Ainsworth

10. **WDA/17/26 Questions on the Discharge of Functions**

The Authority indicated its five nominations for the forthcoming year in accordance with Section 41 of the Local Government Act 1985.

Resolved that:

The Authority nominates Members at its Annual Meeting each year and the

Members nominated in this Municipal Year were:

Knowsley MBC	Councillor Powell
Liverpool CC	Councillor Norris
St Helens MBC	Councillor Gibson
Sefton MBC	Councillor Harvey
Wirral MBC	Councillor Baldwin

11. **WDA/18/26 Code of Corporate Governance and Annual Governance Statement**

Members were informed of the findings of the Annual Governance Assessment and the Improvement Action Plan for 2026/27. Members are also asked to note the Annual Governance Statement for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts 2025/26.

Resolved that:

1. Members took note of the findings of the Annual Corporate Governance Assessment and approve the Improvement Action Plan for 2026/27;
2. Members approve the Code of Corporate Governance;
3. Members approved the Annual Governance Statement and the Statement be signed by the Authority's representatives for inclusion in the Statement of Accounts 2025/26.

Councillor Norris raised a question about the education and behavioural change budget vs spend. Paula Pocock said that this would be looked into and details provided back to Members.

12. **WDA/19/26 MRWA Outturn Report 2025-26**

Members were advised of both the final outturn with regard to the Authority's Capital and Revenue expenditure in 2025-26 and the position of the Authority's reserves. The final outturn positions for the Authority's Prudential Indicators are included in the report for Members to note.

Resolved that:

1. Members have made note of the final outturn position with regard to the Authority's Revenue and Capital Expenditure for 2024-25;
2. Members Note the final outturn with regard to Treasury Management, including compliance with performance indicators as detailed at Appendix;
3. Members Approve the transfer of £10m to earmarked reserves as set out in Section 4
4. Members approved the rephrasing of £1.6m in respect of the Future Waste Services Project to facilitate surveys and planning fees prior to the new contracts being let in 2029.
5. Members Noted the position in respect of publishing draft statutory accounts, together with the draft Core Statements included at Appendix 4

13. **WDA/20/26 Constitution Update**

At the commencement of a new municipal year, it is appropriate for the Constitution to be updated and adopted by the Authority. The Monitoring Officer is responsible for ensuring that the Constitution for the Authority is up to date, relevant and effective. Any proposed changes to the Constitution are subject to Member approval

Resolved that:

1. Members noted the contents of the report on the review of the Constitution undertaken by the Centre for Governance & Scrutiny;
2. Members approved the updated Scheme of Delegation for the 2026/27 Municipal Year;

3. Members noted the proposed delegation authorisations allowed under Clause 2.4 of the Scheme of Delegation;
4. Members agreed to adopt the revised Authority Procedural Rules;
5. Members agreed to adopt the revised Financial Procedural Rules;
6. Members agreed to adopt the revised Contract Procedural Rules;
7. Members agreed to adopt the revised Constitution accordingly.

Councillor Brown recommended a workshop for Members so that they have a better understanding of how to ask questions, raise motions and have a better engagement with the Authority. It was agreed that this would be looked into and a working group with the Chair and Monitoring Officer would be arranged.

Councillor Brown asked if the Chair could speak to other Waste Authorities to look at the possibility of a member allowance for our Authority Members.

14. **WDA/21/26 HWRC Policies review**

Members were provided with an overview of issues and challenges experienced with delivery of existing HWRC services across Merseyside, in anticipation of the development of the new service specification for the Future Waste Services procurement exercise

Resolved that:

1. Members took note of the issues and challenges experienced in the delivery and management of Merseyside's Household Waste Recycling Centres;
2. Members were asked to consider some of the options which could be implemented through the Future Waste Services project (and future contract arrangements) to help mitigate some of those challenges;
3. Members approved that the proposed policy options for the changes to the delivery of the Household Waste Recycling Centre network be issued for public consultation, with the outcome and final approach to service change recommendations to be brought back to a future Authority meeting;

4. Members agreed to delegate to the authority for determining the format of the consultation and detailed questions on the HWRC policies to be agreed by the Future Waste Services Project Board.

15. **WDA/22/26 MRWA Social value and reuse frameworks**

Members were asked to approve of the Social Value Framework and Policy, and the Reuse Strategic Framework. Together, these set the direction for embedding Social Value and Reuse within our future waste service delivery and procurements

Resolved that:

1. Members approved the Social Value Framework and Policy attached at Appendix 1;
2. Members approved the Reuse Strategic Framework attached at Appendix 2;
3. Members agreed to Grant delegated authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairperson to finalise the documents for publication;

16. **WDA/23/26 Comments and complaints**

Members were asked to note the findings in the comments and complaints report for 25-26.

Resolved that:

1. Members took note of the findings in the comments and complaints report 25-26.

Exclusion of the Public

Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items for the reasons stated.

Minute

Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)

17. **WDA/22/26 MRWA Social value and reuse frameworks**

Members were updated of the outcome of the adjudication in respect of insurance costs in respect of the Resource Recovery Contract (RRC) which was concluded in May.

Member were asked for approval to delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Authority Chairperson, the Director of Finance and the Monitoring Officer to conclude negotiations in respect of the ongoing dispute in relation to tonnage rebates that may be due to the Authority, including referring to adjudication

Resolved that:

1. Members took note the outcome of the adjudication in respect of insurance costs in respect of the Resource Recovery Contract (RRC) which was concluded in May;
2. Members agreed to delegate authority to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Authority Chairperson, the Director of Finance and the Monitoring Officer to conclude negotiations in respect of the ongoing dispute in relation to tonnage rebates that may be due to the Authority, including referring to adjudication;