MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY

NOTICE OF MOTION

TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING MOTION SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR ROBERTSON-COLLINS IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURAL RULE 15

TO BE PUT TO THE FULL MEETING OF THE MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY ON 27TH NOVEMBER 2026

Each year over one billion items containing batteries and nearly half a billion loose batteries are put into household bins in the UK;
On Merseyside there were 23 fires at our household waste recycling centres over the last five years, and nearly 250 in the last three years at the waste transfer stations;
There have been eight fires in Liverpool's waste collection vehicles in the last 15 months;
Every waste fire at any stage of collection and disposal is dangerous to staff, residents and firefighters, is expensive in delay to services and additional transfer of materials, is a risk to the natural environment and health; and leads to loss of potential resources;
the great majority of the fires at the Authority's key facilities are believed by the Contractors to be caused by lithium-ion batteries (where Merseyside's waste is treated)

the Authority agrees to undertake the following.

1. Promote and support local and national campaigns to raise awareness of the dangers of lithium batteries in waste, to encourage disposal using collection points at HWRCS and large supermarkets etc, and create and support 'Never Bin Batteries' campaigns;

2. That CEX of MRWA write and request that the Secretary of State at DEFRA extend producer responsibility (EPR) to batteries and ensures producers contribute to full cost of collection, treatment and impact of disposal including costs of battery waste fires;

3. To ask the DEFRA SoS to strengthen EPR around all WEEE (electrical) products including improved take back and recycling opportunities for electrical items containing batteries, and the

promotion of better design for easier battery removal and repair and recycling of products using these.