

## Case Learning: Lithium-ion battery fire risks

<p><b>Situation</b></p>	<p>A rechargeable vape device powered by a lithium-ion battery was the source of a house fire which sadly led to the death of a young child.</p> <p>Lithium-ion batteries are in many everyday items including portable devices, electric vehicles (including e-bikes and e-scooters) and renewable energy storage systems.</p> <p>The safety of lithium-ion batteries depends on how they are manufactured, used, stored &amp; recycled. If they malfunction, they can present a serious fire risk through a process known as ‘thermal runaway’.</p>
<p><b>Takeaway</b></p>	<p>To reduce risks from lithium-ion batteries, follow the advice of the West Midlands Fire Service <a href="#">Fast.Fierce.Fatal</a> campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Always buy devices and charges from trusted retailers.</li> <li>✓ Use the correct charger and never leave batteries on charge overnight.</li> <li>✓ Charge on a hard, flat surface, away from anything that could burn.</li> <li>✓ Keep escape routes clear – never charge in hallways or on stairs.</li> <li>✓ Never bin batteries; take them to proper recycling points.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Actions</b></p>	<p><b>Share:</b> Lithium-ion battery risks &amp; safety resources - including the offer of a free Home Fire Safety Check from Leicestershire Fire &amp; Rescue Service.</p>
<p><b>Resources</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• British Safety Council: <a href="#">Lithium-ion batteries – a growing fire risk</a></li> <li>• West Midlands Fire Service <a href="#">Fast.Fierce.Fatal</a> campaign information</li> <li>• Leicestershire Fire &amp; Rescue Service information (also available in other languages):             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Home Safety (Electrics)</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Home Fire Safety Check</a> (online &amp; in-person)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

For more information about the LLR Child Death Overview Panel [click here](#).