

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0042642

**Permit being assessed:** AW1002901

For: LLANDRINDOD WELLS STW PARK LANE, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG  
At: LLANDRINDOD WELLS STW, PARK LANE, LLANDRINDOD WELLS, POWYS, LD1  
5NN.

**Type of assessment carried out:** Site Inspection, Reason: Routine.

On 03/10/2023, between 12:30 and 13:15.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Robert Harding.

**Report sent to:** CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 18/10/2023.

### 1. Summary of our findings (full details in section 4)

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B1 - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Assessed (A)	

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

### 2. What action is required?

No action required.

### 3. What will happen next?

Any non-compliance we have identified and recorded on this form is an offence. It can result in criminal prosecution and/or suspension or revocation of your permit.

**At this time, we do not intend to take any further action.**

This statement does not stop us from taking additional enforcement action if further relevant information comes to light or offences continue.

### 4. Details of our assessment

This was a pre-planned OSM site inspection carried out by Natural Resources Wales Officers Robert Harding and Chloe Howard. We were shown around the site by the following DCWW representatives  
Scott Beecham- Operational Supervisor  
Owen Bowers – Process Technician  
Brian Barrel- Process Technician

The weather during the visit was overcast with intermittent showers following wet weather. We were shown through the works from inlet through to the outfall.

#### General Observations

The STW is filter bed works containing four filter beds, and ferric dosing for phosphorous removal. It operates under the UWWTR. It is attended daily by DCWW staff and telemetry is in place for monitoring. There is a storm discharge present under Permit AN0357501. The site also has additional SAF tanks which are usually offline but can be used when ammonia readings are high.

#### Inlet and Storm

The incoming flow comes into the works through several pumping stations in the nearby area.

The inlet of the works is raised and the top of the site. There is a powered step screen in place to remove any rag and large solids, this was clearly operating as expected at the time of inspection. There is a nearby skip containing the removed rag and solids. There did not appear to be any significant solids passing through.

There is a bypass screen which flow can be diverted through if required. This is activated manually using penstocks to change the flow channel at the inlet of the works. This was not being used at the time of inspection.



The inlet appeared to be running clear of any contamination or blockages. There were no signs of solids or rag present at the inlet. The storm weir in place is hard-set. At the time of inspection, incoming flows were below the weir height, and no storm discharge was occurring. The storm channel was clear of any solids or rags, There is a flow monitor in place at the inlet, which is located after the screens



The UWWTR Crude sampling point was signposted and easily accessible

#### Primary Settlement and Ferric Dosing

The flow from the inlet of the works is sent to a distribution chamber, where powered motors distribute the effluent to the two primary settlement tanks. In the mixing chambers ferric Sulphate is manually added by operatives for Phosphate. The motor is in place also mixes in the ferric dose, this was clearly operational whilst on site.

The works has two circular primary settlement tanks with rotating bridges, scum scrapers and outfall channel brushes. The two primary settlement tanks appeared in good working order and clearly holding back solids as designed. There were no signs of significant solids carrying over from either of the settlement tanks or signs of sewage fungus within the outfall channels. Both outfall channels appeared to be running clear.





The flows from the Primary Settlement tanks are then sent to a distribution chamber, which distributes the flow to the 4 filter beds on the site.

#### Filter Beds

The site has 4 rotating distributor arm filter beds. Filter bed 4 is a newer self-contained stone media filter, which is located uphill from the remaining 3. Filter bed 4 had a large coverage of moss on the surface of the filter bed, which could affect influent reaching the filter media if not managed effectively. There were clear signs that some moss removal had been completed and we were advised that a moss removal will be organised, and we were advised that moss growth removal is an ongoing maintenance task at this time of year. There were no signs of pooling on the surface of the filter and the rotating arm was operating effectively.



Filter Beds 1-3 are also rotating distribution arms onto stone media, however all three are contained within one large rectangular filter bed housing, which contains stone media of approximately 2m deep. Each filter bed is clearly labelled. All three filters appeared in working order, there were no signs of blockages within the distribution arms. The filter beds also had large areas of moss coverage, there were some signs of surface pooling within the three filter beds, which could lead to issues with infiltration. The pooling appeared to be surface level at the time of inspection and predominantly where moss coverage was thicker.



The filter beds otherwise appeared in working order. The outfall from the filter beds was running clear. This then passes through a distribution chamber, leading to the humus tanks. Within the distribution chamber there appeared to be some sewage fungus growth, which suggests potentially high ammonia content, but not a noncompliance at this time.



### Humus Tanks

There are four rectangular “Dortmund” type settlement tanks in use, which have a scum retaining board. Solids are retained behind this board and settle down into the tapered edges into the centre of the tank for collection. The humus tanks appeared to be operating effectively and there were no signs of solids in the outfall channels. There was a layer of duckweed present on these tanks, however this was largely contained within the scum boards. The eluent from the tanks appeared clear and free flowing no signs of solids carrying over to the outfall.



There is a single radial humus tank with a rotating bridge and scum scraper. This appeared in good working order. There were no signs of solids passing over into the outfall of the tank and the effluent appeared clear.



#### Outfall and Sampling point

The Final effluent sampling point was clearly marked and easily accessed. The chamber appeared clear, and effluent was flowing freely. There were no signs of solids or contaminants within the effluent. The UWWTV final effluent sampling point was clearly labelled and accessible.

At the side of the chamber there is an additional pipe, which I was advised was the outlet from the storm tanks.

At the time of inspection, the storm pipe was discharging into the outfall. This will be addressed in a separate CAR Form for storm permit AN0357501 as this is a noncompliance of the storm permit, as the storm outfall was discharging outside of storm conditions.



The outfall into the watercourse was not checked due to limited access.

#### Storm Tank and Sludge Tanks

The site has a single large storm tank on site, which is pumped back to the head of the works once the inlet flow drops below 25l/s. I was not able to visually check the storm tank level, however I was advised that it was full following rainfall and will return to the head of the works when inlet flows drop. There is EDM in place for the storm channel

which can be checked if required.

The works has 2 sludge holding tanks, both of which are in use and have level meters present.

Advisories

The moss coverage on the 4 filter beds is a cause for slight concern, as it can lead to issues with infiltration and affect the treatment process. Indications currently are that is not impacting on the treatment process; however it is advised to undertake moss removal from the filter beds before the issue develops further.

It was discussed on site that Llandrindod Wells STW has recently had a category 2 noncompliance for exceeding iron limits (look up table limits). Any further exceedances for iron before February 2024 will be a further noncompliance of the permit conditions, and be subject to further enforcement actions.

If you have any queries about this report, or to discuss completion of any actions, please contact the NRW Officer named above.

## Important information

### Legal status of this report

Your permit is issued to you under the Environmental Permitting Regulations. You have a responsibility to comply with the conditions of your permit and prevent pollution/harm to the environment. You must also ensure that you comply with any other relevant legislation that may apply to your site's operations.

This report explains the findings of our assessment and any action you are required to take. We categorise non-compliance using our guidance for assessing non-compliance at regulated sites.

When we find potential non-compliance/s we will normally give you advice on how to maintain compliance.

To correct non-compliance, we may:

- require you to take specific actions
- issue a notice
- review the conditions of your permit.

Any advice and guidance we give will be without prejudice to any other enforcement response that we consider may be required.

### Assessment results and non-compliance categories (used in section 1):

Assessment result	Description
Assessed (A)	Assessed or assessed in part, no evidence of non-compliance found
Action only (X)	Action only relating to the activity assessment
Ongoing (O)	Ongoing non-compliance, not scored

Non-compliance category	Description
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property

### If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend non-compliance for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. These will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

**Full list of water quality action criteria (used in section 1 and 2):****WQ A: Management**

- WQ-A1 General management

**WQ B: Operations**

- WQ-B1 Permitted activities
- WQ-B2 The site
- WQ-B3 Operating techniques
- WQ-B4 Improvement programme
- WQ-B5 Pre-operational conditions

**WQ C: Emissions and monitoring**

- WQ-C1 Emissions to water
- WQ-C2 Emissions to land
- WQ-C3 Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- WQ-C4 Installation of monitoring boreholes

**WQ D: Information**

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

**Enforcement response**

Any permit condition non-compliance is an offence and we may take legal action against you. Action we take can include prosecution, serving a notice on you and/or suspension or revocation of your permit. See our Enforcement and Sanctions Guidance for further information.

**Data protection notice**

You should make sure that anyone named in this report knows that the information it contains will be processed by Natural Resources Wales to fulfil its regulatory and monitoring functions and to maintain the relevant public register(s).

We may also use and/or disclose the report in connection with:

- offering or providing you with our literature or services relating to environmental matters
- consulting with the public, public bodies and other organisations (e.g. Health and Safety Executive, local authorities) on environmental issues
- carrying out statistical analysis, research and development on environmental issues
- providing public register information to enquirers
- investigating possible breaches of environmental law
- assessing customer service satisfaction and improving our service
- Freedom of Information Act or Environmental Information Regulations requests.

We may also pass it on to our agents or representatives to do these things on our behalf.

**Disclosure of information – this report will be available to view on-line**

If you think this report contains commercially confidential information that should not be placed on our public register, you must contact your local Natural Resources Wales office within **fifteen working days** of receiving this report, using the contact details in the accompanying email or letter. You must give a full explanation of why it should not be

added to our public register, including specifying which information is commercially confidential. We will assess your request and respond to you within 20 working days to let you know if we agree to your request.

**What do I do if I disagree with the report or have a complaint?**

If you disagree with this compliance assessment report, you should contact the lead officer without delay to discuss your concerns.

If you are unable to resolve the issue with the lead officer or their line manager you should contact our Customer Contact team on 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday 08:00 – 18:00), or email [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk) for details of how to raise your dispute further through our Complaints and Commendations procedure.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you can contact the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales by phone on 0300 7900203 or by email at [ask@ombudsman.wales](mailto:ask@ombudsman.wales)

**Welsh Language Standards**

We are committed to establishing Natural Resources Wales as a naturally bilingual organisation. We will provide compliance reports in your preferred language.