

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0043851

**Permit being assessed:** BC0002501

For: REYNOLDSTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT WK, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: REYNOLDSTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT, REYNOLDSTON, GOWER, SWANSEA, SA3 1AN.

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

On 19/03/2024, between 09:45 and 10:45.

Parts of permit assessed: All conditions relevant to a site inspection

**NRW Lead Officer:** Sarah Bennett, accompanied by: Catherine Tucker, Gareth Martin.

**Report sent to:** CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 26/03/2024.

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

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

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B2	Please check that all the monitoring points on the site plan which has been submitted for the UMON permit variation are correct. If they are not correct please inform our Permit Delivery Team before the new permit is drafted.	17/04/2024

Action criteria codes are listed in the 'Important information' section below.

### 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

On the 19/03/2024 we carried out an inspection of Reynoldston Wastewater Treatment Works. It was dry at the time of the inspection but there had been rainfall in the morning and during the days before the inspection.

The majority of Reynoldston WWTW is only around 5 years old having been rebuilt in a scheme to address issues with flows passed forward to full treatment. The membrane bioreactors have been replaced with a conventional treatment system. The required tertiary treatment achieved through a sand filter. The inlet and storm tank arrangements remain largely the same.

The flows being passed forward for treatment were 8.6 l/s at the time of the visit. The works was spilling to the storm tanks which were full and discharging to the environment. A separate CAR has been written for compliance with permit BP0236602 Settled Storm Sewage.

The incoming flows pass through a 6mm screen which was fully operational. The sewage looked quite dilute and only small amounts of rag were seen.

The flows are then treated in the activated sludge plant aeration lanes where pH, DO and mixed liquors are monitored. Most of the ammonia is removed here and dosing to balance the pH is carried out here.

Whilst there are 2 final settlement tanks at the works, only one tank is normally needed. There was foam on top of the final tank. This is as a result of over aeration which I understand may be due to the size of the aerators. The foaming only tends to happen in the winter when the incoming flows are dilute.

After passing through the Returning Activated Sludge (RAS) filter the flows pass through a sand filter for tertiary treatment. The sand filter is constantly backwashed. The final effluent being discharged was clear at the time of the visit.

The MCERT flow meter was last inspected and certified in 2023.

The Operator Self Monitoring (OSM) sampling frequency at Reynoldston WwTW is 12 per year. The results for 2023 where all well within the numeric limits of the permit.

No non-compliances with the final effluent permit were identified during our site inspection.

A UMON 3/4 permit variation (PAN-021392) has been submitted for Reynoldston WwTW. There appears to be sample point location errors in the submitted site plan. The most obvious error is the location of the settled storm sample point. I believe the final effluent sample point is also not quite in the right place on the plan.

**Action: Please check that all the monitoring points on the site plan which has been submitted for the UMON permit variation are correct. If they are not correct please inform our Permit Delivery Team before the new permit is drafted.**

Thank you.

End

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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.