

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046160

Permit being assessed: VP3295EU.

For: Bessemer Close Household And Commercial Waste Recycling Centre, **held by:** Cardiff County Council

At: Leckwith, Cardiff, Glamorgan, CF11 8XA.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 05/11/2024 between 11:30 and 12:30.

Parts of permit assessed: W2A, W3B, W1A, W2C, W4B, W3C, W3D, W3F.

NRW Lead Officer: Cariad Evans, accompanied by Elysia Lovelock.

Report sent to: Katherine Fraser, Site Supervisor, on 11/02/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
W2A - Waste - Operations - Permitted activities	C3 Minor	2.1.1
W3B - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits	C3 Minor	3.1.3
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	C3 Minor	1.1.1
W2C - Waste - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
W4B - Waste - Information - Reporting	Assessed (A)	
W3C - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Odour	Assessed (A)	
W3D - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Noise and vibration	Assessed (A)	
W3F - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Pests	Assessed (A)	

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
3	12

How we use the non-compliance score to calculate your annual fee is explained in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
W2A	Please ensure all permitted activities are restricted or limited as specified in the associated table i.e. all storage and treatment activities shall be carried out on an impermeable surface.	25/02/2025
W3B	Please ensure secondary containment for liquids as required under the permitted condition.	25/02/2025
W1A	Please improve operations, ensuring appropriate containment is in place and that permitted activities occur as specified in the permit under Table S1.1.	25/02/2025
W2C	Provide a copy of the Bessemer HWRC Daily Site Diary/End of shift Report completed for the date of the inspection 5th November 2024. Following receipt of the up-to-date 'interim EMS', we note there is mention of an interceptor in the 2018 EMS but not in the interim 2024 EMS, therefore please provide clarification and please provide us with a copy of the sites Trade Effluent Discharge consent from Welsh Water.	25/02/2025
W1A	Please provide a date by which the new EMS will be completed and submitted to Natural Resources Wales for review.	25/02/2025

Compliance 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

I, Waste Regulation Higher Education Placement Officer Cariad Evans, accompanied by Senior Industry and Waste Regulation Officer Elysia Lovelock, attended the permitted facility of Cardiff Council, Bessemer Close Household Waste Recycling Centre, Hadfield Close, Leckwith, Cardiff, CF11 8XA to undertake an unannounced site inspection on Tuesday 5th November 2024. During the visit the weather was dry and relatively sunny.

On arrival at approximately 1130 hours, we were met by Site Supervisor Katherine Fraser. We were advised that the Manager responsible for overseeing the waste operation was unavailable. We

explained that we could, if required, follow up regarding any specific queries following the visit with Katherine or Ffloyd Greeves, the Technically Competent Manager.

The purpose of the unannounced site inspection by Natural Resources Wales officers was to assess the Operators compliance with the conditions of the environmental permit held by Cardiff Council, reference EPR-VP3295EU.

The environmental permit allows the operator to carry out household waste recycling centre (HWRC) and household, commercial, and industrial waste transfer station with treatment activities at the specified location, with a permitted annual tonnage of 40,000 tonnes.

We were shown around the facility by the Site Supervisor, who explained operations on site and answered any queries we had regarding the waste activity. We discussed waste storage, segregation, treatment on site, site infrastructure, waste transfer notes, as well as the sites Environmental Management System and Technically Competent Management certification.

Copies of the following documents were requested, as required under conditions 1.1.1.

- An up-to-date copy of the sites Environmental Management System. As it was noted prior to the visit that the EMS held on record by NRW was dated 2018. As explained on site, these documents, as per condition 1.2.2 are required to be reviewed every 4 years.
- Copies of the sites drainage plans.
- Copy of the sites Technically Competent Manager Certification.

A photograph of the sites TCM certification was taken during the visit.

As advised on site, this request was followed up via email following the visit on the 14th of November.

General Management – W1A

As permit condition 1.1.2, states, ‘Records demonstrating compliance with condition 1.1.1. shall be maintained.’ The site’s EMS which Natural Resources Wales had on record was dated 2018. Therefore, during the inspection, it was queried whether a newer version of the site’s EMS was available. ‘How to comply with your environmental permit’ guidance states operators should regularly review a management system to ensure it is appropriate and being implemented. As requested on site, the Site Supervisor subsequently provided the site’s up-to-date EMS via email.

How to comply with your environmental permit states ‘Staff and contractors must be aware of the permit requirements, have convenient access to the permit and management system, any relevant standard rules, and understand how the site management system works. Please ensure all relevant documents are readily available.

NRW will review the up-to-date written Management System/EMS required by permit condition 1.1.1, named ‘EMS 2024 DRAFT’ in due course, in line with ‘How to comply with your environmental permit’ which details what should be included in an EMS, however we understand this

to be 'an interim EMS' as there is a new EMS's in development in line with the Waste Disposal Restructure.'

Action 1: Please provide a date by which the new EMS will be completed and submitted to Natural Resources Wales for review.

Due: Please provide the above within 14 working days of receipt of this Compliance Assessment Report CAR.

Site Drainage – W2C

On site, we noted that the drain was covered with leaves and mud (please see photo below) therefore it was not possible to inspect the condition of the drain, to check for i.e. blockages or infrastructure issues.



The sites procedures outlined in the EMS should be in line with the 'How to Comply with your Environmental permit' guidance, which states it is recommended that you clear litter and mud at the end of each working day, unless it is impractical or unsafe to do so. As without clear drains, inspection for blockages and infrastructure is not possible. Feedback in relation to the content of the EMS, will be given following review of the sites updated EMS in a separate Compliance Assessment Report in due course, once the final EMS has been provided to NRW. However, as the drains were covered with leaves during the inspection, we note the interim EMS states that a 'HWRC Daily Site Diary/End of shift Report' is completed with checks including 'Drainage'.

Action 2: Please ensure that drainage channels are regularly cleared, as regular routine inspection and maintenance is required and provide a copy of the Bessemer HWRC Daily Site Diary/End of shift Report completed for the date of the inspection 5th November 2024.

Action 3: Following receipt of the up-to-date 'interim EMS', we note there is mention of an interceptor in the 2018 EMS but not in the interim 2024 EMS, therefore please provide clarification and please provide us with a copy of the sites Trade Effluent Discharge consent from Welsh Water.

Due: Please provide the above within 14 working days of receipt of this Compliance Assessment Report CAR.

Hazardous Waste Storage and Treatment - W2C

It was discussed on site that asbestos is only accepted if by appointment only and that it is double bagged. We noted that there are thorough checks in place for asbestos in black bags, and that waste is denied if there is suspected asbestos without an appointment. This is in accordance with permit condition 2.4.3 'Hazardous waste shall not be mixed, either with a different category of hazardous waste or with other waste, substances or materials, unless it is authorised by schedule 1 table S1.1 and appropriate measures are taken.' Additionally, as per condition 2.1.1 and the table of permitted activities (S1.1), we noted that asbestos was stored double bagged in a clearly identifiable, lockable container (see photo below).



Permitted Activities – W2A

It was observed on site that there were two storage containers stored on gravel/hardstanding (see photo below). Permit condition 2.1.1 states 'The operator is only authorised to carry out the activities specified in schedule 1 table S1.1 (the "activities").' Table S1.1. requires 'all storage and treatment activities shall be carried out on an impermeable surface'. Operator's are required to restrict or limit the permitted activity as specified in the associated table.



A Category 3 non-compliance (with the potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property) breach of condition 2.1.1 has been recorded under sub-criteria W2A Permitted Activities.

Action 4: Please ensure all permitted activities are restricted or limited as specified in the associated table i.e. all storage and treatment activities shall be carried out on an impermeable surface.

Due: Please provide confirmation of the above within 14 working days of receipt of this Compliance Assessment Report CAR, or provide a date for completion.

Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits - W3B

It was also discussed on site that the storage for oils is in the process of getting bunded trays for underneath (see photos below). Whilst the site is impermeable with sealed drainage, permit condition 3.1.3 requires 'All liquids in containers, whose emission to water or land could cause pollution, shall be provided with secondary containment, unless the operator has used other appropriate measures to prevent or where that is not practicable, to minimise, leakage and spillage from the primary container.' Therefore, the storage of oils is currently non-compliant.



A Category 3 non-compliance (with the potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property) breach of condition 3.1.3 has been recorded under sub-criteria W3B - Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits.

Action 5: Please ensure secondary containment has been provided for liquids as required under the permitted condition.

Due: Please provide confirmation of the above within 14 working days of receipt of this

Compliance Assessment Report CAR, or provide a date for completion.

A subsequent Category 3 breach has been recorded as a root cause breach on this occasion against permit condition 1.1.1, sub-criteria W1A General Management, for the failure to ensure appropriate containment is in place and permitted activities occur as required by the permit, as per Table S1.1. Please note scores are attributed based on observations at the time of the inspection.

Action 6: Please improve operations as specified above, ensuring appropriate containment is in place and that permitted activities occur as specified in the permit under Table S1.1.

Due: Please provide confirmation of the above within 14 working days of receipt of this Compliance Assessment Report CAR, or provide a date for completion.

Reporting - W4B

In preparation for our visit we reviewed the waste returns we have received. All returns were up to date, compliant with permit condition 4.2.2 (Within one month of the end of each quarter, the operator shall submit to Natural Resources Wales using the form made available for the purpose, the information specified on the form relating to the site and the waste accepted and removed from it during the previous quarter).

Odour - W3C, Noise and Vibration - W3D and Pests - W3F

Whilst on site we observed that there were no issues with odour, noise and vibration, or pests, compliant with permit conditions 3.2.1, 3.3.1 and 3.4.1.

The visit concluded at 1230 hours. We wish to thank you for your time during the inspection.

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 of 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	Score
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	60
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	31
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	4
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property	0.1

How we use assessment scores

The number and severity of non-compliances recorded in a year will affect your annual subsistence fee the following year. A non-compliance factor is added to your site's Operator

Performance Risk Appraisal (OPRA) score when we calculate your fee to reflect the additional resource we use to assess permit compliance.

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

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

Full list of Waste compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

1. Management

- W1A – General management
- W1B – Energy Efficiency (MCP/SG facilities only)
- W1C – Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

2. Operations

- W2A – Permitted activities
- W2B – Waste recovery plan
- W2C – Operating techniques
- W2D – The site
- W2E – Waste acceptance
- W2F – Technical requirements
- W2G – Improvement programme
- W2H – Pre-operational conditions

3. Emission and Monitoring

- W3A – Emissions to water, air or land
- W3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- W3C – Odour
- W3D – Noise and vibration
- W3E – Monitoring
- W3F – Pests
- W3G – Fire

4. Information

- W4A – Records
- W4B – Reporting
- W4C – Notification

Enforcement response

Any non-compliance with a permit condition 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 twenty 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 to 18:00), or email 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

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.