

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0046508

**Permit being assessed:** AN0179101

For: TAIR ONEN WWTW, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: ST. HILARY, COWBRIDGE, VALE OF GLAMORGAN, WALES, CF71 7UA.

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

On 20/02/2025, between 10:30 and 11:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Relevant conditions

**NRW Lead Officer:** Charlotte Rhodes, accompanied by: Alexander Grainger.

**Report sent to:** DCWW CARS Mailbox, DCWW CARS Mailbox, on 07/03/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Action only (X)	
WQ-C4 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Installation of monitoring boreholes	C3 Minor	Condition 3.3.1

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-A1	Please share the maintenance records and any associated written management system for this site for the past 6 months to a year, including any relevant photos or documentation.	04/04/2025
WQ-D1	Please share the visit logs for this site for the same time period.	04/04/2025
WQ-C4	Please confirm how regularly the discharge point is checked and its access maintained? Also, please share photos from the most recent check, conducting a new one if necessary.	04/04/2025

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.

**You are non-compliant with your permit.**

**We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.**

## 4. Details of our assessment

### Introduction

On 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025, Officers C RHODES and A GRAINGER visited Tair Onen Sewage Treatment Works for a scheduled compliance inspection of permit **AN0179101**. Officers wish to thank the Catchment Performance Manager and colleagues for meeting and showing them around site. The weather was cold with light rain and heavy rain preceding.

### Permit background

This asset discharges to groundwater/soakaway and was built to serve a population of no more than 250. The permitted discharge limits for this site only include Dry Weather Flow (which was not assessed during this visit) and Visible oil or grease as a result.

### Site observations

The treatment process at this site consists solely of an underground settlement tank and a gravity filter bed before discharging to soakaway. At the time of visiting, the gravity filter bed was not in action and did not appear to be in use frequently, as there was moss growing atop the gravel and the arm was not rotating - see photo below. The site is reportedly visited weekly but there is no storage cabinet at site for the site log, so it was agreed that this would be sourced and shared (see **Actions**). The soakaway area was not visible from site due to overgrowth.



Pooling of sewage material was noted atop the settlement tank, shown in photos below. **Please share the maintenance records and any associated written management system for this site** to demonstrate

compliance with Condition 1.1, as this could be due to a blockage or seepage from the tank itself. Please also observe Condition 3.2 in relation to this.



It is recommended that the discharge to soakaway point is also checked and photos sent as feedback, as this was not able to be checked during the visit and constitutes a **non-compliance** with Condition 3.3.1.

### Actions

1. **Condition 1.1** – Please share the maintenance records and any associated written management system for this site for the past 6 months to a year, including any relevant photos or documentation.
2. **Condition 4.1.1** – Please share the visit logs for this site for the same time period.
3. **Condition 3.3.1** – Please confirm how regularly the discharge point is checked and its access maintained? Also, please share photos from the most recent check, conducting a new one if necessary.

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.