

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046801

Permit being assessed: AB3196HG

For: Trehir Former Landfill Site, held by Caerphilly County Borough Council

At: Pandy Lane, Llanbradach, Caerphilly, CF83 3RP.

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

On 28/03/2025, between 09:43 and 10:30.

Parts of permit assessed: Permit compliance

NRW Lead Officer: Elis Nuttall.

Report sent to: CCBC, Local Authority, on 08/04/2025.

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-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	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-A1	Install temporary signage on the flow monitoring box informing operators to undertake their checks without touching, moving or disturbing the nest.	22/04/2025
WQ-A1	Undertake the necessary maintenance work to seal the box AFTER the nesting season ends.	30/09/2025
WQ-A1	Undertake minor vegetation clearance to improve access to the sampling point.	08/05/2025
WQ-A1	Remove excess organic debris from the outfall location to enable a visual inspection of the pipe. Photo evidence of the pipe's condition is requested.	08/05/2025

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.

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**Site Visit Report**

This report details the site visit made by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the 28/03/2025 to Trehir Former Landfill Site, permit reference number EPR-AB3196HG.

I (NRW Environment Officer Elis Nuttall) attended Trehir Former Landfill Site on Pandy Lane, Llanbradach, CF83 3RP for a permit compliance visit at 09:43 where we met with Caerphilly County Borough Council officers. The weather was clear and dry.

General Observations

This former landfill site, which now operates as a civic amenity site, holds a permit to discharge trade effluent consisting of groundwater and surface run-off contaminated with leachate. The consented limits associated with this permit are as follows:

- Suspended solids: 100 mg/l
- ATU-DOD as O2: 72 mg/l
- Ammoniacal nitrogen: 20 mg/l
- pH: 6 to 9
- Total Copper (Cu): 140 µg/l
- Total Zinc (Zn): 900 µg/l
- Total Cadmium (Cd): 6 µg/l
- Total Lead (Pb): 280 µg/l
- Total Chromium (Cr): 80 µg/l
- Total Iron (Fe): 14000 µg/l
- Total Nickel (Ni): 100 µg/l
- Total Phenol : 28 µg/l
- Visible oil or grease: No significant trace present

There are no flow monitoring consent limits associated with this permit, only that 15 minute instantaneous or average flow measurements are taken.

Flow monitoring is to be located as ST1517589747. The discharge and sample points are to be located at ST1507089747

The site was operational during the visit.

Site Infrastructure

This visit began with a brief discussion regarding the compliance history of the site with CCBC officers. This is a relatively simple permit with only flow monitoring data being a condition that the operators need to record. All water quality limits are checked with

instantaneous (spot checks) sampling by NRW staff. No part of the permit regulates site operations at the Civic Amenity Site, so we proceeded to the flow monitoring point/infrastructure.

The flow monitoring point was inspected at 9:52. The infrastructure is secured within a fenced compound with key access and the equipment is also secured within a metal box. The infrastructure was located in the correct position as confirmed by and on site grid reference check. However, on opening the box to check the technical equipment a bird's nest was discovered within, as seen in Figure 1. This nest appeared to be in the process of being built/used. It was also covering some of the electrical cables within the box. From visual inspection it is clear that the birds had gained access to the box via the lower right hand corner which has warped and lifted, leaving a small gap.



Figure 1 – The flow monitoring box with an active bird nest within it at the time of the visit.

As it is an offence to disturb an active nest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, I advised CCBC operators to not touch or interfere with the nest. Instead, after consulting with NRW ornithologists and species permitting teams, I advised that the nest should be left within the box for the duration of the nesting season (March-August), with normal operating practices able to continue. As stated by NRW experts, the act of checking and taking readings from the equipment while the nest is in use should not disturb the birds, eggs or chicks. As a precaution, I suggested that CCBC should attach a temporary sign to the box informing any operators undertaking checks/readings of the nest's presence and not to touch, move or disturb it while it is in use. Once the nesting season is over (after August 2025), the nest can be removed, and the box fixed to close the gap and restrict entry in future. These actions are reflected below. The infrastructure itself was in good working order with screens and readings clearly visible, as seen in Figures 2 and 3.



Figures 2 and 3 – Flow monitoring infrastructure at the time of the visit.

The sampling/discharge point was checked at 10:10. The location is accurate to that listed in the permit as confirmed by an on-site grid reference check. Access to the location was ok, with some overgrown vegetation present but not overly restrictive. Minor clearance of

vegetation is advised to ensure ease of access for sampling teams who may need to bring bulky equipment to the site. The outfall pipe itself was not visible (as seen in Figure 4) but evidence of flow from it was present in the sediments on the riverbank. An action has been set to clear some of the organic/natural debris around the outfall (probably deposited during high flows over the winter months) to ensure the pipe is in good condition and is not restricted in any way. This is reflected in the actions below. There was no flow at the time of the visit.



Figure 4 - The location of the outfall with evidence of flow seen in the sediments.

A brief discussion was held with CCBC operators of the observations made. No major concerns or breaches were highlighted, and improvements on access were highlighted in comparison to my previous visit to the site.

I left site at 10:30.

Breaches of permit condition:

No breaches were recorded during this visit.

Action required by dates specified:

1. Install temporary signage on the flow monitoring box informing operators to undertake their checks without touching, moving or disturbing the nest.

Deadline: 22/04/2025

2. Undertake the necessary maintenance work to seal the box AFTER the nesting season ends.

Deadline: No earlier than 01/09/2025

3. Undertake minor vegetation clearance to improve access to the sampling point.

Deadline: 08/05/2025

4. Remove excess organic debris from the outfall location to enable a visual inspection of the pipe. Photo evidence of the pipe's condition is requested.

Deadline: 08/05/2025_

If we do not receive the information requested within specified deadline and have not been informed as to why there is a delay then we may serve a Regulation 60 Notice requiring the information under Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

Contact details:

If you have any queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details: Elis Nuttall, Environment Officer, elis.nuttall@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk, 03000 65 4651

Thank you,

Elis Nuttall.

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 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.