

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048366

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: Audit, Reason: Routine.

On 21/05/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: Relevant conditions

NRW Lead Officer: Charlotte Rhodes.

Report sent to: DCWW CARS Mailbox, DCWW CARS Mailbox, on 21/05/2025.

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	C3 Minor	1.1
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C4 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Installation of monitoring boreholes	Ongoing (O)	3.3.1
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	C3 Minor	2.1
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	Please detail how the management procedures for this site will be updated to ensure the maintenance of the entire site going forward.	23/06/2025
WQ-C4	Given the information submitted, the non-compliance with this condition noted in the previous CAR remains. How soon can this recorded risk be rectified to ensure the site returns to compliance with this condition?	23/06/2025
WQ-B1	Investigate the root cause of the seepage of sewage material from the underground tank, witnessed during the inspection and referenced in the previous CAR, and give an expected completion date for repair works.	23/06/2025
WQ-A1	The most recent visit log appears to be from December 2024. Were there no visits between this time and the compliance	23/06/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	inspection in February 2025? If not, why not?	

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.

At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.

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 report follows previous inspection CAR_NRW0046508 and formally replies to the response received. A Warning is issued herein in response to the recorded non-compliances.

Action 1 – Condition 1.1

DCWW responded:

Please find attached the written management plan for descriptive assets. The only planned maintenance for this asset is related to the filter bed, which has an annual scheduled job card. Evidence from the past two years is detailed in the table below. Additionally, operations visit the site fortnightly to perform various tasks to ensure efficient treatment.

NRW response:

The General Management condition applies to the site **in its entirety**, so only having planned maintenance for the filter beds and nothing with respect to the inlet settlement tank's integrity is not sufficient for compliance with this condition. **Please detail how the management procedures for this site will be updated to ensure the maintenance of the entire site going forward.**

Action 2 – Condition 4.1.1

DCWW responded:

Please see attached a selection of 6 images of the visits logbook.

NRW response:

Although the visit logs requested in **action 2** have been supplied in compliance with this condition, the most recent appears to be from December 2024. Were there no visits between this time and the compliance inspection in February 2025? If not, why not?

Within the site notes submitted there does not appear to be any mention of the pooling of sewage material at the surface of the underground tank, yet the extent to which this was observed on site indicates it was not a new issue. The General Management of Descriptive Permits document included in your response email even states "Including but not limited to leaks and damage to tanks and pipework" in Section

5.1. Refer to the Action for Condition 1.1.**Action 3 – Condition 3.3.1**DCWW responded:

DCWW has surveyed the area and concluded that there is no accessible monitoring point at Tair Onen WwTW. There is a live risk recorded in our investment needs register due to the absence of a sample point, highlighting the need for a future solution, such as the installation of a borehole.

NRW response:

Given the information submitted, the non-compliance with this condition noted in the previous CAR remains. How soon can this recorded risk be rectified to ensure the site returns to compliance with this condition?

In addition to the above, we add a **NEW ACTION:**

4. Condition 2.1 - Investigate the root cause of the seepage of sewage material from the underground tank, witnessed during the inspection and referenced in the previous CAR, and give an expected completion date for repair works. At present, this constitutes a pollution to land and thereby demonstrates a non-compliance with Condition 2.1 in addition to Condition 1.1.

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.