

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0048582

Permit being assessed: AW1003901

For: Llanwrtyd Wells Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Track past Glanirfon Court, Llanwrtyd Wells, Powys, LD5 4AF.

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

On 12/06/2025, between 10:12 and 10:50.

Parts of permit assessed: See Criteria Below

NRW Lead Officer: Robert Harding.

Report sent to: CARS Mailbox, CARS Mailbox, on 19/06/2025.

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	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Assessed (A)	

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 investigate and provide confirmation that MCERTS meters are in operation at monitoring points 1 and 2 of the site plan, as listed within table S3.4 "monitoring points" of the permit.	31/07/2025

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

This was a pre-planned OSM site inspection carried out by Natural Resources Wales Officer Robert Harding I was shown around the site by DCWW Representatives

The weather during the visit was raining with an amber thunderstorm warning in place, following dry weather.

General Observations

The STW is a filtration works with two filter beds in operation. The site is unmanned but has telemetry in place for monitoring. The works has a storm discharge in place and is operating under a consolidated permit.

Inlet

The incoming flow to the site is via combined gravity sewer. Flows into the works initially pass through a mechanical centrifuge filter which rotates to remove rags and large solids. The centrifuge filter is located withing a self-contained inlet unit. The screen was clearly operation at the time of inspections and there were no signs of significant solids or rag passing through to the next stage of treatment. There is a bypass channel located at the inlet with a hard-set bar screen, which is used when maintenance of the mechanical screen is undertaken.

Storm Wier

Flows from the inlet then pass through two parallel rectangular tanks, which appear to be operating as grit traps by slowing down the flow through the works. The tanks have manually operated penstocks on both ends which can be used to control flow into or out of each of the tanks. At the time of inspection all the penstocks were open, and flows were passing through freely.

The storm weir in place is a hard-set weir located following the grit trap tanks. The storm discharge can only discharge when flows reach the level of the weir. The storm channel has no screening in place, as all flows pass through the mechanical screen at the inlet. There is Event Duration Monitoring spill meter in place to monitor storm discharges, which was clearly operational. At the time of inspection, flows were below the weir level and the site was not running to storm. There was evidence within the storm channel that suggests that the works had recently been spilling to storm.

Primary Settlement and Overflow.

The primary settlement at the works are two connected rectangular tanks, within a joined housing and a shared outfall channel. Each tank has scum boards for retaining solids. The two tanks are within a shared unit which flows into a joined outfall channel. The settlement tanks have recently received new retention boards, and these appeared to be in good working order. There were no signs of significant solids passing through to the next stage of treatment.

The outfall from the primary settlement tanks leads to an additional chamber before being sent to the filter beds. There is a COPA sack in place at the entrance to the chamber, which was clearly retaining solids and allowing liquids to pass through

Filter Bed

The works contains two large filter bed of stone media. Each of the filter beds are powered by water wheels in the centre columns of the filter arms. At the time of inspection, the rotation arms were moving freely and effectively distributing over the filter media. There were no signs of ponding, dry patches or excessive vegetation growth on either of the filters. The filter beds at the works appeared in good working order and operating effectively. The outfall channels appeared clear of significant solids or signs of sewage fungus build up.

Humus Tanks

The site has two parallel rectangular final settlement tanks, with retention boards to hold back solids at both the inlet and outfall ends of the tanks. New retention boards have been recently installed, and appeared in good working order. There were no signs of significant solids passing over into the outfall channel of the tanks, and the settlement system appeared to be operating effectively.

Outfall and Sampling point

The sample point is clearly marked with signage including the sample point number. There is an MCERTS flow monitoring meter in operation between the hummus tanks and outfall. The outfall into the river was checked and there were no signs of impact or discolouration around the outfall pipe or further downstream.

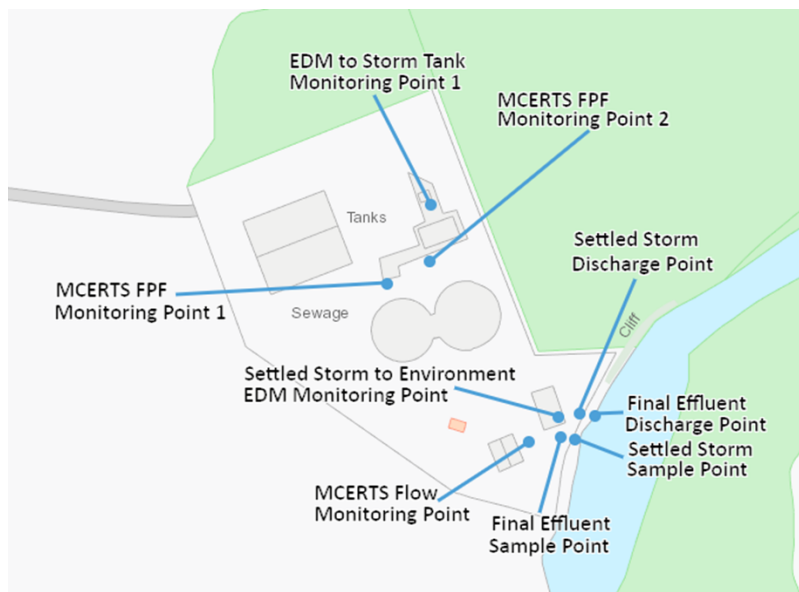
Storm Tank and Storm Outfall

The storm tank on site is a rectangular tank similar to a primary settlement tank. There are retention boards on the inlet and outfall ends of the tank to hold back solids. There is an EDM spill monitor in place on the storm outfall channel (storm to environment), which was clearly operation at the time. The outfall of the storm tank discharges to the consented storm outfall point. At the time of inspection, the storm tank was empty with only a small amount of water present at the base of the tank. The outfall channel appeared completely dry and showed no signs of a recent discharge.

I was unable to inspect the storm outfall into the river, due to vegetation growth, however there were no signs of discolouration or rag present below the outfall location. There were no indications that the storm tanks had been discharging.

General Comments

In terms of works operation, the works appears in good working order and has been producing effluent within consented limits. It was unclear on site whether MCERTS meters are in operation at Flow Monitoring points 1 and 2 (as listed in the site plan below).



Advisory Actions

1. Please investigate and provide confirmation that MCERTS meters are in operation at monitoring points 1 and 2 of the site plan. These are listed within the monitoring points listed within table S3.4 "monitoring points" of permit AW1003901, and are therefore a permitted requirement. If these are not installed, this will result in a noncompliance against permit condition 3.3.1

" 3.3.1 The operator shall, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales, undertake the monitoring specified in the following tables in schedule 3 to this permit:

- (a) point source emissions specified in tables S3.1 and S3.4;
- (b) inlet quality specified in tables S3.1 and S3.4"

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.