

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049015

Permit being assessed: BW4108401

For: Swansea Elmgrove Road CSO, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Adjacent to 17 Elmgrove Road, West Cross, Swansea, Swansea, SA3 5LD.

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

On 10/07/2025, between 11:14 and 11:50.

Parts of permit assessed: Management, Operations, Emissions and Monitoring

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrcymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 31/07/2025.

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	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	C3 Minor	2.3.1 For the discharge specified in table S3.3 (No greater than 6 mm in more than 1 dimension/6 mm x 6 mm) (d) The discharge shall not be comminuted or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge.
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-B3	Please replace the screen with a 6 x 6 mm screen.	31/07/2026

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 Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) relates to a site inspection of Elmgrove Road CSO on the 10nd July 2025. The weather was dry during our visit and on the days preceding the inspection. We were accompanied by DCWW staff.

In addition to the inspection report, I have also reviewed the Event Duration Monitoring (EDM) 2024 data submitted to us and any completed actions from previous CARs.

The permit for Elmgrove Road CSO allows the discharge of storm sewage as defined by the permit conditions to Washinghouse Brook in West Cross.

During the inspection it was established that the CSO is on a 1-3 month maintenance schedule. The frequency of visits is determined by known risks and information gathered during visits.

You informed us that the screens at Elmgrove Road CSO used to blind requiring frequent maintenance but this issue has been resolved since the storm storage tank was cleaned out in 2024 as part of a solution to reduce the number of spills from this CSO. Root ingress on the network was also carried out. These actions are detailed in CAR_NRW0045910.

The overflow and discharge points were at the locations described in the permit. We inspected the outfall which appeared to be free of sewage debris. Access was difficult down a steep slope and the brook is incised making it difficult to check for signs of sewage debris downstream. It was noted that a long standing whole house misconnection impacting an adjacent surface water outfall had been resolved.

The overflow setting of 400 l/s is not controlled by any flow devices or penstocks. The recorded number of spills indicates that the flow passed forward is being achieved. The overflow chamber was clean with no signs of debris or indications that it had recently been full.

The CSO has 120m³ of off line storage which is located on the opposite side of the road to the CSO. We did not inspect the storage at the time of our visit as it was cleaned out in 2024. The current number of spills does not indicate that the tank is undersized or under

capacity.

Condition 2.3.1(d) requires that a 6 x 6 mm screen is fitted. The static screen fitted appeared to be a bar screen with an aperture of greater than 6mm.

Action: Please replace the screen with a 6 x 6 mm screen.

Under Regulation 38 (2) of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016, it is an offence for a person to fail to comply with or to contravene an environmental permit condition.

Please take the action required in this report as formal Advice and Guidance intended to bring the discharge back into compliance with the Permit.

If the non-compliant screen is still in place when this storm overflow is classified under Guidance Note 066 Classifying Storm Overflow Performance it is likely to be classified as Unsatisfactory due to the non-compliance with permit 2.3.1 (d).

The discharge from this CSO is subject to a spill trigger limit of 5 during the bathing water season. The submitted EDM for 2024 data shows that there was 1 significant spill during the bathing season lasting for a total of 1.25 hours. During the whole of 2024, 6 spills occurred lasting for a total of 2.5 hours.

The EDM monitor was located in the overflow chamber as described in the permit. It reported data for only 85.58% of the time in 2024 which is a deterioration from the 100% recorded. If necessary, a storm sewage sample could be taken from the overflow chamber.

Review of previous CAR actions.

You were given an action in CAR_NRW0046723 to take steps to ensure that the EDM is fully operational and recording accurately for at least 90% of the time. Your investigations found an issue with the monitoring equipment which was resolved and you reported that the EDM now appears to be reporting data for more than 90% of the time. The percentage of EDM data will be reviewed again at the end of 2025. This action has been completed and closed.

Thank you.

End.

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.