

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046131

Permit being assessed: BP0015201

For: Llanfarian Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Antaron Avenue, Llanfarian, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 4BT.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review, Reason: Routine.

On 21/10/2024.

Parts of permit assessed: 2.3.2(b)

NRW Lead Officer: Ffion Quan.

Report sent to: CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 11/08/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	C3 Minor	2.3.2(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	Install an automated inlet flow control valve that will be modulated off the new inlet meter at Llanfarian WwTW to achieve the site's FPF	01/11/2026

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.

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

Following a data review of Llanfarian Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) permit BP0015203, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) Officer Ffion Quan issued Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) CAR_NRW0041832 to the operators, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water

(DCWW), on the 26 February 2024. The issued CAR highlighted that the asset was spilling to storm too frequently when Flows to Full Treatment (FTT) were below the 14.3l/s required by the permit. The CAR therefore required DCWW to ensure that Llanfarian WwTW treated the minimum required FFT by the 11 August 2024.

On 11 September 2024, a response was received from DCWW by email, stating:

"As discussed with you previously, DCWW were due to deliver a new screening system that included automated flow control linked to the flow meter to improve FPF (Flow Passed Forward) compliance. However, this is on hold as the site is achieving FPF without need for this additional equipment. Whilst we were waiting for the project to be delivered, additional maintenance and repairs were completed on the existing screen. This additional maintenance helped alleviate the blockages which were impacting FPF. This had more of an impact than initially anticipated and the site has been achieving the permitted FPF since March 2024. We continue to monitor performance closely and will proceed with upgrade works should it be needed".

To confirm whether storm discharges at Llanfarian WwTW have been compliant since March 2024 as suggested by DCWW, NRW Officer Bethan Lewis requested Event Duration Monitoring (EDM) data from DCWW for Llanfarian WwTW permit BP0015201, covering the period between the 01 February 2024 and 21 October 2024. This data was received on the 10 December 2024.

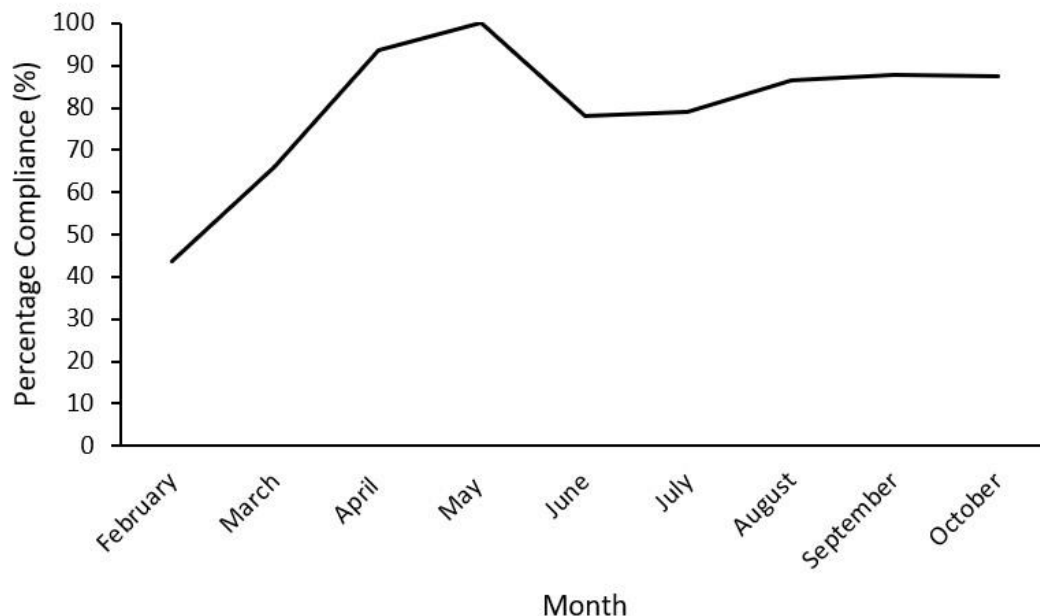
Please note that on the 15 January 2024, Llanfarian WwTW's final effluent permit BP0015201 was varied and consolidated with Llanfarian WwTW's settled storm permit BP0015203. BP0015203 was surrendered upon issue of BP0015201. Under condition 2.3.2 of permit BP0015201, a storm discharge may only occur from Llanfarian WwTW when and only for as long as the flow passed forward (FPF) is equal to or greater than 5.7l/s. Storm tanks must also only fill when the FPF is equal to or greater than 5.7l/s.

From analysing the data received for the period noted above, calculations show that the asset is still spilling to storm too frequently and is not consistently treating 5.7 l/s as required by the permit. Please see below table.

Month	Percentage compliance when spilling to storm tank
February	43.8%
March	66.2%
April	93.6%
May	100.0%
June	78.2%
July	79.2%
August	86.4%
September	87.7%
October	87.6%

Our calculations show that following the maintenance work that took place at Llanfarian in

March 2024, the compliance percentage when spilling to storm tank improved considerably but having looked at the PFF, the data clearly shows that the asset still spills to storm too early and the PFF often dips below the required 5.7 l/s as stated on the permit. This is therefore a breach of permit condition 4. Please see below graph showing percentage compliance (%) vs month.



We would like to thank DCWW for already working on and improving FPF compliance at Llanfarian WwTW but in order to meet full site compliance we require for you to install an automated inlet flow control valve that will be modulated off the new inlet meter at Llanfarian WwTW to achieve the site's FPF. The current Regulation 36 Notice action is extended to 01 November 2026.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.