

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0046355

Permit being assessed: BJ0087401

For: MERLINS BRIDGE STW, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: MERLINS BRIDGE STW, MERLINS BRIDGE, HAVERFORDWEST,
PEMBROKESHIRE, .

Type of assessment carried out: Audit, Reason: Other.

On 18/02/2025, between 10:00 and 11:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Monitoring and reporting conditions

NRW Lead Officer: Rod Thomas, accompanied by: Caryl Brace.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru, CARS Mailbox, on 05/09/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C3 Minor	S3.2 A1

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Develop a plan to avoid manhole overflowing during high spring tides	01/09/2025

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

The following was discussed;

Flows to full treatment, 239 litres per second which includes 120 litres per second from Picton SPS, 54 litres per second, gravity to the inlet with the remainder gravity feed from the area at the top of Union Hill.

DCWW informed NRW that the flow passed forward was compliant for 2024 and this will be reflected in the annual return expected in the next couple of months.

Please supply the following:

The dry weather flow compliance data for 2024 along with the spill data from the storm overflow at the inlet to the works.

DCWW confirmed that there are no issues with UV disinfection and no odour complaints.

The final effluent is compliant for water quality.

NRW are aware that the outfall to the Western Cleddau estuary can under certain tidal conditions cause a manhole to surcharge. NRW are aware that DCWW are looking at options to address the situation and that an investigation is under way to find a solution.

Deadline for data submission, 1 April 2025.

Email received from DCWW on 21 May 2025

'Action 1: Develop a plan to avoid manhole overflowing during high spring tides – 01.09.25

This work is now in place and our Repair & Maintenance contractors have a works order in place to rebuild 2x Manhole chambers which will be completed before September 2025.

Description of Required Task: Rebuild 2 new brickwork chambers with new concrete base surrounding the existing pipework, with a shuttered concrete plinth to seal around the cover and frame x2 new brick work chambers with 2 new sealed/bolted down covers.

Special Requirements: Works to be scheduled and completed before September in low tide during dry weather.'

CLOSED and VERIFIED - 23 May 2025

Update from DCWW 05/09/2025 - Confirmation that all remedial works is complete (as of 06/08/25)

2 x manhole chambers have been rebuilt with new sealed bolt down cover and frame encased in concrete.

Closed and Verified 05/09/2025

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.