

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049426

Permit being assessed: VP3295EU.

For: Bessemer Close Household And Commercial Waste Recycling Centre, **held by:** Cardiff County Council

At: Leckwith, Cardiff, Glamorgan, CF11 8XA.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Incident Response (Incident number 2507087).

On: 06/08/2025 between 11:29 and 12:45.

Parts of permit assessed: All.

NRW Lead Officer: Gareth Morris, accompanied by Daniel Hopkin, Marc Campbell.

Report sent to: Matthew Long, Operations Manager , on 19/09/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	C3 Minor	Breach of Permit Condition 1.1.1

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
1	4

How we use the non-compliance score to calculate your annual fee is explained in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
W1A	Provide up to date EMS	03/10/2025

Compliance 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

Cardiff Council Bessemer Close Household and Commercial Waste Recycling Centre, Regulatory Site Inspection, Cardiff (EPR/VP3295EU) 06/08/2025

Waste Regulation Officer Gareth Morris accompanied by Waste Regulation Officers Dan Hopkin and Marc Campbell visited Bessemer Close, Household and Commercial Waste Recycling Centre, Hadfield Close, Leckwith, Cardiff, CF11 8XA on 06/08/2025 to conduct a post fire site inspection and to assess compliance with environmental permit: EPR/AB3999ZF.

The operator holds a Tier Three Bespoke Permit which allows them to operate as a household waste recycling centre. (HWRC) which covers, household, commercial and industrial waste transfer station with treatment activities at the specified location.

Weather on day of inspection, was clear, dry with little wind.

The purpose for the site inspection was following a fire being reported at the site on Friday 1st August at approx. 14:00 hrs. The report of the fire was submitted to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) by the South Wales Fire and Rescue Service (SWFRS) via the Welsh Incident reporting system Incident (Ref: WIRS 2507087). The report of the fire was also passed to NRW Officer Gareth MORRIS as this site was a site regulated by Officer Gareth MORRIS. The HWRC, Bessemer Close, CF11 8DL site has a sealed drainage system with interceptor. It was confirmed by South Wales Fire and Rescue Service (SWFRS) that the interceptors were not overwhelmed all fire water runoff was captured by the interceptor.

On Friday 7th August 2025 Officer Gareth MORRIS spoke to the sites Technically Competent Manager (TCM), Mr Floyd Greaves at the site and asked him to discuss the sequence of events of the fire. Mr Floyd explained the site had received a containment of mixed waste in the commercial side of the permitted site. A commercial customer tipped the mixed waste at the commercial side of the permitted area. Approximately ten minutes later site operatives noticed smoke coming from that area, and a small to medium fire within the commercial waste bay. Personnel on site immediately closed the site to the public. Site operatives tried to extinguish the fire themselves but to no avail.

South Wales Fire and Rescue Service were in attendance at the site within ten minutes of the fire starting. The fire was quickly brought under control, and the fire was out within one hour.

It was confirmed by the Technically Competent Manager that the fire was highly likely caused by a battery.

Photograph 1.1 shows the commercial bay where the site started.

Photograph 1.1



Issues were also raised with Mr Greaves in relation to gaining access to the site's interceptor. Access could not be provided to the sites interceptor as the relevant tools were not on site to lift the interceptor cover. Many of the drains connected to the interceptor within the commercial part of the site were full of silt. I asked Mr Greaves of when the drains and inceptors were last cleaned and emptied and for evidence of this and Mr Greaves informed Officer MORRIS that this information was not available.

Photographs 1.2 and 1.3 show the heavy silt build in the drains on site.

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Photograph 1.2



Photograph 1.3



Breaches Recorded

W1A- General Management

Route Cause Breach 1.1.1

Permit Condition 1.1.1 (A) states: *The operator shall manage and operate the activities: (a). In accordance with a written management system that identifies and minimises risks of pollution, including those arising from operations, maintenance, accidents, incidents, non-conformances, closure, and those drawn to the attention of the operator as a result of complaints.*

At the time of the inspection Officer Gareth MORRIS raised his concerns regarding the security of the site, particularly the issues surrounding the sites CCTV system. When Officer Gareth MORRIS asked Mr Floyd Greaves for the CCTV footage of the fire, Mr Greaves informed Officer Gareth MORRIS that there was no CCTV footage available of the fire as the CCTV system in the commercial area of the site was out of action and had been for some time due to connectivity issues. Mr Greaves could not provide an estimated time of when this issue would be resolved. You must take a risk-based approach to decide the level of security needed on site to prevent unauthorised access. What is appropriate will depend upon the environmental risks posed by the activity itself and the location. You need to be clear about the level of security needed at your site and make a written assessment of your control measures in your management system. Should your CCTV not be

working as outlined in your EMS, alternative measures should be in place and detailed in your plan.

During my inspection of the site, I asked for access to the permitted site's environmental management system (EMS). After speaking with the operations manager for the site. I was informed that the site does not currently have a complete EMS, but I was assured by the site operations manager that a fully updated EMS would be provided to NRW by the end of September.

As highlighted during my inspection, many of the drains on site were full of silt and debris. I asked the Technically competent manager on site when and how often the drains on site were cleaned and when the interceptor was last cleaned. I also asked to look at the interceptor on site. I was informed by the TCM that he wasn't aware of when the drains and interceptor were last cleaned. The TCM also informed me that I could not be shown the interceptor as the cover of the interceptor could not be lifted.

As the permit holder had breached this permit condition, I informed them that they would receive a Category Three (3) breach for this breach of permit condition.

Actions You must ensure drains on site are clear of silt and debris and that the interceptor is maintained and cleaned periodically in order to ensure that if a pollution incident did occur at the site, any pollutant(s) would be captured by the interceptor system. This may be requested during a later inspection.

Action: Please submit an up to date EMS to NRW officer by the 3rd October 2025.

If you have any queries relating to this report, please do not hesitate to contact myself on the details below.

Gareth Morris

07966730983

Gareth.morris@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk

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 of 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	Score
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	60
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	31
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	4
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property	0.1

How we use assessment scores

The number and severity of non-compliances recorded in a year will affect your annual subsistence fee the following year. A non-compliance factor is added to your site's Operator

Performance Risk Appraisal (OPRA) score when we calculate your fee to reflect the additional resource we use to assess permit compliance.

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend scores for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. Suspended scores will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

Full list of Waste compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):

1. Management

- W1A – General management
- W1B – Energy Efficiency (MCP/SG facilities only)
- W1C – Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

2. Operations

- W2A – Permitted activities
- W2B – Waste recovery plan
- W2C – Operating techniques
- W2D – The site
- W2E – Waste acceptance
- W2F – Technical requirements
- W2G – Improvement programme
- W2H – Pre-operational conditions

3. Emission and Monitoring

- W3A – Emissions to water, air or land
- W3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- W3C – Odour
- W3D – Noise and vibration
- W3E – Monitoring
- W3F – Pests
- W3G – Fire

4. Information

- W4A – Records
- W4B – Reporting
- W4C – Notification

Enforcement response

Any non-compliance with a permit condition 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 twenty 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 to 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.