

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049280

Permit being assessed: AN0267201

For: LAND ADJACENT TO TWYN ROAD YSTRAD, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG
At: LAND ADJACENT TO TWYN ROAD YST, YSTRAD MYNACH ., YSTRAD MYNACH .,
YSTRAD MYNACH ., ..

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

On 28/08/2025, between 13:00 and 13:33.

Parts of permit assessed: Site infrastructure and operations

NRW Lead Officer: Elis Nuttall.

Report sent to: DCWW, Water Industry, on 03/10/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Action only (X)	
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Action only (X)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Action only (X)	
WQ-D1 - Water Quality - Information - Records	Action only (X)	
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	C4 No impact	4 - Sample Point

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-D1	Compile a site history summary for the benefit of NRW. This should include all major, non-routine maintenance works undertaken.	03/11/2025
WQ-D1	Provide data records for alarm triggers and EDM for the 12 months prior to the visit. This will be assessed in a separate	17/10/2025

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	report.	
WQ-B2	Confirm the storage capacity of the SPS. For reference, the permit stipulates that the storage capacity should be "equivalent to a total of at least 6 hours of the dry weather flow in the sewer immediately upstream of the pumping station".	17/10/2025
WQ-A1	Clear the vegetation from all areas of the SPS compound to ensure access and ease of maintenance. Evidence of works undertaken should be provided to NRW.	03/11/2025
WQ-A1	Undertake a cleanse of the wet well to remove the excess fatty deposits observed. Evidence of works undertaken should be provided to NRW.	03/11/2025
WQ-A1	Investigate and assess the corrosion present on some of the wet well infrastructure. Any maintenance required should be notified to NRW and evidence of works undertaken provided.	03/11/2025
WQ-D1	Provide records and evidence of the most recent telemetry maintenance, service and calibration.	17/10/2025
WQ-D1	Provide records and evidence of the most recent pump maintenance and service.	17/10/2025
WQ-B1	Vary the permit to alter the sample/discharge point locations to accurately represent where the EO discharges. Please contact me for further guidance on this process if required.	03/12/2025

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

Site Visit Report

This report details the site visit made by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on the 28/08/2025 to Twyn Road SPS (Forge Mill SPS) operated by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW), permit reference number EPR-AN0267201.

I (NRW Environment Officer Elis Nuttall) attended Twyn Road SPS, Ystrad Mynach at 13:00 for a water quality permit compliance inspection where I met with DCWW Catchment Performance Manager (MM). The weather was overcast with light rain during the visit.

General Observations

This permit consents a water discharge activity for the discharge of sewage in an

emergency from a Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) via an outlet to Nant Twyn yr Harris at ST1455093260. An emergency, as defined in the permit, is a period when the SPS is inoperative as a result of electrical power failure, mechanical breakdown of duty and standby pumps, rising main failure or a blockage of the downstream sewer which is not due to the act or default of the operator. There are no set composition limits for the EO discharge. The sample point of the EO is listed to be located at ST1454093250.

The site was operational at the time of the visit.

Initial Discussions

This is the first regulatory inspection conducted by NRW for this SPS. As such I first queried the site's history to which MM explained that while the permit was issued in 1996, the SPS itself has been in place longer, but the addition of the emergency overflow was the subject of the site requiring a permit. MM continued to note that while no major issues or works have resulted in the site becoming inoperable, there have been some issues with infiltration meaning the main has become overwhelmed and impacting the SPS's ability to pump. As a result, several high trigger alarms have been experienced. I requested that an overview of the site's history be compiled and shared with NRW for reference, including a record of alarm triggers and spill event data, as per condition 8(a) of the permit *"the discharger shall notify the Agency, as soon as practicable after receipt of an overflow telemetry warning, that operation of the emergency overflow has taken place"*.

Additionally, I requested that the storage capacity of the SPS be confirmed, with the permit stating that *"Storage capacity, equivalent to a total of at least 6 hours of the dry weather flow in the sewer immediately upstream of the pumping station, shall be provided in the pumping station and/or the upstream sewerage system, above the wet well design top water level"*. These actions and further information are outlined below.

Due to MM noting continued high level alarm triggers for the site, I inspected the site log book to check for the frequency and found 2 records of high level triggers in the previous 12 months, both in December 2024. Additionally, several instances of scheduled cleaning operations have had to be abandoned due to high levels in the wet well. It was stated that the SPS frequently experiences volume issues over the winter period.

We then proceeded to inspect the site infrastructure.

Site Infrastructure

Site conditions were mixed at the time of the visit. Access to the secure compound was hindered by heavy vegetation growth, with DCWW operators experiencing a degree of difficulty in opening the access gate. Within the compound the vegetation was growing across the floor and over some of the chambers, although this did not overly hinder access. MM noted that they are waiting on grounds maintenance to undertake the clearance work of this vegetation, however I have added it as an action to this report and request that evidence be provided of its completion. The observations on site conditions can be seen in Figures 1 and 2.



Figure 1 – Heavy vegetation growth within the SPS compound as observed during the visit.



Figure 2 – Heavy vegetation growth within the SPS compound as observed during the visit.

This SPS was stated to have a large wet well (confirmation of volume forthcoming). The integrity of the wet well walls appeared sufficient with no major cracks or damage present, but the chamber itself included a notable amount of fatty deposits, potentially a result of continued scheduled cleaning works being postponed. The wet well was last cleaned on the 03/05/2025. I request that the wet well undergo further cleaning to remove the fatty deposits as soon as possible to ensure no residual wastes are discharged in the event of a future spill. This is reflected in the actions list below. Additionally, there was some corrosion present on the metal infrastructure within the wet well. I have actioned an assessment of these components to ensure continued operational effectiveness. See the actions list for further details. Telemetry is in place with level sensors and EDM recording present. These systems were upgraded as part of the “Diffodd” project and are currently on a 4-year maintenance program. Please provide details on when these alarms were last serviced and calibrated. The observations above are evidenced in Figure 3.



Figure 3 – The condition of the wet well as observed during the visit.

There are 2 pumps at this SPS, 1 duty and 1 standby although MM described the setup as a “duty assist” where both run together if needed to which they stated it is not very often an SPS pump system is set up like this. The pumps were running at the time of the visit but there was no excessive or concerning noise indicating effective operation. I requested details on the most recent maintenance and service work for the pumps. See the actions

list below for details.

Access to the valve chamber was slightly hindered by the heavy vegetation growth, but once accessed it appeared to be in good working order with only minor corrosion present. The tanker point is also located within this chamber. This is evidenced in Figure 4.



Figure 4 – The valve chamber as observed during the visit.

It is noted that neither the wet well nor valve chambers had a safety grate installed. While not a permit requirement I have listed the H&S procedures to be reviewed for the benefit of any site operators.

The control box, panels and systems were observed to be in a good condition with no damage or condensation present with all readouts being clear and working as designed (Figure 5). A point to connect a mobile backup generator was also in place, as seen in Figure 6. This is no emergency stop function at this asset, so an advisory comment has been included to reflect to possibility of including one.



Figure 5 – The control box and panels as observed during the visit.



Figure 6 – The mobile backup generator point in place.

Prior to the site visit I noted that the sample and discharge points were located in inaccurate locations, listed as being located within residential properties and not near to the described outfall on Nant Twyn yr Harris. This can be seen in Figure 7 with the emergency overflow line (light green) running directly from the SPS to the watercourse. Due to this being a clerical error I have listed this as a C4 breach (no potential environmental impact) in relation to condition 4 (sample point) of the permit. See below for further details.

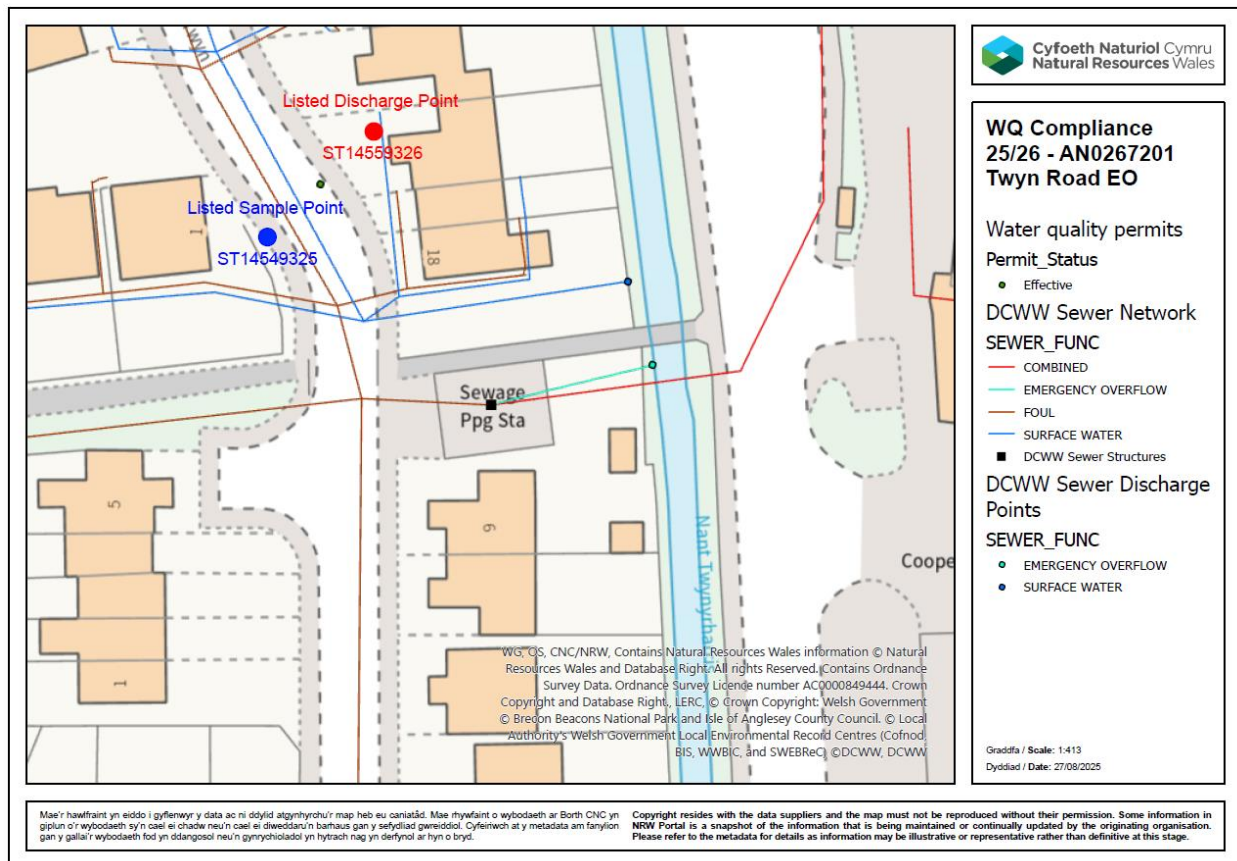


Figure 7 – A map outlining the sample and discharge points being inaccurate.

As a result, I stated that the permit will require a variation to reflect that the emergency overflow discharges to Nant Twyn yr Harris at ~ST1458393248. I also advise that this discharge point be listed as a new sample point as no other sewer or surface water lines connect into the EO line prior to the discharge point. While on site, I confirmed the location of the discharge point (at the above coordinates) and took photographic evidence as seen in Figure 8. This flap valve is accessible via a small public footbridge and should be appropriate as a combined discharge-sample point. The action to vary the permit is reflected below.



Figure 8 – The EO discharge point located at ~ ST1458393248 as observed during the visit.

No further observations were made during this visit.

Final Discussions

I outlined my observations and action to MM who raised no further questions or queries.
I left site at 13:33.

Breaches of permit conditions

Below are the permit breaches that were identified during the site inspection.

1. CATEGORY 4 BREACH – PERMIT CONDITION 4 – Sample point

An appropriately labelled sample point shall be provided and maintained

The listed sample and discharge points are not accurate, as seen in Figure 7. This is a clerical error and have been scored as no potential environmental impact but will require a permit variation to rectify.

Please see report content for further justification

Actions required by dates specified

1. Compile a site history summary for the benefit of NRW. This should include all major, non-routine maintenance works undertaken.

Deadline: 03/11/2025

2. Provide data records for alarm triggers and EDM for the 12 months prior to the visit. This will be assessed in a separate report.

Deadline: 17/10/2025

3. Confirm the storage capacity of the SPS. For reference, the permit stipulates that the storage capacity should be "*equivalent to a total of at least 6 hours of the dry weather flow in the sewer immediately upstream of the pumping station*".

Deadline: 17/10/2025

4. Clear the vegetation from all areas of the SPS compound to ensure access and ease of maintenance. Evidence of works undertaken should be provided to NRW.

Deadline: 03/11/2025

5. Undertake a cleanse of the wet well to remove the excess fatty deposits observed. Evidence of works undertaken should be provided to NRW.

Deadline: 03/11/2025

6. Investigate and assess the corrosion present on some of the wet well infrastructure. Any maintenance required should be notified to NRW and evidence of works undertaken provided.

Deadline: 03/11/2025

7. Provide records and evidence of the most recent telemetry maintenance, service and calibration.

Deadline: 17/10/2025

8. Provide records and evidence of the most recent pump maintenance and service.

Deadline: 17/10/2025

9. Vary the permit to alter the sample/discharge point locations to accurately represent where the EO discharges. Please contact me for further guidance on this process if required.

Deadline: 03/12/2025

If we do not receive the information requested within specified deadline and have not been informed as to why there is a delay then we may serve a Regulation 60 Notice requiring the information under Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2016.

Other advisory comments

1. There is no emergency stop function at this SPS. While not a permit requirement it is advised that the inclusion of one is explored as a contingency measure in the event

of a future emergency.

2. Assess the H&S policies and procedures regarding the need for a safety grate over the wet well and valve chambers.

Please note, these comments are not actions. No updates will be requested.

Contact details

If you have any queries regarding this CAR form or to provide an update on any actions above, please contact me using the following details: Elis Nuttall, Environment Officer, elis.nuttall@cyfoethnaturiolcymru.gov.uk, 03000 65 4651.

Thank you,

Elis Nuttall.

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.