

## **Biffa Cardiff WMRC – Report into Activities 2024-SP3031SJ**

PC 4.2.1

### **A) Review of Monitoring**

Emission monitoring of pH at point source (S1) discharge to sewer – see attached form.

No data from August due to site closure.

### **B) Production/ Treatment data**

Hazardous waste inputs 2024 – 933.09 Tonnes

Hazardous waste treated 2024 – 0 Tonnes

Non Hazardous waste inputs 2024 – 302.69 Tonnes

### **C) Performance Parameters S5.3**

Downtime of pH Probe – 0 days inoperative. See attached form

### **D) Details of any contamination or decontamination of the site which has occurred.**

As per attached report, site clearance completed as part of permit surrender. Please see section 3

Submitted 30<sup>th</sup> January 2025

### 3. SITE CLEARANCE

The Site was used for the receipt of hazardous and non-hazardous wastes, which were stored, bulked up or re-packaged on site, prior to removal from site. Empty containers previously containing wastes that had been bulked up into other containers were shredded or crushed. These activities were undertaken inside a building or roofed area over impermeable pavement with segregated drainage contained within bunded areas. Following cessation of waste operations, the site was prepared for Permit surrender in line with the closure plan agreed previously with NRW.

The waste operation at the Site ceased with the last loads of waste being received on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> June 2024. From that date, wastes to be handled by Biffa were directed to a new waste transfer facility at Lamby Way, Cardiff. All existing wastes that had previously been deposited at the Site (and not yet removed) were subsequently removed to appropriately permitted waste facilities for disposal or recovery commencing on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and taking place over the remainder of that week. Thereafter, the site was subject to a process of removal of redundant waste handling equipment and fittings where required by the lease, removal of residual wastes and cleaning of surfaces and finally cleaning of any interceptors. The following were undertaken following closure of the Site to waste inputs:

#### 3.1. Removal of Residual Wastes and waste handling equipment

The site was provided with impermeable pavement and storage bays for the acceptance of non-hazardous wastes. Following the cessation of inputs of waste into the Site, all wastes were cleared from the impermeable pavements as above, and any wastes removed reported as part of the quarterly waste returns in accordance with the Permit conditions.

Despite removal of the previously accepted wastes, there would have been potential for residues from these wastes on the surfaces of any pavements or bund walls in the storage areas. There would also have been general debris in waste treatment areas and storage areas, including general litter (paper and plastic packaging potentially) that had blown into areas of the site particularly around the perimeter and behind bund walls and kerbs. In order to hand back the lease, all waste treatment plant (comprising drum shredder and drum crusher) and any other associated equipment and materials were removed from the Site. Any debris was collected and removed for disposal to other permitted facilities.

As part of these works, vegetation Shrubs, small trees and undergrowth that had established itself around the perimeter was removed during weeks commencing 17<sup>th</sup> June and 24<sup>th</sup> June. This enabled any litter that had accumulated around the perimeter and behind kerbs/bunds to be accessed and picked for removal at the same time as other remaining materials on site. Vegetation/green waste was placed into skips and removed from site on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024. Please see Appendix 5 for Waste Transfer Note for green waste removed.

#### 3.2. Cleaning of Impermeable Pavements

Following placing of all physical debris into waste containers and removal from site, cleaning commenced on internal surfaces previously used for waste storage and handling of wastes, to remove residual contamination from wastes or waste degradation products. This included the impermeable pavements and concrete bund walls around the perimeter of any storage area. Cleaning was achieved using a steam pressure washer. A specialist Biffa cleaning contractor was used for this operation, with cleaning taking place between 18<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and 28<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Photographs are included at Appendix 4, which shows the internal and external areas of the Site prior to and following clearance of all wastes, removal of redundant waste handling equipment, and cleaning of surfaces. A copy of the waste transfer notes for the removal of water and emptying of gulleys in connection with the clean are also included at Appendix 6.

### 3.3. Cleaning of Drains and Sumps

Drains, sumps, gulleys and interceptors were all cleaned both before and after the above surface cleaning took place. This ensured that drains were effective and able to deal with flows during site cleaning operation. Any potentially polluting matter derived from wastes previously handled on site and accumulating within the sumps from prior to the cleaning of surfaces, and also post cleaning of surface was therefore removed by this operation.

The drainage network was therefore cleaned by jet vac tanker with all drainage lines, bunds, gulleys and the interceptor on being so treated on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Waste was removed by road tanker to Biffa's Wednesbury permitted facility.

At the completion of the first week of cleaning of pavements under section 3.2, the interceptor was emptied again on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2024 and material removed again to the Wednesbury facility.

Upon final completion of cleaning of all remaining impermeable pavements and surfaces per section 3.2, all drainage lines, bunds, gulleys and the interceptor were again cleaned by jet vac tanker on 1<sup>st</sup> July with material removed to the Wednesbury facility.

Please see Appendix 6 for Waste Transfer Notes for all material removed from drainage system and interceptor to Biffa Wednesbury facility on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 21<sup>st</sup> June and 1<sup>st</sup> July 2024.

A final site clean was undertaken on 4th July 2024, with a suction road sweeper going over all external surfaces. Drainage was removed off site via the road sweeper. The Waste Transfer Note for this is also included at Appendix 6.

Photos included at Appendix 6 also show cleaning operations on the drainage system taking place.

The pH meter that controlled the automatic shut-off valve to the drainage system was removed following clearance and cleaning of the site and drainage system as agreed with NRW.

As a result of the above works, no pollution potential from the permitted waste management activities therefore remains on the Site.