

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049432

Permit being assessed: NP3494FP.

For: Llandygai Transfer Station, **held by:** ML Hughes Plant Hire Ltd

At: Plot 29, Llandegai Industrial Estate, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 4YH.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 01/09/2025 between 11:10 and 12:20.

Parts of permit assessed: See Below.

NRW Lead Officer: Leon Williams, accompanied by Matt Owen.

Report sent to: Kenny Hughes, Company Director, on 22/10/2025.

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	Action only (X)	
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
W2D - Waste - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	

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

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
0	0

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	Update Environmental Management System (EMS) to include waste storage procedures as outlined below.	31/12/2025
W1A	Secure CIWM continuing competency certification.	31/12/2025

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

Introduction.

This was an announced site inspection conducted by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) by Senior Waste Regulation Officer Leon Williams, accompanied by Waste Regulation Officer Matthew Owen at M L Hughes Plant Hire Ltd, Plot 29 Llandygai Industrial Estate, Bangor, LL57 4YH.

The site visit was an opportunity for NRW to complete a first inspection following the granting of environmental permit EPR/NP3494FP.

Present throughout the inspection on behalf of M L Hughes Plant Hire Ltd was Kenneth (Kenny) Hughes, Company Director.

There was minimal site activity during the time of visit however some plant training was being conducted at the far side of the site away from our inspection location.

General Observations.

Upon arrival at site officers were met by Kenny Hughes at the main entrance to the facility.

Officers preceded to explain NRW's role as an environmental regulator, the need to pay permit subsistence fees, how scoring a compliance report is undertaken and an opportunity was given for any questions by the operator to be addressed.

A first inspection checklist was produced by officers. All relevant sections were discussed with Kenny Hughes and completed as required.

On completion of the initial checklist a site walkaround was conducted.

Kenny Hughes confirmed to officers the site boundary; waste material currently being processed on site and the future plans for the site operations.

Permit conditions discussed.

W1A - General management.

1.1.1 (a) The operator shall manage and operate the activities 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.

Discussions regarding the permit requirement of having an up to date written Environmental Management System (EMS) were had between officers and Kenny Hughes.

On the 22 September 2025, NRW received a copy of the sites Environmental Management System (EMS) which has been produced by Oaktree Environmental Limited.

An initial assessment of the document has highlighted a lack of defined procedures for waste storage.

Current how to comply with your environmental permit guidance outlines the requirements as follows:

"A written management system must include:

- storage times and procedures to ensure that these times are not exceeded
- maximum storage capacities for specified storage areas and the facility as a whole and procedures to ensure that these capacities are not exceeded
- maximum storage heights to prevent or minimise the emission of dust, litter and throughput management
- a procedure to identify the specific waste types stored at your facility
- procedures to segregate incompatible wastes for example use of appropriate separation distances and or suitable engineering measures."

ACTION: Please review and update the site EMS to include waste storage procedures as outlined above and submit to NRW for review by the 31 December 2025.

Please find a link to current "how to comply with your environmental guidance" here: <https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/environmental-permits/guidance-to-help-you-comply-with-your-environmental-permit/?lang=en>

1.1.4 The operator shall comply with the requirements of an approved competence scheme.

The operator has confirmed and provided evidence that Kenneth Hughes obtained a Environmental Permitting Operators Certificate (EPOC) on the 22 February 2022.

NRW understands that a CIWM continuing competency certification has not been secured by the operator.

ACTION: Securing CIWM continuing competency certification should be prioritised

by the operator in order to comply with permit condition 1.1.4.

W2D - The Site.

2.4.1 The site activities shall not extend beyond the site, being the land shown edged in green on the site plan attached.

It was discussed with Kenny Hughes where the site boundary was located, and visual confirmation was made regarding this.

The boundary was cross referenced with the site plan by officers.

3.Emissions and monitoring.

3.1.1 Emissions of substances not controlled by emissions limits (excluding odour) shall not cause pollution.

It was noted that an incident with dust being released by a road sweeper caused some issue with neighbouring businesses. Clarification was sought about the incident, and it was concluded that operator error by a contractor was the root cause of the dust release, having failed to realise the water suppression equipment hadn't been turned on.

Action: Ensure operators are correctly trained and briefed prior to using equipment and that installed suppression equipment is fully functioning.

General Comments.

With reference to other discussions held regarding material stored on site claimed to be supplied from the Wrexham area.

After further investigation, the material is considered to be manufactured topsoil produced by blending PAS100 compost and virgin sand sourced from Borrass Quarry, Wrexham.

It is a non waste material and therefore does not form part of the site waste operations.

Should you wish to discuss or query anything in this CAR form, please get in touch using the details below.

Kind Regards,

Matt Owen.

**Swyddog Rheoleiddio Gwastraff /Waste Regulation Officer
Gogledd-Orllewin / North West
Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru / Natural Resources Wales**

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 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.