

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0049836

Permit being assessed: YP3795FR.

For: Singleton Hospital Clinical Waste Transfer Station, **held by:** Abertawe Bro Morgannwg University Local Health Board

At: Swansea, SA2 8QA.

Type of assessment: Audit,

Reason: Other.

On: 29/10/2025 between 10:00 and 11:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Site compound and waste classification.

NRW Lead Officer: Linda Warrick, accompanied by Gillian Coates.

Report sent to: Howards Stephens, Technical Service Manager, on 12/11/2025.

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	Assessed (A)	
W2E - Waste - Operations - Waste acceptance	Assessed (A)	
W3E - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	Assessed (A)	
W2F - Waste - Operations - Technical requirements	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?

No action required.

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



Clinical waste carts were stored securely in the waste compound

Signage was clear and up to date in the waste compound



Tiger bags were being implemented in the hospital. Spill kits were available and well stocked

On the day of the audit the weather was showery and overcast.

The waste compound was audited as part of the healthcare audit for the hospital. At the time of the inspection waste was being unloaded so the main gates to the compound were open. The side gate for access was locked.

A number of the yellow carts were unlocked during the inspection. All the bins were bio tagged and these were reviewed at the time of the audit and they were all found to be correct. Bins included cytotoxic and cytostatic medicines, yellow lidded sharps bins, orange lidded sharps bins and blue lidded medicinal waste bins. There were no anatomical red lidded bins at the time of the audit. The need to ensure anatomical waste is removed from site within 24 hours was discussed. The site stated that waste is removed daily so this is never an issue.

Tiger bags bio-coded HL were present which is part of the requirement for the Health Board to ensure there is an offensive waste stream in place moving forward.

Monitoring

All bags identified in the clinical waste compound were tagged with identifiers from the department of origin.

Tiger bag implementation is a phased approach as identified as an action in the previous inspection. This will be implemented across the hospital moving forward but should be completed for the whole of Singleton by the end of December 2025.

All individual sharps bins inspected in the compound were appropriately signed and dated. Some of the blue medicinal bins were signed and dated but the ward of origin was not stated. Please ensure this is completed moving forward.

There is a dedicated spill kit on site. Please ensure a broad based spectrum disinfectant is included in this kit.

The yard has a small amount of PPE littering around the bins please ensure these are cleaned regularly and placed in the appropriate bags and bins for onward treatment/disposal.

The compound has clear signage displaying the bio tags used by SRCL for onward treatment and/or disposal.

The TCM for the site is Howard Stephens who has recently successfully completed his continuing competency assessment.

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.