

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0048760

**Permit being assessed:** BH0060005

For: Laugharne Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG  
At: The Strand, Laugharne, Carmarthenshire, SA33 4TD.

**Type of assessment carried out:** Check Monitoring/Sampling, Reason: Routine.  
On 23/02/2025.

Parts of permit assessed: 3.1 Emissions to water

**NRW Lead Officer:** Megan Herbert-Evans.

**Report sent to:** CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 21/11/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C2 Significant	3.1.1 - The limits given in schedule 3 table S3.1 shall not be exceeded.

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Move the inlet monitoring point back to the original location in line with guidance (EAS/2301/3/26) and provide the date this occurred to NRW. Any UWWTR samples that have been collected after the inlet sample point was moved, and at a time when there may have been storm return effluent captured in the inlet monitoring, should be rescheduled and the details notified to NRW. DCWW should investigate resolving any issues on the network that may be contributing to the variable effluent quality.	01/12/2025

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.

**You are non-compliant with your permit.**

**We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.**

## 4. Details of our assessment

**UPDATE 16.10.2025** regarding Urban Waste Water Treatment Regulations (UWWTR) Compliance monitoring requirements.

Following NRW's site inspection on the 1/08/2024 (CAR\_NRW0049024) we have reviewed all the information supplied to NRW in relation to the monitoring of UWWTR and confirm the following points:

1. **Saline Influence**

DCWW have not provided sufficient evidence throughout the correspondence to support the claim that the deterioration in returned storm effluent quality is due to saline water ingress within the network. As such, there is no established or substantiated reason for the returned storm effluent to be of substantially poorer quality.

2. **Representativeness of the Inlet Monitoring Point**

In line with the principles of the UWWTR, the inlet monitoring point should be as representative as possible of the influent entering the treatment works. The original inlet sample point location was demonstrably more representative of the influent quality.

3. **Unconsulted Relocation of Sample Point**

The relocation of the sample point was carried out without prior consultation and occurred mid-year, which is inappropriate and undermines the integrity of the monitoring process.

4. **Required Actions**

Move the inlet monitoring point back to the original location in line with guidance (EAS/2301/3/26) and provide the date this occurred to NRW. Any UWWTR samples that have been collected after the inlet sample point was moved, and at a time when there may have been storm return effluent captured in the inlet monitoring, should be rescheduled and the details notified to NRW. DCWW should investigate resolving any issues on the network that may be contributing to the variable effluent quality.

**END**

The purpose of this Compliance Assessment Report is to record compliance with the Look Up Table provisions in the permit.

On the 04/03/25 you informed us that a UWWTR compliance sample taken at Laugharne WWTW on the 23/02/25 exceeded the limit set for BOD. The limit is set at 50mg/l and the sample result was 54mg/l. The permit also requires a minimum of 70% removal compared to the influent sample, the calculated percentage removal for this sample was 61.4%.

This is classed as a UWW Max failure.

On 17/04/25 you provided an Exceptional Circumstances Report (ECR) for this failure. In the ECR DCWW claim that the failure was due to the true loading passing forward to the

WwTW not being captured due to the location of the crude sample pipework. We do not consider this an exceptional circumstance and do not agree to waiver this failure.

Thank you

End

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](mailto: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](mailto: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.