

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0050009

**Permit being assessed:** BG0027001

For: Cribyn Wastewater Treatment Works, held by DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG  
At: Cribyn, Lampeter, Ceredigion, SA48 7QH.

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

On 24/11/2025, between 13:30 and 14:00.

Parts of permit assessed: See criteria listed below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Ffion Quan.

**Report sent to:** CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 05/12/2025.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	

Result types are explained in more detail 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

This was a pre-planned site inspection carried out by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officer Ffion Quan who was accompanied by by a Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) operative.

#### **General Observations**

NRW officer arrived on site at 13:30 hours.

NRW officer was taken through the works from the inlet, through the treatment system, including the storm and to the outflow. The treatment system at Cribyn WwTW is a bio filter bed system. The site operator visits the site once a week.

### **The Process**

The incoming flows into the works are both pumped and gravity fed into the inlet. At the inlet, there is a split between the storm overflow and the primary tank. After the primary tank, the flow is directed back through the chamber and towards the filter bed on site, which contains stone media. The rotation arms are water driven and were moving free and unhindered at the time of the visit. There was no sign of ponding or dry patches with no obvious leakages to the filter bed walls. See photograph below



*Photograph 1: Filter bed*

The flow is then directed towards the final tank and to the outfall. The final effluent sampling point was marked and the discharge was clear with no evidence of any sewage fungus. The outfall to the Afon Grannell was not inspected during the visit as it was inaccessible due to vegetation overgrowth. There are two sludge storage tanks on site, which get emptied when required.

The site has an MCERTS flow monitoring point, Storm to Environment EDM monitoring point and a flow passed forward monitor between the primary tank and the filter bed.

At the time of the visit, the flow going through the side was lower than what is expected and usually seen at Cribyn WwTW which indicated a possible blockage. DCWW operative stated that this will be raised after the visit and looked at as soon as possible.

### **Storm**

After the screening system, if the site is overwhelmed and the flow passed forward is equal or greater than 4.5l/s due to rainfall and/or snow melt the flow is directed towards the storm tank. The flow directs to the storm effluent sampling before being discharged through the combined final effluent (FE) and storm effluent discharge point. There is a storm to

environment EDM monitoring point.

Cribyn WwTW continues to experience significant infiltration challenges, which will be flagged for further review internally. The site was in spill at the time of the visit.

Thank you for your time during the visit.

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.