

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0050546

**Permit being assessed:** BP0313101

**For:** LLANAFAN WWTW LLANAFAN CEREDIGION, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

**At:** LLANAFAN WASTE WATER TREATMENT, LLANAFAN, CEREDIGION, WALES, .

**Type of assessment carried out:** Site Inspection,

**Reason:** Routine.

**On** 02/10/2025, between 12:07 and 12:43.

**Parts of permit assessed:** See criteria listed below

**NRW Lead Officer:** Bethan Lewis.

**Report sent to:** CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 06/02/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
WQ-B2 - Water Quality - Operations - The site	Action only (X)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C4 No impact	3
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	
WQ-C4 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	Action only (X)	

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

### 2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-B2	Confirm the diameter of the final effluent discharge pipe.	06/04/2026
WQ-C1	Ensure that the final effluent sample point is appropriately labelled.	06/04/2026
WQ-C1	Investigate the cause of the sewage fungus growth at the outfall of Llanafan WwTW, and confirm whether any actions	06/04/2026

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	are required to prevent the regrowth of sewage fungus.	
WQ-C4	Monitor the rate of the final effluent discharge into the Nant Pant-yr-haidd, and contact NRW if you believe that the rate of discharge exceeds 1.1l/s.	06/04/2026

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.

#### **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 of Llanafan Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) (permit number: BP0313101) carried out by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officer Bethan Lewis. The NRW officer was accompanied during the site inspection by two Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) operatives.

#### **Summary**

The site inspection commenced at 12:07 hours on the 02 October 2025 and concluded at 12:43 hours. The weather at the time of the inspection was dry. It had also been dry the previous day.

The NRW officer was led through the treatment process, with the DCWW operatives explaining how the works operated.

Llanafan WwTW is visited by a site operator once a fortnight.

The population equivalent for the site is 69.

#### **Treatment process**

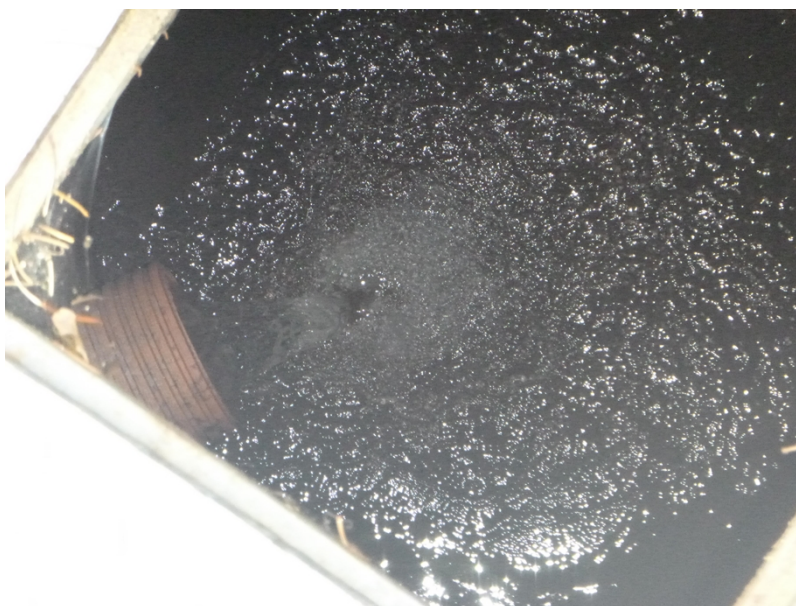
Sewage is treated at Llanafan WwTW by a Rotating Biological Contractor (RBC) as shown in photograph 1 below. The discs of the RBC were rotating unhindered at the time of the inspection and had a good covering of biological growth. The RBC is emptied every 12 weeks by road tanker.



*Photograph 1: Rotating Biological Contractor (RBC)*

Effluent exiting the RBC enters a final effluent sample point as shown in photograph 2 below. The sample point was not appropriately labelled at the time of the inspection as required by condition 3 of the permit. A category 4 non-compliance has therefore been recorded above for a non-compliance that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property. To rectify the non-compliance, NRW ask DCWW to ensure that the final effluent sample point is appropriately labelled by the **06 April 2026**.

Final effluent appeared clear at the final effluent sample point at the time of the inspection. The DCWW operatives mentioned that Llanafan's sewer network is impacted by groundwater ingress which may contribute to the clear final effluent observed at the sample point. Llanafan's groundwater ingress is due to be investigated by a dedicated team within DCWW. Once the ingress location(s) have been identified, steps will be taken to prevent groundwater from entering the sewer network.



*Photograph 2: Final effluent sample point*

Llanafan WwTW's final effluent discharge point into the Nant Pant-yr-haidd was viewed as part of the site inspection as shown in photograph 3 below. Condition 5 of the permit states that *"the rate of discharge shall not exceed 1.1 litres per second"*. From visual inspection, the rate of discharge appeared to be exceeding 1.1l/s at the time of the inspection, possibly as a result of the groundwater ingress mentioned above. Because of this, NRW ask DCWW to monitor the rate of the final effluent discharge into the Nant Pant-yr-haidd, and to contact NRW if they believe that the rate of discharge exceeds 1.1l/s. A deadline of the **06 April 2026** has been set for this.

Photograph 3 shows the flap valve at Llanafan WwTW's outfall. Condition 2(a) of the permit states that the discharge shall be made *"via a 150 millimetre diameter pipe"*. From looking at the flap valve in photograph 3, it is possible that the discharge from Llanafan WwTW is currently being made via a pipe with a diameter of >150mm. NRW therefore ask DCWW to confirm the diameter of the final effluent discharge pipe by the **06 April 2026**.

At the time of the inspection, a small amount of sewage fungus was visible on the headwall as well as within the Nant Pant-yr-haidd up to 0.5 metres from the headwall. The sewage fungus is shown in photographs 3 and 4 below. The WwTW site diary was checked as part of the inspection which confirmed that the site operator regularly brushes the headwall to remove sewage fungus. This suggests that sewage fungus growth is a recurring issue at Llanafan WwTW. Condition 7(a) of the permit states that *"the works shall be operated and the effluent shall be treated in a manner which, so far as reasonable practicable, minimises the polluting effects of the discharge made from the works on controlled waters"*. To avoid breaching condition 7(a), NRW ask DCWW to investigate the cause of the sewage fungus growth at the outfall of Llanafan WwTW, and confirm whether any actions are required to prevent the regrowth of sewage fungus. NRW ask for this to be completed by the **06 April 2026**.



*Photograph 3: Discharge point into the Nant Pant-yr-haidd*



*Photograph 4: Sewage fungus visible in the Nant Pant-yr-haidd*

### **Final comments**

We wish to thank the DCWW operatives for accompanying the NRW officer at the time of the above site inspection. If DCWW wish to discuss the contents of this Compliance Assessment Report (CAR), or are unable to meet any of the above deadlines, we encourage them to contact the NRW officer noted above as soon as possible.

*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 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 required for the permit condition assessed to avoid non-compliance. No non-compliance scored at this time
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

**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 Monitoring
- WQ-C5 Installation of monitoring boreholes

**WQ D: Information**

- WQ-D1 Records
- WQ-D2 Reporting
- WQ-D3 Notifications

**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.

**Disputing the Content of this Compliance Assessment Report Form**

If you disagree with the content of this Compliance Assessment Report form, you should submit your concerns, in writing, to the regulating officer who issued it within **15 working days** of its issue. This will be treated as a **Stage 1 review**.

If you are not satisfied with the outcome of the stage 1 review, you may request a **Stage 2 appeal**. This request must be submitted **within 21 working days** of receiving the response from the stage 1 review.

Further details on our review and appeal process are available at: [Natural Resources Wales / Appeal a regulatory decision from Natural Resources Wales](#)

**Concerns Not Related to the Content of this Compliance Assessment Report Form**

If your concerns do not relate to the content of the Compliance Assessment Report form, you should first attempt to resolve the issue with the regulating officer or their line manager.

If the issue remains unresolved, please contact our **Customer Contact Team**:

- **Telephone:** 0300 065 3000 (Monday to Friday, 09:00–17:00)
- **Email:** [enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@naturalresourceswales.gov.uk)

They will provide details on how to escalate your concerns through our **Complaints and Commendations procedure**.

If you are dissatisfied with our response, you may contact the **Public Services Ombudsman for Wales**:

- **Telephone:** 0300 790 0203
- **Email:** [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.