

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050976

Permit being assessed: BP0237413

For: CSO and EO at East Burrows Road Car Park, Swansea, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: East Burrows Road Car Park, Somerset Place, Swansea, SA1 1RR.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On 29/01/2026, between 09:15 and 10:00.

Parts of permit assessed: The Site; Operating Techniques; Emissions to Water; Monitoring.

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett, accompanied by: Catherine Tucker, Gareth Martin.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 09/03/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	Action only (X)	
WQ-B3 - Water Quality - Operations - Operating techniques	C3 Minor	2.3.2 (e)
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-B3	Please let us know the flow rate, in litres per second, that each individual pump at Langdon Road SPS should be capable of achieving when operating in good condition.	10/04/2026
WQ-B3	Please inform us when the flow meter at Langdon Road SPS last recorded any flows and if the power has been reinstated	10/04/2026

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	since our inspection.	
WQ-B3	Please confirm if emergency overflows from Langdon Road SPS would pass through the 6mm screen located at East Burrows CSO and EO.	10/04/2026
WQ-B3	Please inform us when the power was lost at East Burrows CSO, when it was reinstated, and—if it has not yet been reinstated—the reasons why.	27/03/2026
WQ-C4	Please confirm if the EDM has been able to record data at East Burrows CSO during the loss of power.	27/03/2026

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

The purpose of this Compliance Assessment Report is to:

- Record our findings following a site inspection
- Review the Event Duration Monitoring (EDM) 2024 data submitted to us
- Review and record any completed actions from previous CARs.

On the 29 January 2026 we carried out an inspection of Langdon Road Sewage Pumping Station (SPS) which is associated with East Burrows Road Car Park Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) and Emergency Overflow (EO). Langdon Road SPS is the terminal SPS for Swansea Bay WwTW. We were accompanied by staff from Dwr Cymru. There was light rainfall during our visit, it had been raining overnight and on the days preceding the inspection.

The CSO and EO are located on the right-hand bank of the Tawe upstream of the barrage some 1.4 km from the SPS. Both overflows discharge to Coastal Waters below the barrage via Port Tawe Surface Water Pumping Station which is on the left-hand bank of the Tawe.

12,948 m³ of storm storage is provided in the network and the CSO is permitted to spill when the storage is fully utilised and the rate of flow pumped forward into the rising mains from the Langdon Road Pumping Station is at least 3024 litres per second. Stored storm sewage should return to the pass forward flow as soon as possible.

The mechanism for a spill to occur is as follows. Once the storage tank on the line into Langdon Road SPS becomes full, the network becomes surcharged and backs up, the level in the CSO chamber rises, and eventually passes up through the screen, over the spill

weir and into the surface water sewer. The surface water sewer is pumped under the Tawe by Port Tawe Pumping Station and then flows out below the barrage.

The EO will operate in a similar way if Langdon Road SPS stops operating and all storage in the line is utilised before it is brought back into operation.

Sewage Pumping Station

During our inspection, we were informed that the SPS operates with six pumps. They are rotationally refurbished every 6 months and renewed yearly. At the time of our visit, only five pumps were installed, and of those, only four were operational. One of the functioning pumps also had a broken guide rail.

You explained that the sixth pump could not be re-seated due to significant rag accumulation in the wet well between its removal for refurbishment and its reinstatement. To prevent this issue in the future, you intend to replace pumps immediately upon removal.

You highlighted that the volume of rag within the incoming flows is substantial, and this impacts on pump performance and maintenance. Additionally, due to the characteristics of the sewer and incoming flows, septicity issues are occurring, resulting in excessive odour and necessitating chemical dosing.

Action: Please let us know the flow rate, in litres per second, that each individual pump at Langdon Road SPS should be capable of achieving when operating in good condition.

The wet well is split into 2 sections by a high internal wall with 2 large penstocks which allow the sumps to be isolated for maintenance in low flows.

You informed us that the flow meter was not working because the power to it had been damaged outside of the SPS compound by a Third Party.

Action: Please inform us when the flow meter at Langdon Road SPS last recorded any flows and if the power has been reinstated since our inspection.

SPS Emergency Overflow

My understanding is that the pumps installed operate as duty / assist / assist / assist / assist / standby. The standby pump activates automatically on duty pump failure and pumps are automatically re-activated when power is restored after a power failure. A duplicate power supply is provided as well as a mobile generator point.

The pumping station key protection measures operating procedure you have submitted to us states that the expected 2 hours at 3 x Dry Weather Flow emergency storage capacity is present and a 10mm bar screen is fitted. Given that an emergency overflow would utilise the storm storage before any spill occurred, the storage capacity considerably more than this during dry weather and my understanding is that emergency overflows would pass through the 6mm screen located at East Burrows.

Action: Please confirm if emergency overflows from Langdon Road SPS would pass through the 6mm screen located at East Burrows CSO and EO.

Combined Sewer Overflow

We did not inspect East Burrows CSO because it can only be accessed via a specialist confined space entry. My understanding is that it has a yearly maintenance inspection and a separate yearly mechanical and electrical inspection.

Access to the point of discharge is via a steep slope comprising of large sea defence boulders. The tidal range is significant, so the outfall is not always visible or accessible.

Advisory: The point of discharge provided in the permit and GIS layer is incorrect and it is closer to the barrage at NGR: SS 66554 92582.

During our inspection at Langdon Road SPS we were informed that the power had been lost at East Burrows CSO due to a flooding event. A 6x6 mm mechanically cleaned screen is installed at the CSO which requires power. It is important that the screen is operating correctly so that screening is optimised during storm discharges.

Condition 2.3.2 of your permit states that for the discharge specified in table S3.3 (storm sewage):

(d) The discharge shall not be comminuted or macerated and shall have passed through screens as specified and shall not contain a significant quantity of solid matter with a particle size greater than any indicated. All screenings shall be removed from the discharge.

(e) Where a mechanically cleaned screen is installed, a telemetry alarm system shall be installed and maintained, as far as reasonably practicable, so as to give the operator immediate notification of a failure of the screen cleaning mechanism, unless otherwise agreed in writing by Natural Resources Wales. The operator shall take all appropriate measures to return the screen cleaning mechanism to normal operation as soon as reasonably practicable after receipt of notification of the failure.

It is likely that the lack of power will have prevented you from complying with Condition 2.3.2 (d) in that not all screenings will have been removed from storm discharges. At the time of the inspection, you did not, in effect have a telemetry alarm system in place to notify you of failure of the screen cleaning mechanism and you had not returned the screen cleaning mechanism to normal operation. This will have prevented you from complying with Condition 2.3.2 (e) for which I have recorded a non-compliance.

Under Regulation 38 (2) of the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016, it is an offence for a person to fail to comply with or to contravene an environmental permit condition.

Any Advice and Guidance in this report is given formally as part of our enforcement response.

Until the time of the inspection, we had not been notified of the loss of power or that you were unable to comply with your permit.

Action: Please inform us when the power was lost at East Burrows CSO, when it was reinstated, and—if it has not yet been reinstated—the reasons why.

The point of overflow given in the permit is correct, however, it would not be possible to access the overflow to take a sample at this location as described in the permit.

My understanding is that spill events are monitored using the level sensor controlling the operation of the screen. The EDM performance data submitted to NRW annually indicates that the monitor is fully operational and in 2025 it recorded 99.81% of the time. This is a significant improvement on last years data which only recorded for 55.08% of the time.

Action: Please confirm if the EDM has been able to record data at East Burrows CSO during the loss of power.

Review of Event Duration Monitoring (EDM) 2025 data submitted to us

The discharge from this CSO is subject to a spill trigger limit of 5 during the bathing water season. The submitted EDM for 2025 data shows that there were 20 spills during the bathing season lasting for a total of 159.75 hours. During the whole of 2025, 68 spills occurred lasting for a total of 695.5 hours. The Trigger limit of 5 was exceeded in 2024 and 2025. In line with your permit, a full investigation is being carried out which should be completed in August 2026. A record of this can be found in CAR_NRW0049463.

Record any completed actions from previous CARs.

All completed actions have already been recorded in previous CARs.

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 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

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

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.