

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0050496

**Permit being assessed:** AN0021801

**For:** BARRY TWN PS LSO ISLAND CAR PARK, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

**At:** BARRY TOWN PS LSO, ISLAND CAR PARK, BARRY, VALE OF GLAMORGAN, CF62 5QR.

**Type of assessment carried out:** Report/Data Review,

**Reason:** Incident Response (Incident number: 2508391).

**On** 10/09/2025.

**Parts of permit assessed:** Schedule 1 Conditions 1,3,4; Schedule 2 Conditions 1,2,9.

**NRW Lead Officer:** Charlotte Rhodes.

**Report sent to:** DCWW CARS Mailbox, DCWW CARS Mailbox, on 13/03/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	C3 Minor	Sch1 C1
WQ-C4 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	C4 No impact	Sch1 C3
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	C3 Minor	Sch2, C1 and 2.
WQ-A1 - Water Quality - Management - General management	Action only (X)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	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-C1	1. Please provide flow data for the transfer pumps and flow passed forward for the 24 hour period covering 10th September 2025. - Action only, Schedule 1 Condition 1.	Already completed

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
	Covered in CAR_NRW0050495.	
WQ-C4	2. Explain why a suitable sampling point was not available during the incident and how this will be rectified. - Action only, Schedule 1 Condition 3.	31/03/2026
WQ-C1	3. Provide evidence to demonstrate if the storm storage capacity was fully utilised prior to discharge. Namely: flow data for storm pumps, wet well levels and EDM data for the 24 hour period covering 10th September 2025 - Action only, Condition 4. Contained in CAR_NRW0050495.	Already completed
WQ-B1	4. Ensure that any future equipment installed does not impact the electrical stability of the pumping station. - Action only, Schedule 2 Condition 1 and 2.	Already completed
WQ-A1	5. Confirm if a stand-by generator was available and/or installed at site and if not, why not. - Action only, Schedule 2 Condition 9.	31/03/2026
WQ-C1	6. Please provide an estimate of the volume discharged from the SSO and LSO during this event. - Action only, Contained in CAR_NRW0050495.	Already completed

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.**

**At this time, we are issuing you with a warning for the non-compliance recorded above. Warnings may influence future enforcement response for continued or further non-compliance.**

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

#### **Site report**

On 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025 an incident at **Barry West Sewage Pumping Station (SPS)** was self-reported by Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) to Natural Resources Wales (NRW), logged under **WIRS 2508391**. Following a power outage on site, discharges were made from both the Short (SSO) and Long Sea Outfalls (LSO), the discharges are permitted separately under permits **AN0060701** and **AN0021801** respectively; this report refers to **AN0021801** permitting the LSO – for the SSO refer to **CAR\_NRW0050495**.

Weather at the time of the incident was wet, recorded in the storyboard as "heavy rain", yet data

from the nearest rainfall gauge at Cog Moors records a peak of only 4.2mm within the 24 hours preceding the incident. The discharge occurred during the Bathing Water season; previous catchment modelling by Dwr Cymru showed the discharges from Barry West SPS can impact the designated bathing waters. A sample was taken at Cold Knap on the 11<sup>th</sup> September which returned elevated bacteria readings, unusual for this bathing water, but a definitive impact cannot be confirmed.

The self-reporting WATPOL stated: *“A discharge has occurred from the long sea and short sea outfall at Barry West following multiple transfer pump failures. We lost full flow to Cog Moors for 1 hour (09:00 – 10:00)”* and confirmed that the LSO discharged from 09:00 – 10:00 and the SSO from 09:30 – 10:00. The next update later that day then said *“Dynamic test being carried out on site to determine root cause. Suggested power dip caused plc and transfer pump failures.”*

There was a recurring incident of the same nature on 15<sup>th</sup> September during which only the LSO is believed to have spilled; the storyboard states *“Barry West SPS discharged from the LSO from 07:30 – 09:00 this morning while no flow was passed forward to Cog Moors. We believe this to have been caused by a brownout on site that resulted in us losing power in the PLC in order for pumps to start and also being the same root cause as last week’s incident”*.

Later updates received on 23<sup>rd</sup> September in a storyboard, confirmed that the dynamic testing found the sequencing of a hire raw transfer pump to be the root cause, having tripped the power supply by using too much power in first assist position, and that changing this to last seemed to resolve the issue until the existing pump is returned from repair. The storyboard also stated *“No impact assessment able to be completed due to access to outfalls”*, and telemetry screenshots provided of the **storm** pumps (not the **transfer** pumps whose failures are attributed to causing the spills) demonstrates a further spill later in the day on 10<sup>th</sup> September, from 16:15 – 16:30, *“although we were passing forward 802 l/s”*. Please see action 1.

The final assessment comments in the storyboard were as follows: *“We believe this incident to have had little to no impact on the receiving watercourse due to heavy rainfall including a yellow weather warning in place at the time of the event and effluent being heavily diluted. Although due to lack of evidence capture and the incident taking place at a bathing water, no claim will be submitted for this incident.”*

### **Assessment against permit conditions**

#### **Schedule 01 – Storm Sewage**

**Condition 1 – The discharge shall consist solely of storm sewage**

The reported spills were found to be as a result of transfer pump failures, not storm conditions. This therefore constitutes a **Category 3 non-compliance**. See Action 1.

**Condition 3** – *The outlet to controlled water shall be constructed and maintained so that a representative sample of the Discharge may be obtained from the ‘Screening Chamber’ at National Grid Reference ST 10926 66877 as shown marked ‘Consent point’ on Plan AN0021801.*

No sample was taken during the incident due to lack of a suitable sampling point, which constitutes a **Category 4 non-compliance**. See Action 2.

**Condition 4(a)** – *The Discharge shall occur when, and only for as long as, the storm sewage facility is fully utilised and the rate of flow at the storm overflow chamber is in excess of 820 litres per second due to rainfall and/or snow melt. The storm sewage storage facility shall be emptied and its contents returned to the pass forward flow as soon as practicable after cessation of the overflow.*

Further information is needed to determine compliance with this Condition - see Actions 1 and 3.

**Condition 4(b)** – *A storm sewage facility of at least 177 cubic metres design capacity shall be provided and fully utilised prior to discharge being made.*

Further information is needed to determine compliance with this Condition - see Action 3.

## **Schedule 02 - Sewage in an Emergency**

**Condition 1** - *The discharge shall consist solely of sewage in an emergency*

**Condition 2** - *The discharge shall only occur when the sewage pumping station is inoperative as a result of one or more of the following: (i) electrical power failure not due to the act or default of the consent holder, its agents, representative, officers, employees or servants*

Given that the electrical power failure in this instance was due to a fault with a hired-in pump causing brownout, we do **not** determine this compliant with Condition 2 as it was an act/default of the consent holder to install said hire pump first in the sequencing. This therefore constitutes a **Category 3 non-compliance** as an internal failure rather than a network supply - see Action 4.

**Condition 9** - *A permanent stand-by power generator shall be provided and maintained in good working order*

Further information is needed to determine compliance with this Condition - see Action 5.

## **Actions / Further comments**

Overall, the site was found to be **non-compliant** with permitted Conditions 1 & 3(Sch1) and 1 & 2(Sch2), with further information required in relation to Conditions 4(Sch1) and 9(Sch2).

Some of the actions relating to this incident are already contained within **CAR\_NRW0050495** so

will not be given repeated deadlines, however the following actions are additional and/or specific to the LSO discharge:

1. Please provide flow data for the transfer pumps and flow passed forward for the 24 hour period covering 10th September 2025. - C3, Schedule 1 Condition 1. **Contained in CAR\_NRW0050495.**
2. Explain why a suitable sampling point was not available during the incident and how this will be rectified. - C4, Schedule 1 Condition 3. **Deadline 31/03/2026**
3. Provide evidence to demonstrate if the storm storage capacity was fully utilised prior to discharge. Namely: flow data for storm pumps, wet well levels and EDM data for the 24 hour period covering 10th September 2025 - Action only, Condition 4. **Contained in CAR\_NRW0050495.**
4. Ensure that any future equipment installed does not impact the electrical stability of the pumping station. - C4, Schedule 2 Condition 1 and 2. **Marked as already completed (no deadline).**
5. Confirm if a stand-by generator was available and/or installed at site and if not, why not. - Action only, Schedule 2 Condition 9. **Deadline 31/03/2026**
6. Please provide an estimate of the volume discharged from the SSO and LSO during this event. - Action only, **Contained in CAR\_NRW0050495.**

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.