

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0051071

Permit being assessed: BP0110701

For: CSO and EO at Llanbadarn Pumping Station, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Behind Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3QN.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2601081).

On 02/02/2026.

Parts of permit assessed: Condition 2.1.1

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis.

Report sent to: CARS mailbox, CARS mailbox, on 17/03/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-B1 - Water Quality - Operations - Permitted activities	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-B1	Confirm what measures will be taken to prevent a reoccurrence of this incident.	28/04/2026

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.

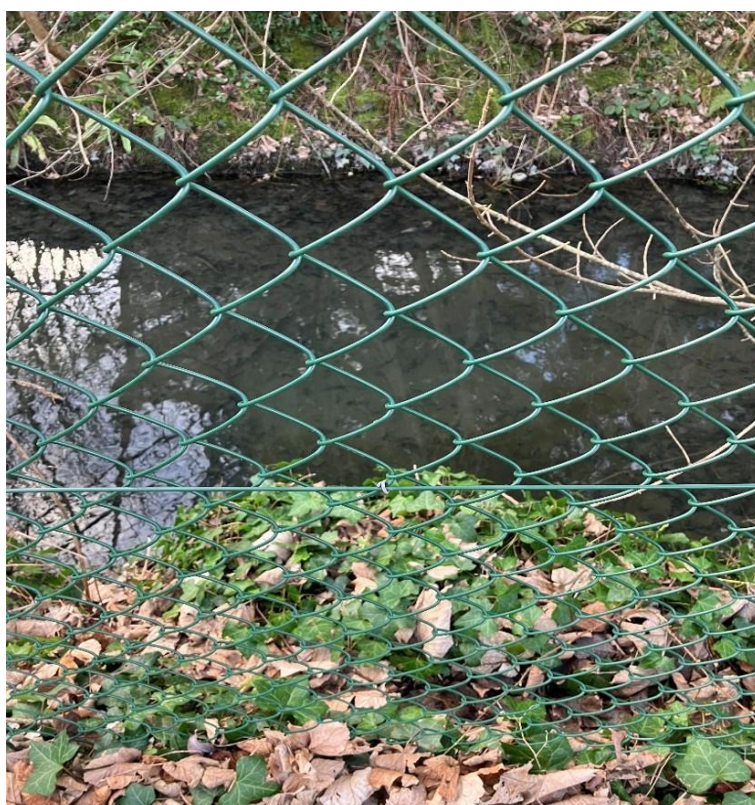
At this time, we do not intend to take any further action.

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

On the 02 February 2026, Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW) notified Natural Resources Wales (NRW) of an emergency discharge at Llanbadarn Pumping Station (permit number: BP0110701; incident reference: 2601081). The discharge occurred between the hours of 05:46 and 08:36 on the 02 February 2026 and is said to have been caused by an electrical fault with the high-lift storm pump. The fault prevented sewage from being passed forwards from Llanbadarn Pumping Station, resulting in the discharge of sewage into the Plascrug Ditch.

A DCWW operator attended Llanbadarn Pumping Station at approximately 08:15 hours on the 02 February 2026. The operator collected photographs and samples of the receiving watercourse including photograph 1 below showing the Plascrug Ditch at the pumping station outfall. The Plascrug Ditch appears reasonably clear in photograph 1 with no signs of solid matter.



Photograph 1: Photograph courtesy of DCWW showing the Plascrug Ditch at the pumping station outfall at the time of the discharge

Table 1 below shows the analytical results of the samples collected by the DCWW operator both upstream and downstream of the pumping station outfall. As can be seen from Table 1, the concentration of suspended solids, Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD), Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD), ammonia, nitrate and nitrite within the Plascrug Ditch was similar both upstream and downstream of the point of discharge.

Table 1: Analytical results of samples collected by DCWW from the Plascrug Ditch at the time of the discharge

	Upstream Sample (SN 59532 81027)	Downstream Sample (SN 59513 81025)
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Suspended Solids (mg/L)	14	13
pH	6.7	7
Biochemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	<8	<8
Chemical Oxygen Demand (mg/L)	<50	<50
Ammonia (mg/L)	<0.4	0.4
Nitrate (mg/L)	1.3	1.67
Nitrite (mg/L)	<0.04	<0.04

The DCWW operator reset the storm pumps and restored the pumping station to normal operation, stopping the discharge of sewage into the Plascrug Ditch at 08:36 hours on the 02 February 2026.

Condition 2.1.1 of Llanbadarn Pumping Station's permit states that DCWW may discharge sewage into the Plascrug Ditch during an emergency. An emergency is defined as follows:

"the period when the sewage pumping station is inoperative as a result of one or more of the following, which is not due to the act or default of the operator, its agents, representatives, officers, employees or servants:

- *electrical power failure;*
- *mechanical breakdown of duty and standby pumps;*
- *rising main failure;*
- *blockage of the downstream sewer"*

As the discharge at Llanbadarn Pumping Station on the 02 February 2026 was caused by an electrical fault with the high-lift storm pump, condition 2.1.1 is not believed to have been breached. In response to the discharge however, NRW ask DCWW to confirm what measures will be taken to prevent a reoccurrence of this incident. NRW ask for a response from DCWW by the **28 April 2026**.

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

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.