

## Compliance Assessment Report CAR\_NRW0051133

**Permit being assessed:** FB3190HP

**For:** CARDIFF AIRPORT, **held by:** CARDIFF INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT LIMITED

**At:** RHOOSE, VALE OF GLAMORGAN, SOUTH EAST WALES, ., CF62 3BD.

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

**Reason:** Routine.

**On** 19/03/2026, between 09:00 and 12:00.

**Parts of permit assessed:** Relevant

**NRW Lead Officer:** Harry Warburton, accompanied by: Dai Walters.

**Report sent to:** James Morris, QSHE Manager, on 26/03/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-D3 - Water Quality - Information - Notifications	Action only (X)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	
WQ-C4 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	Action only (X)	
WQ-C4 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Monitoring	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-D3	Inform NRW once the new improvements works have been completed and functional.	30/04/2026
WQ-C1	Observe and photograph the outfalls to the environment for the car park, coffer dam and fuel farm interceptors.	30/05/2026
WQ-C4	Relocate the sample signage for the car park, southside and fuel farm interceptors to allow for accurate sampling.	25/05/2026

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C4	Install a V notch weir to the outlet chamber of the car park interceptor so a sample can be taken of the flowing water and not scraped on the bottom which may collect unrepresentative sediment.	30/06/2026
WQ-C1	Install a penstock to the bypass channel of the fuel farm interceptor and replace the stuck penstock to the treatment chambers.	30/06/2026

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

Compliance inspection of Cardiff airport FB3190HP undertaken by Environment officer Harry Warburton and Team leader Dai Walters. Accompanied by QSHE manager. Weather at the time was dry and clear.

The areas of the airport inspected were the car park interceptor, the coffer dam, the reed bed, southside interceptor and the BP interceptor.

#### **Car park interceptor**

The car park interceptor receives surface run off from the main car park areas. There is work scheduled on this interceptor, which includes the addition of top covers to prevent the entry of litter and other debris, as well as the annual emptying/service of the interceptor. It was observed that the sample point sign for the interceptor was in the third chamber, which would not be giving an accurate representation of the fully treated/intercepted water prior to discharge, sampling from the surface of the third chamber would be subject to oil that is sitting on the surface that has been intercepted. The sample point sign and location should be moved to the final chamber where the water flows from the third chamber and off the site. For this to be implemented a V notched weir should be installed in the final chamber (shown below) to allow for the retention of water to overtop the V notch and allow for a sample bucket to obtain a sample. It was also noted that the outfall to the environment hasn't been observed since it was mentioned in a previous compliance report. All outfalls to the environment should be kept accessible to the eye and observed annually.

**Coffer dam**

The coffer dam is also scheduled for improvement works, such as the desilt of the coffer dam chamber and outlet pipe, as well as the holding tank prior to the chamber and outlet. Camera surveys of the pipe network and integrity are also scheduled. There is an oily film on the surface of the water here, this had no odour and was not of a rainbow sheen, this is likely due to the vegetation that has been in and around this chamber, as well as the rust that is present in the holding tank leading to oxidating bacteria. As mentioned above, an attempt should be made to locate and observe the outfall to the stream of the coffer dam annually.



**Reed bed**

The reed bed receives firefighting practise run off, including foam, for treatment before discharging via a drainage field. The reed bed is also undergoing works, which includes, the removal of the initial and most contaminated sediment at the entry point of the reed bed (this sediment is being appropriately disposed of) as well as installing new pipework to the inlet and outlet. The outlet pipework chamber is heavily rusted and is being replaced.



**Southside interceptor**

The southside interceptor services the hardstanding area for the private planes. The majority of this interceptor is covered. This interceptors sample point is also located in the final treatment/capture chamber and not the location at which the water is leaving the interceptor and fully treated, the sample point signage should be moved to reflect this.

**Fuel farm interceptor**

The fuel farm interceptor (previously BP interceptor) services the area for the fuel storage and refilling area. There is a main interceptor by the fuel tanks in this area, this one is tankered away and does not discharge to the environment. There is then a surface water interceptor to the south east. This interceptor is due for a new penstock, as the main inlet penstock to the interceptor is stuck partially closed, this could back under high flow conditions and be bypassed in the bypass channel. The bypass channel does not contain a penstock where there should be one. This interceptor also has the sample point in the final treatment chamber and not the outlet chamber as mentioned in the car par and southside interceptor sections. This should be relocated to the outlet chamber for accurate sample taking.

**Actions:**

- Inform NRW once the new improvements works have been completed and functional.
- Observe and photograph the outfalls to the environment for the car park, coffer dam and fuel farm interceptors.
- Relocate the sample signage for the car park, southside and fuel farm interceptors to allow for accurate sampling.
- Install a V notch weir to the outlet chamber of the car park interceptor so a sample can be taken of the flowing water and not scraped on the bottom which may collect unrepresentative sediment.
- Install a penstock to the bypass channel of the fuel farm interceptor and replace the stuck penstock to the treatment chambers.

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.