

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050995

Permit being assessed: BP0280801

For: CWMBWRLA CSO CWMBWRLA RBOUW SWANSEA, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: In front of Gors Mission Church, 259 Carmarthen Rd, CWMBWRLA, Swansea, SA5 8LP.

Type of assessment carried out: Other,

Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2602111).

On 04/03/2026.

Parts of permit assessed: Operating Techniques

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrwymru.com, CARS Mailbox, on 30/03/2026.

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)	

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	Make changes to the over pumping arrangement so that it does not cause dry day spills.	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.

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 (CAR) is to:

- Record our compliance assessment of a self-reported 'dry day' spill
- Review any actions from previous CARs

Compliance assessment of a self-reported 'dry day' spill

On the 4 March 2026 you reported, via a self-reported incident, that you had identified a 'dry-day spill' from Cwmbwrla Combined Storm Overflow (CSO) where a temporary pumping station and overland sewers have been installed to bypass a fractured sewer caused by a collapsed private culvert on the Burlais Brook.

The sewer pumping operation has been in place for a number of years whilst you are waiting for the culvert to be repaired. However, in November 2025 your pumps failed due to flooding outside of your control and beyond what you had reasonably been able to mitigate against. This resulted in a new and different pumping operation having to be installed which now appears to have resulted in a 'dry-day spill' from Cwmbwrla CSO.

Condition 2.1.1 of your permit authorises you to discharge storm sewage via the point of discharge and Condition 2.3.1 specifies when a storm discharge can occur.

2.1.1 The only activity authorised by the permit is the activity specified in schedule 1 table S1.1. (Discharge of storm sewage via point of discharge).

Condition 2.3.1. For the discharge specified in table S3.3:

(a) The discharge shall only occur when and only for as long as either:

(i) the flow passed forward is equal to or greater than the overflow setting indicated due to rainfall and/or snow melt.

(ii) the hydraulic capacity of the sewer network downstream of the combined sewer overflow is reached due to rainfall and/or snow melt and the level of storm sewage in the sewer at the combined sewer overflow is greater than the weir level of the overflow structure which is specified as an overflow setting in table S3.3.

The capacity of the sewer network downstream of the combined sewer overflow shall not be altered in any way which would lead to a significant increase in the frequency or volume of the discharge.

For Cwmbwrla CSO the overflow setting, which is the minimum flow passed forward to the continuation sewer when the overflow operates, is 196 litres per second.

As the reported spill was not due to rainfall, i.e. it occurred on a dry day, the discharge was not compliant with permit condition 2.3.1.

Due to the circumstances which led to the non-compliant discharge we will not be recording breach in this CAR. You have been actively seeking a resolution to the collapsed culvert, something which is outside of your control, and we have accepted that pollution incident 2602111 was attributable to a Third Party.

My understanding is that you have added an extra pump which appears to have stopped any 'dry-day spills'.

Review any actions from previous CARs

In CAR_NRW0049985 issued on the 06/11/2025 we asked you to provide an update on when you could foresee the sewer being re-instated and the temporary pumping station being removed, bearing in mind that the culvert needs to be repaired first.

My understanding is that work on culvert is now progressing and once it has been restored to service you will commence reinstatement of the sewer(s). Removal of the pumps will follow.

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.