

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0050461

Permit being assessed: CG0393601

For: SNOWDON SUMMIT CAFE, **held by:** SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY

At: SNOWDONIA NATIONAL PARK, ., ., GWYNEDD, LL55 4TY.

Type of assessment carried out: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On 14/08/2025, between 10:00 and 11:30.

Parts of permit assessed: 1.1 General Management; 2 Operations; 3 Emissions and monitoring; 3.3 Monitoring; 4.3 Notifications (c); Schedule 1 - Operations; Schedule 3 - Emissions and monitoring

NRW Lead Officer: Ceris Evans.

Report sent to: Head of Property Service, Head of Property Service, on 07/05/2026.

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	C3 Minor	Schedule 1 - Operations. Table S1.1 Activities Description of activity: "Groundwater activity: discharge into land of sewage and trade effluent from a septic tank." Limits of specified activity: "Via a soakaway system at NGR SH6085054350."

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	Work with Natural Resources Wales to identify a long term solution to allow compliance with permit conditions.	30/09/2026

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.

You are non-compliant with your permit.

We are currently considering taking enforcement action against you for the non-compliance recorded above. We will contact you in due course.

4. Details of our assessment

Dear Permit Holder

Introduction

A permit compliance site inspection was undertaken as part of the 2025/26 Compliance Work Plan. The inspection was carried out by two Natural Resources Wales (NRW) officers, accompanied by a representative of the permit holder. The purpose of the inspection was to assess compliance with permit conditions relating to the management and discharge of sewage and trade effluent from the Hafod Eryri building.

Site Description

The Hafod Eryri building comprises a café and public toilet facilities located near the summit of Yr Wyddfa. The building operates on a seasonal basis between May and September. Foul drainage from the building is served by a septic tank system. The septic tank and associated discharge pipework are located at a difficult terrain area of the site characterised by steep gradients and rocky outcrop.

Sewage System Facilities

Solid waste and sludge generated by the septic tank system are retained within the system and are removed from the site on a regular basis through established arrangements. The liquid effluent permitted to discharge from the system currently exits the septic tank via pipework running downslope, which is partially covered by a thin layer of concrete above ground. As part of previous efforts to minimise environmental impact, sections of a historic herringbone arrangement remain in place.

During the inspection, it was observed that effluent was discharging from the pipework at more than one point. Some discharge was observed exiting part-way down the steep incline, with significant flow discharging further downslope at the termination of the pipe.

Environmental Observations

It appeared that some discharge effluent did not enter ground to allow for filtration or attenuation due to the underlying geology of the site, which consists predominantly of exposed rock and loose surface rock. As a result, infiltration into land does not fully occur.

The effluent was observed discharging directly onto the land surface, resulting in the potential for environmental pollution. Inadequate soakaway system was present within the area and no watercourses were identified in the immediate vicinity of the discharge point.

Non-Conformance

Environmental pollution may occur by the discharge of sewage effluent directly onto land. The discharge does not fully enter land for filtration purposes before entering the wider environment. Our conclusion is that improvements are required to achieve a compliant sewage management system at this site.

Ongoing Actions

Discussions are ongoing between the permit holder and NRW to identify and agree an alternative sewage treatment and disposal system that is suitable for the location taking into consideration that options are limited due to the site characteristics.

Conclusion

NRW would like to thank the permit holder for their cooperation prior to, during, and following this site inspection.

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.