

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0052255

Permit being assessed: DB3395CG.

For: Seawall Waste Transfer Station, **held by:** Plan B Management Solutions Limited

At: Unit 82, Seawall Road, Cardiff, Cardiff, CF24 5TH.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 30/06/2026 between 12:30 and 13:10.

Parts of permit assessed: W1A, W2A, W2E, W2C, W2D, W3G, W4B.

NRW Lead Officer: Daniel Hopkin, accompanied by Craig Coleman.

Report sent to: Ian Cresswell , TCM, on 02/07/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
W1A - Waste - Management - General management	Assessed (A)	
W2A - Waste - Operations - Permitted activities	Assessed (A)	
W2E - Waste - Operations - Waste acceptance	Assessed (A)	
W2C - Waste - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
W2D - Waste - Operations - The site	Assessed (A)	
W3G - Waste - Emissions and monitoring - Fire	Assessed (A)	
W4B - Waste - Information - Reporting	Assessed (A)	

Result types are explained in more detail in the 'Important Information' section below.

Total non-compliances recorded	Total non-compliance score
0	0

How we use the non-compliance score to calculate your annual fee is explained in the 'Important Information' section below.

2. What action is required?

No action required.

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

Seawall Waste Transfer Station – EPR/DB3395CG

Waste Regulation Officer Daniel Hopkin and Senior Waste Regulation Officer Craig Coleman attended the permitted facility of Seawall Waste Transfer Station at Unit 82, Seawall Road, Cardiff, CF24 5TH on the 30th of June 2026. Seawall Waste Transfer Station is run by Plan B Management Solutions Limited and they hold a Standard Rules SR2008 No3 – household, commercial and industrial waste transfer station with treatment permit for this site.

This was a pre-planned site visit as an initial inspection, Natural Resources Wales(NRW) have previously conducted a site visit in June 2025 for this but the site was still under construction, we received notification in April 2026 that the site commissioning had been completed and is now operational. We were also investigating a report received into NRW of flies from the site.

During the inspection the site's Technically Competent Manager(TCM) Ian Cresswell was unavailable, we were shown around by the site manager who answered our questions. The weather was warm and dry, we arrived at 12:30.

There were no breaches recorded on site during this visit.

W1A – General Management

Documents required under Permit Condition 1.1.1 were displayed on site. During the inspection we discussed the importance of maintaining effective management systems and ensuring that relevant documentation remains available to staff was discussed.

The availability of these documents provides staff with access to site-specific procedures, operational controls and emergency response information, supporting the day-to-day management of activities carried out under the permit. These documents were readily available when required by staff demonstrating compliance with permit condition 1.1.3.

We also discussed the importance of regularly reviewing and updating management system documents to ensure they remain accurate and reflective of current site operations.

Maintaining an effective management system is essential in demonstrating compliance with permit requirements and ensuring environmental risks are appropriately managed.



W2A Permitted activities

The permit authorises the operator to undertake only those activities specified in Table 2.1 of the permit. These activities include D15, R13, D14, D9, R3, R4 and R5 operations, with treatment limited to manual sorting, separation, screening, baling, shredding, crushing and compaction of waste into different components for disposal (up to 50 tonnes per day) or recovery.

During the inspection, site staff provided an overview of the daily operations and processing activities undertaken on site. The activities observed were consistent with those authorised by the permit.

Mixed cans and plastics are received within the reception area before being loaded onto a conveyor system for sorting and separation. The process follows a series of stages, including loading, Hand Pick Station 1, Hand Pick Station 2, steel separation, aluminium separation and plastic segregation.

The first hand-picking stage is used to remove contaminants from the waste stream, including general household waste that has been incorrectly presented within the recycling collection system. Further sorting and separation then takes place through a combination of

manual and mechanical processes to recover recyclable materials.

The waste processing operations observed during the inspection were consistent with the permitted activities and treatment techniques specified within Table 2.1. No activities were identified that appeared to fall outside the scope of the environmental permit at the time of the inspection.

W2E Waste Acceptance

Only waste of a type and quantity listed in Table 2.2 of the permit, and which conforms to the description provided in the documentation supplied by the waste producer or holder, may be accepted at the site.

During the inspection, no non-conforming wastes were identified. The operator advised that they currently only accept waste derived from household recycling collections. Waste observed on site was consistent with the permitted waste types allowed by the permit.

W2C Operating Techniques

Permit Condition 2.3.1 requires waste activities to be operated using the techniques and in the manner described in Table 2.3 of the permit.

Table 2.3 Operating techniques

1. Unless stored or treated outside as specified waste³:
 - a) all bulking, transfer or treatment of waste shall be carried out inside a building;
 - b) all waste shall be stored in a building or within a secure container.
 - c) all waste shall be stored and treated on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system.
2. Specified waste shall be stored and treated on hard standing or on an impermeable surface with sealed drainage system.

During the inspection, the measures specified within Table 2.3 were observed to be in place. All waste was being stored within the building on impermeable surfaces. Waste was appropriately segregated and managed within the designated storage areas, and no issues relating to the storage or handling of waste were identified at the time of the inspection.

W2D The Site

The site benefitted from appropriate security measures, including perimeter fencing and lockable access gates. No waste activities or storage were observed extending beyond the permitted site boundary, which is consistent with the requirements of Permit Condition 2.4.1.

The operator advised that a new drainage system was installed prior to the site becoming

operational. All water drainage discharges to the DCWW foul sewer system. During the inspection, all impermeable surfaces appeared to be in good condition, with no visible signs of any damage.

W3G Fire

Permit Condition 3.4.1 requires the operator to manage and operate the activities in accordance with a written Fire Prevention and Mitigation Plan (FPMP) using the current relevant fire prevention guidance.

During the inspection, the site's FPMP was available for inspection and readily accessible to staff.

The site was equipped with a fire detection system, including thermal imaging cameras capable of identifying hotspots within waste stockpiles. The operator advised that these systems are monitored to provide early warning of potential fire risks.

In addition, a dedicated 10,000-litre fire water storage tank was provided within the north-west corner of the site boundary to support firefighting activities if required. The operator also described operational controls aimed at reducing the risk of fire, including a one-hour cooling-down period at the end of each working day to allow staff to identify any signs of elevated temperatures within stored waste before leaving the site.

W4B Reporting

All waste returns have been submitted and were up to date at the time of the inspection. This is compliant with Permit Condition 4.2.1. The operator is reminded to continue submitting waste returns within the required timescales to ensure ongoing compliance with permit requirements.

Advice and guidance – Pests

We have received a report of flies leaving the site and causing disruption to the surrounding area. During the inspection, some flies were observed within the building, primarily in the vicinity of the waste storage areas.

Site staff advised that the waste accepted is derived from household sources and is received in as clean a condition as reasonably practicable. They confirmed that waste is processed and moved through the site as part of normal operations, and that they are actively exploring additional measures to improve fly control.

At the time of the inspection, no significant fly infestation was identified. No flies were observed outside the building, and those present internally were around the waste, which is consistent with the nature of the activity. The presence of some flies is not unexpected, particularly given the higher temperatures experienced in the week prior to this inspection,

which can increase fly activity and breeding rates.

The building structure appeared to provide containment, and there was no evidence at the time of inspection to suggest that flies were migrating off site. However, it is important that fly control measures continue to be reviewed and implemented as necessary, particularly during periods of warmer weather.

Ongoing good housekeeping, timely waste processing, and appropriate pest control measures will be important in minimising the potential for fly nuisance and ensuring impacts on the surrounding area are prevented.

Thank you for your time during the inspection. The site inspection concluded at 13:10.

If you have any queries regarding this Compliance Assessment Report, please contact me on the details below.

Daniel Hopkin

Daniel.Hopkin@CyfoethNaturiolCymru.gov.uk

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 of 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	Score
C1 Major	Potential to have a major, serious, persistent and/or extensive impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	60
C2 Significant	Potential to have a significant impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	31
C3 Minor	Potential to have a minor or minimal impact or effect on the environment, people and/or property	4
C4 No environmental impact	Non-compliance at a regulated site that cannot foreseeably have any impact on the environment, people and/or property	0.1

How we use assessment scores

The number and severity of non-compliances recorded in a year will affect your annual subsistence fee the following year. A non-compliance factor is added to your site's Operator Performance Risk Appraisal (OPRA) score when we calculate your fee to reflect the additional resource we use to assess permit compliance.

If your assessment result in Section 1 is suspended, what does this mean?

In line with our guidance, we may suspend scores for up to six months to allow time for remedial action to be taken. Suspended scores will be re-instated if the action is not completed.

Full list of Waste compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**1. Management**

- W1A – General management
- W1B – Energy Efficiency (MCP/SG facilities only)
- W1C – Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities

2. Operations

- W2A – Permitted activities
- W2B – Waste recovery plan
- W2C – Operating techniques
- W2D – The site
- W2E – Waste acceptance
- W2F – Technical requirements
- W2G – Improvement programme
- W2H – Pre-operational conditions

3. Emission and Monitoring

- W3A(1) – Emissions to water
- W3A(2) – Emissions to air
- W3A(3) – Emissions to land
- W3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- W3C – Odour
- W3D – Noise and vibration
- W3E – Monitoring
- W3F – Pests
- W3G – Fire

4. Information

- W4A – Records
- W4B – Reporting
- W4C – Notification

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.