

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0052692

Permit being assessed: VP3039UR.

For: Highfield Poultry Farm, **held by:** Mr Philip Weale

At: Highfield Poultry Farm , Parkmill, SWANSEA, West Glamorgan, SA3 2EJ.

Type of assessment: Site Inspection,

Reason: Routine.

On: 14/08/2026 between 11:30 and 13:00.

Parts of permit assessed: Management, Operations, Emissions & Monitoring .

NRW Lead Officer: Gareth Martin.

Report sent to: Phillip Weale , Owner , on 19/08/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (compliance criteria)	Assessment result	Permit condition
IR1C - Installations - Management - Energy Efficiency	Assessed (A)	
IR1D - Installations - Management - Efficient use of raw materials	Assessed (A)	
IR2C - Installations - Operations - Operating techniques	Assessed (A)	
IR3C - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Odour	Assessed (A)	
IR3D - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Noise and vibration	Assessed (A)	
IR3F - Installations - Emissions and monitoring - Pests	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

1.2 Energy Efficiency

You showed me a bank of solar panels that was installed in 2012 and is used to provide a proportion of the electricity consumed on site. All poultry sheds are insulated with approximately 4 to 8 inches of foam insulation. Heating and cooling systems are automated to maintain stable conditions within the sheds while optimising energy use.

1.3 Efficient Use of Raw Materials

You informed me that all pan feeders were replaced approximately two years ago and that new drinking systems were installed last year. These improvements have enhanced the efficient distribution of feed and water and helped minimise losses from leaks.

Since switching to organic poultry production, bird numbers have been reduced to approximately 40,000, resulting in a corresponding reduction in feed requirements.

1.4 / 2.3 Avoidance, Recovery and Disposal of Waste Produced by the Activities / Operating Techniques

As an organic farm, poultry litter is removed from the site and spread on other organic farms. You advised that litter is transferred to a local farm and to a farm in Oxfordshire. The litter is collected by the receiving farmers at the end of each production cycle, when the sheds are emptied and cleaned out.

The quantity of waste transferred is not weighed on each occasion. Instead, records are maintained based on estimated quantities produced by each shed per cycle. These records are kept in a folder on site.

The only other significant waste stream generated on site is plastic wrapping associated with bedding and similar materials. This waste is taken to a local baling facility for recovery/recycling.

3.3 Odour

Weather conditions during the inspection were warm with minimal wind. Odour was limited

to the immediate vicinity of the poultry sheds and was not detected beyond the site boundary.

3.4 Noise and Vibration

The inspection was scheduled during a period of warm weather to maximise operation of the ventilation fans. The site perimeter was walked to assess noise levels. All fans were operating normally, with no unusual noise noted, and vent covers appeared to be correctly fitted.

We discussed other activities that may give rise to noise. You advised that most potentially noisy activities, such as deliveries, take place during daytime hours. Shed clearance activities at the end of a production cycle may occur at night; however, you stated that external noise is generally limited to forklift movements associated with loading birds onto transport vehicles, as catching activities take place within the sheds.

Local residential areas were also checked prior to the inspection. No significant noise attributable to the site was detected beyond a low background level.

3.6 Pests

No evidence of pest activity was observed during the inspection. You advised that, as a requirement of other farm assurance schemes, strict pest management measures are implemented on site. These include maintaining short grass around the sheds and limiting vegetation within the site perimeter.

Conclusion

No non-compliances were identified during the inspection. Thank you for your time and for facilitating the site visit.

Ends

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 Industry compliance criteria (used in section 1 and 2):**1. Management**

- IR1A – General management
- IR1B – Finance (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR1C – Energy efficiency
- IR1D - Efficient use of raw materials
- IR1E - Avoidance, recovery and disposal of wastes produced by the activities
- IR1F - Multiple operator installations

2. Operations

- IR2A – Permitted activities
- IR2B – The site
- IR2C – Operating techniques
- IR2D – Technical requirements
- IR2E – Improvement programme
- IR2F – Pre-operational conditions
- IR2G – Landfill engineering (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2H – Waste acceptance (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2I – Leachate levels (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2J – Closure and aftercare (only applicable to Landfill)
- IR2K – Landfill gas management (only applicable to Landfill)

3. Emission and Monitoring

- IR3A(1) – Emissions to water
- IR3A(2) – Emissions to air
- IR3A(3) – Emissions to land
- IR3B – Emissions of substances not controlled by emission limits
- IR3C – Odour
- IR3D – Noise and vibration
- IR3E – Monitoring
- IR3F – Pests
- IR3G – Air quality management plans
- IR3H – Monitoring for the purposes of the Industrial Emissions Directive (this heading includes Large Combustion Plants)
- IR3I – Fire

4. Information

- IR4A – Records
- IR4B – Reporting
- IR4C – 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.