Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0053091

Permit being assessed: BP0236601

For: Swansea Bay Wastewater Treatment Works, **held by:** DWR CYMRU CYFYNGEDIG

At: Fabian Way, Crymlyn Burrows, Swansea, SA1 8QP.

Type of assessment carried out: Report/Data Review,

Reason: Routine.

On 08/09/2026.

Parts of permit assessed: Emissions to Water and Notifications

NRW Lead Officer: Sarah Bennett.

Report sent to: CARS@dwrcymru, CARS Mailbox, on 29/09/2026.

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

Part of permitted activity assessed (criteria)	Assessment result	Non-compliant permit condition
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Assessed (A)	
WQ-C1 - Water Quality - Emissions and monitoring - Emissions to water	Action only (X)	
WQ-D3 - Water Quality - Information - Notifications	Assessed (A)	

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

2. What action is required?

Criteria	Action needed	Complete by
WQ-C1	Please explain the reasons for the deterioration in effluent quality which led to the COD Look up Table exceedance on the 8 September 2026 and outline the measures being taken to reduce the risk of future exceedances.	16/10/2026

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

The purpose of this Compliance Assessment Report is to:
• assess and record compliance with the Urban Wastewater Treatment Regulations (UWWTR) numeric emissions limits relating to a 24-hour composite sample taken at Swansea Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW); and
• assess compliance with notification condition 4.1.3(b).

Assessment and record of compliance with UWWTR numeric emissions limits:

On 15 September 2026, you informed us that an UWWTR final effluent compliance sample taken at Swansea WwTW on 8 September 2026 had exceeded the Look Up Table (LUT) limit for Chemical Oxygen Demand (COD).

The COD result was 127 mg/l, with a removal rate of 68.5%.

The UWWTR COD standard is 75% removal or 125 mg/l, but not both. The maximum permitted limit is 250 mg/l.

Condition 3.1.2 states that the limits in schedule 3 table S3.1 to which this condition applies may be exceeded where: in any series of samples of the discharge taken at regular but randomised intervals in any period of twelve consecutive months as listed in column 1 of schedule 3A, no more than the relevant number of samples, as listed in column 2 of schedule 3A, exceed the applicable limit for that relevant parameter. For relevant parameters subject to schedule 3C the assessment is based on a fixed calendar year from 1 January to 31 December inclusive.

Accordingly, at Swansea WwTW, where 24 samples are taken each year, compliance with the LUT COD standard may be demonstrated by either achieving a COD concentration of 125 mg/l or the required percentage reduction in COD. Up to three samples in a fixed calendar year may fail to meet the COD standard, provided that no result exceeds the maximum limit of 250 mg/l.

This is the second sample exceedance for COD at Swansea WWTW in 2026, the exceedance is therefore compliant with the permit, i.e., it is covered by the LUT provisions in the permit.

You have not informed us that abnormal operating conditions were adversely affecting final effluent quality at the time of sampling.

Action: Please explain the reasons for the deterioration in effluent quality which led to the COD Look up Table exceedance on the 8 September 2026 and outline the measures being taken to reduce the risk of future exceedances.

Compliance Assessment with Condition 4.3.1(b) Notifications:

Condition 4.3.1 requires you to notify us as soon as reasonably practicable following

detection of: (b) any breach of a limit specified in schedule 3 table S3.1 (including individual exceedances of limits which are covered by condition 3.1.2).

The sample was taken on 8 September 2026, and you notified us of the exceedance on 15 September 2026. I am therefore satisfied that the notification requirement has been met.

Thank you

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 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.