Compliance Assessment Report CAR_NRW0053238

Permit being assessed: S/01/55360/R

For: Newtown (Dolfor Lock) Wastewater Treatment Works, **held by:** Hafren Dyfrdwy Cyfyngedig

At: Road off Canal Road (B4568), Llanllwchaiarn, Newtown, Powys, SY16 3BA.

Type of assessment carried out: Check Monitoring/Sampling,

Reason: Incident Response (Incident number: 2608658).

On 26/07/2026.

Parts of permit assessed: Conditions 3.1.1, 3.1.2 and 3.1.4

NRW Lead Officer: Bethan Lewis.

Report sent to: Hafren Dyfrdwy Cyfyngedig, Permit Holder, on 14/10/2026.

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)	

Result types are explained in more detail 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

Summary

A notification has been received by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) that an Urban

Wastewater Treatment Regulations (UWWTR) sample collected by Hafren Dyfrdwy Cyfyngedig (HD) at Newtown (Dolfor Lock) Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) on the 26 July 2026 had a Biochemical Oxygen Demand (BOD) concentration of 30mg/l. The permit look up table (LUT) limit is 25mg/l.

The BOD exceedance was self-reported by HD and uploaded to NRW's incident recording system as WIRS 2608658.

The result represents the first BOD (UWWTR) exceedance at Newtown (Dolfor Lock) WwTW in 2026. Under the LUT procedure, the exceedance does not currently represent a breach of permit. This Compliance Assessment Report (CAR) is therefore being sent to record the exceedance only.

HD investigation into the BOD (UWWTR) exceedance

Following the initial self-report, HD undertook an extensive investigation to identify the root cause of the BOD (UWWTR) exceedance. HD:

- Reviewed the on-site sewage treatment process performance;
- Reviewed discharges from permitted traders in the catchment;
- Assessed the potential for on-site sample contamination;
- Assessed the potential for third-party sample contamination.

Despite the above, no root cause for the BOD (UWWTR) exceedance was identified.

HD state that the sample characteristics fall into an 'unexplained/uncharacteristic BOD' (uBOD) category as the BOD concentration was much higher than the suspended solids (8mg/l) and ammoniacal nitrogen (1.05mg/l) concentrations. HD therefore requested that the BOD (UWWTR) result was not used to assess compliance and requested that the sample was either rescheduled or classed as compliant under the Environmental Permitting Regulations Schedule 21(6)(5).

Under condition 3.1.4(a) of permit S/01/55360/R, the sample must be used to assess compliance unless HD are able to demonstrate that it was taken at a time when abnormal operating conditions were adversely affecting the operation of the waste water treatment works. Abnormal operating conditions include circumstances such as an illegal discharge being made to the sewer or unusual weather. After reviewing the information provided, NRW do not believe that HD has demonstrated that the sample was collected during abnormal operating conditions. For this reason, the BOD (UWWTR) result from the 26 July 2026 will continue to be used for compliance purposes and should not be rescheduled.

In this document 'Natural Resources Wales' means the Natural Resources Body for Wales established by Article 3 of the Natural Resources Body for Wales (Establishment) order 2012.

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.