

FW: Gwaelod y Garth Incident - TCG 19:00 30/07/26
31 July 2026 08:58:01

Updates from the TCGs yesterday.

11

[illegible]

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Gwaelod y Garth Incident - TCG 19:00 30/07/26

See update below.

NSRD had advised that they will be issuing an updated Awareness and Monitoring Alert.

South Wales LRF TCG 19:30 30/07/26

- SWFRS operational element has ceased. All assets have been removed.

Intend on handing over.

- Commented that a significant volume of flood water reached the river Taff via storm drainage and direct flow/seepage.

Police

- Cordons in place. One road remains closed. Queried stability of adjacent slope/bank above the road.
- Investigative colleagues are picking up the incident. Looking to engage with the HSE.

Council

- Community Centre is in use/is available. Housing officers on site still and are supporting one house who has requested support.
- Council to leave contact details at the community centre. They are not sure if people have left the scene and may require support once they have returned.
- No update on stability of the bank above the road, and suggested intentions to investigate.

Mining Remediation Authority ([REDACTED])

- Confident it is not coal mining related.
- Engineer has attended site. Confident that there are no impacts to the Category D tip but it will be inspected again tomorrow just as a precaution.
- Anecdotal references to a known underground reservoir in the area.

NRW ([REDACTED])

- Suggested Mineral Planning Authority remit, the Council.
- Officers have been on site and identified an adit/shaft (Location: memory.junior.bubble). At the location, there appears to have been recent activity which may have included removal of a gate.
- Water has flowed across NRW land. Engineers to attend site tomorrow morning to make assessment.
- Water quality results not due until Friday/Saturday
- Significant discolouring in the Taff noted.
- Anticipated impacts to wildlife/biodiversity in the Taff.

Comms

- Plans for a joint multi-agency statement in hand.
- Preference is to move away from 'flash flooding references' and instead towards something along the lines of 'potential breach of (subsurface) water body/ water course'.

Next meeting at 12:30.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: 30 July 2026 18:13

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Gwaelod y Gareth Incident - TCG 17:00 30/07/26

All,

Quick read-out from the TCG at 17:00. I'll attend the next meeting at 19:30.

I understand NSRD colleagues will issue a follow-up Aware and Monitoring Alert. On that basis, I will hold off from sending up any Ministerial briefings.

South Wales LRF TCG 17:00 30/07/26

Location: Gwaelod y Garth

- Not a major or critical incident. SWFRS have led the response.
- Residents describe an explosion which was followed by flood waters. Blast works believed to have disturbed a sub-surface lake or flooded mine workings.
- Localised flooding incident affecting 15 properties of which 13 evacuated (cut out fuse removed). Reports of reduced impacts to more properties in the area.
- Those evacuated have been taken to a local community centre.
- Flood water is subsiding. Water has been redirected to sewers and watercourses.
- Significant amount of silt and debris in the area.

- Moving to the recovery phase. SWFRS are looking to hand over to partner agencies when appropriate.
- Worst affected properties are flooded up to 1m
- Currently concerned with the structural integrity/stability of the quarry itself.
- HSE notified as it is a quarry operation falling under the Quarries Regs, 1999.
- Emergency response winding down.
- HSE are on site but are yet to comment.

Cardiff Council ([REDACTED])

- Contacted shortly before 15:00
- Supported response with road closures, cleansing vehicles for initial clean-up etc.
- Concerns for vulnerable residents.
- Housing colleagues on their way to the scene to advise whether they can return or need temporary accommodation

MRA ([REDACTED])

- Records show it is a limestone quarry
- Recorded ironstone workings in the area.
- Acknowledged a Category D disused coal tip in the area which they will investigate.

NRW

- Monitoring upstream and downstream.
- Taff looking discoloured with reports of visible impacts to the river down to Cardiff Bay.
- Prioritisation to mitigate pollution wherever possible.
- Expect some minor impacts e.g. dead fish

Comms – Joint comms strategy planned (Fire, Police, Council, NRW and MRA)

Summary

- Flooding incident under control and entering recovery phase
- Risks relating to the quarry and mine workings remain unknown
- SWFRS to leave assets on scene pending HSE and MRA update on mining safety elements.

Next meeting at 1930.

Thanks,

[REDACTED]

