

Reference Number: DAERA/26-705

Request Details:

Summary information and copies of powerpoint presentations given at Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Workshop on 12/8/2026. Additional information requested on volume and hectareage of active horticultural peat extraction in Northern Ireland. Copies of handwritten notes taken at the workshop.



Department of

**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Deapairtment o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

www.daera-ni.gov.uk

**Environment, Marine & Fisheries
Group**

Natural Environment Policy Division

[REDACTED]
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08 October 2026

Dear [REDACTED]

Environmental Information Regulation 2004

With regard to your request for information received by the Department on 10 September 2026 which sought the following information:

Summary information and copies of powerpoint presentations given at Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Workshop on 12/8/2026. Additional information requested on volume and hectareage of active horticultural peat extraction in Northern Ireland. Copies of handwritten notes taken at the workshop.

I can advise that the Department has completed its search and can confirm that it holds the information you requested. The detail of the documents is outlined below and each document is attached on your reply email. You requested peat extraction statistics and these are included in the presentation given by the Defra representative (Annex 1). The Summary Report from the Stakeholder Workshop is also attached at Annex 10.

If you are deaf or have a hearing difficulty you can contact the Department via the Next Generation Text Relay Service by dialling 18001 + telephone number.

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Some of the information on Annex 6 and 7 documents has been redacted as it constitutes personal data of which you are not the data subject. In these instances, the Department is required to consider if disclosure would breach the first Data Protection Principle, which states that processing must be lawful, fair and transparent.

The Department has considered this element within the test attached at Annex 9 and has determined that no lawful basis for disclosure under EIR exists. Please bear in mind that any disclosure must be considered in terms of disclosure to the “world at large” and not just to you, the requester. Consequently, third party personal data falling within the scope of this request has been withheld.

- Annex 1 PDF of Powerpoint Presentation – Ending the sale of peat in the UK – the Defra perspective.
- Annex 2 PDF of Powerpoint Presentation – What do Peatlands do for us (Ulster Wildlife)
- Annex 3 Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Event. Day 2 (12-8-2026) Growers (Ornamentals). Scan of Original Notes.
- Annex 4 Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Event. Day 2 (12-8-2026) Growers (Ornamentals). Scan of Original Notes.
- Annex 5 Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Event. Day 2 (12-8-2026) Growers (Ornamentals). Original Notes.
- Annex 6 Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Event. Day 2 (12-8-2026) Growers (Mushrooms). Scan of Original Notes.
- Annex 7 Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Event. Day 2 (12-8-2026) Growers (Mushrooms). Scan of Original Notes.
- Annex 8 Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Event. Day 2 (12-8-2026) Growers (Edibles). Scan of Original Notes.
- Annex 9 Lawful Processing and Fairness Test.
- Annex 10 Summary Report – Horticultural Peat Stakeholder Workshop (12-8-2026). Growers.

If you require any clarification, believe that any part of your request has been overlooked, misunderstood or misinterpreted, please contact me in the first instance to see if it is a matter that can be resolved.

If you are unhappy with the manner in which your request for information has been handled or the decision to release/withhold information, you have the right to request a formal review by the Department. If you wish to do so, please contact The Review Section either by e-mailing daera.informationmanager@daera-ni.gov.uk or by post at The Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, Data Protection &

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Information Management Branch, Floor 2, Jubilee House, 111 Ballykelly Road, Ballykelly, Limavady BT49 9HP, within two months from the date of this letter.

If after such an internal review you are still unhappy with the response, you have the right to appeal to the Information Commissioner at Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, CHESHIRE SK9 5AF, who will undertake an independent review of the Department's decision.

Yours sincerely,



Natural Environment Policy Division

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