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Dear Ms Nex.

Thank you for your letter of 9 September to the Prime Minister on behalf of the Peat-free Partnership about ending peat sales. Your letter has been passed to Defra and I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area.

There has been a lengthy discourse on the merits of moving to peat free horticulture going back several years. Defra recognises the contribution ending the use of peat would make in achieving net zero and preserving habitats.

We are committed to protecting our nature-rich habitats, including peat bogs and are looking at next steps regarding measures to ban horticultural peat. We will continue to work alongside the horticultural sector to accelerate progress on the peat free transition. While significant progress has been made by many, we acknowledge there is still more work to be done.

Thank you once again for taking the time to contact us about this important issue.

MARY CREAGH CBE MP