

FOI number: **HBC\_FOI\_20200059**  
Date FOI Received: **22/01/2020**  
Department: **Parks**  
Title: **Local Authority Peat Usage**  
Description: **Use of peat, peat alternatives for horticulture purposes and change over time and actions which might encourage change.**

**Request: (As Redacted sent by requestor)**

Please see responses below:

1.
  - a) Does your local authority use peat in its horticultural practices? E.g. planting.
  - b) If so, and if you are able to quantify, how much peat do you use a month (m<sup>3</sup>)?
  - c) Do you use peat raw, as part of a mixed compost, or in another way?
2.
  - a) Are any peat-free alternatives used instead?
  - b) If so, which ones, and in what quantities?
3.
  - a) Have any efforts been made to reduce the amount of peat used?
  - b) If so, has this been a result of governmental policy/pressure, or other reasons? If other, please specify.
4. If possible, please provide any figures on your historic peat use, for comparison. If this is outsourced, any available details would be appreciated.
5. Are there any plans to reduce future peat usage?
6. What could be done to support you in a transition to peat-free growing media?

**Response: (Response as Redacted sent by service)**

- 1a) No.
- 1b) N/A
- 1c) N/A
- 2a) We use natural compost from green waste from the Parks Department.
- 2b) This Information is not recorded.
- 3a) N/A
- 3b) N/A

- 4) N/A
- 5) N/A
- 6) N/A

If you have any queries about the processing of your request then please do not hesitate to contact me. Further information explaining the Council's process for responding to information requests together with a complaints/appeals procedure is available in our reception or via our website at:

<https://www.hertsmere.gov.uk/Your-Council/Official-Publications--Guides--Policies/Access-to-Information.aspx>

The Information Commissioner oversees the application of the Freedom of Information Act. You may contact the Information Commissioner at:

Information Commissioners Office  
Wycliffe House, Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire SK9 5AF  
Telephone: 01625 545700  
Website: [www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk](http://www.informationcommissioner.gov.uk)

Please include the above reference number on all correspondence related to this request.

Thank you for your request.

Kind regards

Information Services