



**Chris Heaton-Harris**  
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*Dear Constituent,*

Thank you for contacting me about peat burning. I do understand your concerns on this issue.

The impact of rotational burning of vegetation on blanket bog continues to be hotly debated by academics, scientists, land managers and everybody involved on all sides. I know that healthy peatlands have an important role to play in cutting greenhouse gas emissions and helping the UK reach its net zero target. £640 million has been committed through the Nature for Climate Fund to restore 35,000 hectares of England's peatland by 2025.

My Ministerial colleagues have always been clear of the need to phase out rotational burning of protected blanket bog to conserve these vulnerable habitats and the intention has always been to legislate if a voluntary approach failed to deliver. Ministers are currently considering legislation and the next steps which can be taken. In the meantime, however, it is encouraging that real progress is being made in promoting sustainable alternatives.

Also, as I'm sure you know, Ministers are committed to publishing an English peat strategy that sets out the direction for restoration, protection and sustainable management.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Yours faithfully,

**CHRIS HEATON-HARRIS MP**  
**MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT FOR DAVENTRY**