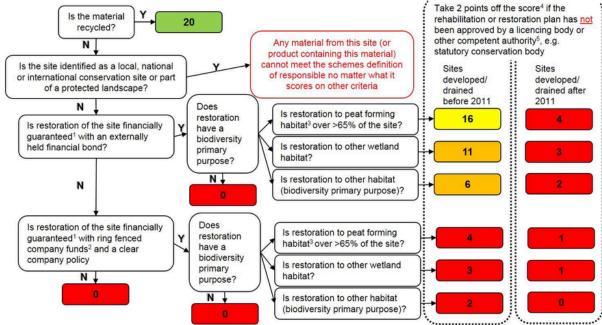


HABITAT & BIODIVERSITY (Peat)

WHAT'S COVERED

- Removal of peat from bogs or peatlands, and the resulting impact on rare habitats.
- Whether the site is or was a protected area, plus the date it was first drained or developed.
- Restoration or rehabilitation plans to return peatlands to a functional habitat after extraction.



- 1 that guarantees sufficient resource for restoration of the site
- ² published in company's public accounts NB: Company track record of restoration is not sufficient
- ³ appropriate to the country of the site (as demonstrated by restoring hydrological conditions)
- ⁴ Negative scores are rounded to zero
- ⁵ Where there is no Competent Authority an alternative external reviewer must be agreed with the Technical Committee

EVIDENCE NEEDED

- Proof that the peat source is not within a protected/conservation site (e.g., SSSI, Natura 2000).
- An approved restoration or rehabilitation plan, demonstrating funding and timelines.
- Documentation of the drainage or extraction start date (if it began after 2011, scoring is stricter).
- Any licences/permits for peat extraction showing compliance with national regulations.

WAYS TO IMPROVE

- Prioritise peat from older, already-drained sites rather than new pristine bogs.
- Ensure the restoration plan aims to re-establish peat-forming habitat or suitable wetland habitat.
- Secure guaranteed funding for site restoration (e.g., ring-fenced company funds, a financial bond).
- Shift partially or wholly to alternatives (like coir or compost) to reduce peat dependency longterm.