**Product / Service:** Clothing, Gloves & PPE

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|  | **Negative Impacts / Risks** |  | **Positive Opportunities** |
| **Environmental** | * Synthetic textiles made from petrochemicals – hazardous * Use of pesticides in the growth / cultivation of natural textiles * Hazardous chemicals involved in textile processing * Production of plastic products uses petroleum (scarce natural resource) and creates chemical waste & air pollution from waste gases * Vehicle fuel & emissions (carbon impact) – high order frequency * May be delivered in excessive packaging * Disposal of contaminated products (e.g. gloves) – must be disposed of as per the contaminate itself * Disposal of products – landfill impact / some materials have low decomposition rates / high disposal rates | * Use of natural (organic) textiles from sustainable sources * Avoid textiles processed using hazardous chemicals & bleach * Consider biodegradable & ‘compostable’ plastics (c.f. oil-based plastics) * Recycle plastics or consider as a source of thermal ‘energy from waste’ (via incineration) * Reusable/washable products rather than ‘one time use’ disposable products * Consolidated orders & reduced delivery frequency * Low CO2 vehicles for delivery * Reduce levels of packaging / use recycled packaging * Opportunity to reuse/recycle products (various waste streams) |
| **Social** | * International supply chains (potential for issues such as child labour / poor pay & working conditions / health and safety breaches) * Frequency & timing of deliveries – congestion & noise impacting residents | * Job creation in rural communities in fair trade textile production * Opportunity area for supported businesses (clothing) – majority of workers are people with a disability * Apprenticeship opportunities * Consolidated orders & deliveries |
| **Economic** | * Potential duplication of purchases across multiple sites - disconnected orders / multiple delivery charges * Individual preference for particular product types * Recycled / Fairtrade / organic products may be more expensive * Poor inventory management may result in over-ordering of consumables / leftover stock / high storage costs * Waste disposal costs | * Rationalise suppliers & deliveries * Product standardisation * Rural communities benefit fair trade revenues (but products may be more expensive) * Many UK manufacturers & distributors – opportunity to support local economy * Reduce waste through effective inventory management / redistribute over-orders of consumables internally * Invest in robust and durable products – whole life cost |

**RELATED PROC HE:** DE / HC / HF / HR / HS / LJ / UD