



NWUPC

North Western Universities Purchasing Consortium

Delivering value through responsible procurement

ECOⁿnect

North Western Universities Purchasing Consortium Ltd

June 2022 | **ISSUE 22**

The articles in this edition have been collated to showcase the wide range of initiatives being undertaken by our suppliers, demonstrating their commitment to responsible procurement.

The articles show that responsible procurement is a genuine and ongoing priority to NWUPC and our members and they are continually working on ways to improve.

We are on the journey together!

If you would like to feature in our next edition, please contact [David McIntyre](#).

Don't throw away textiles..... no need to even recycle..... Get them Re-used through Thomas Kneale



Thomas Kneale & Co Ltd are suppliers across all lots on the Framework Agreement for Residential Textiles, Student Starter Packs and Window Coverings. We offer a wide range of products to satisfy the requirements of the University or College, whether it be for the student or for conferencing. We will guide you in line with available budgets and end user expectations. TK have earned an unrivalled reputation for raising standards through quality, competitively priced products and the highest levels of service.

Our sustainability journey has evolved over a number of years with initiatives including Fairtrade cotton used in all our towelling and bedding items, recycled content across much of our product range, and partnerships created and developed with a number of recycling companies that avoid products going to landfill when their initial use has come to an end.

While recycling items is unquestionably a better option for the environment compared to placing in to landfill or burning for energy, we felt that this was only a 'half way' position rather than a true circular approach. After researching ways of progressing this area further we discovered Re-Use Network. Home - Reuse Network (reuse-network.org.uk).

Re-Use Network support a network of members, (many of whom are registered charities) with objectives of reducing poverty, tackling waste and helping to support a better future for isolated individuals in society. We felt after discussions with them that it was a logical approach to join forces and became a 'Friend of Re-use', promoting and actively supporting their work and ethos to our hundreds of customers, across the public and private sectors.

How the process works

Prior to goods being finished with, near the end of term or conferencing season, if you contact the team at Thomas Kneale, we will guide you on the process of how to arrange collection of goods. There is also a 'Donate Items' page on the Re-use website which allows the University to select the product category(ies) and site postcode. This allows different members to then be offered the goods if they would be of use to them. There are a number of benefits to the University as follows:-

- There is no cost to the University or collection/'gate' costs- the service is free
- The Re-use member(s) that will uplift the goods are in the majority of cases local to the University- this heavily reduces the carbon footprint of the collection compared to other forms of removal/disposal
- Goods to be provided are to be collated into a collection area by the University, but the Re-use member will come and collect- this will save time and money
- It helps with sustainability objectives and 'all of us doing our bit'
- The project delivers benefits against environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability

Working with Re-use Members

Beyond the core objectives of the re-use of the goods, each member, most of whom are registered charities, have their own cause and purpose. Members & the University close to each other geographically can then join forces in much broader ways- for example offering students the opportunity to volunteer in the member's organisation.

At Thomas Kneale, we have also become further involved with Re-use members. One example is working with Stella's Voice, a Member charity who provide care, education, and jobs, protecting the world's vulnerable from human trafficking in Moldova. Given the conflict in Ukraine, hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians have fled over the border from Ukraine to Moldova and Stella's Voice have been providing

refugees with a wide range of products that are much needed for everyday use. Thomas Kneale joined forces with Re-use Network, Stella's Voice, John Lewis & Partners (Logistics support) and additional donors, supplying free of charge 15 pallets of our own bedding and 100 bags of bedding from another manufacturer to get these items on to vehicles and transported over to Moldova.

The full article released by Re-use Network can be found here for more information Responding to the Ukraine crisis - Reuse Network at reuse-network.org.uk.



If you would like to discuss any of the above in further detail, or to find out more, please contact the team at Thomas Kneale you can Telephone: 0161 274 4464 or Email: karen@thomaskneale.co.uk

Thomas Kneale can be found on the [Residential Textiles, Student Starter Packs and Window Coverings Framework](#), for more information on this Framework please use the link or contact [Matt Porter](#), NWUPC's Furniture Category Manager.

REDUCE. REUSE. REPURPOSE. RECYCLE

with

rapidIT

Your data is important. As an approved supplier on the IT Reuse, Recycling and Disposal framework, Rapid IT take your data seriously. As an award winning, secure IT Asset Disposal, Recycling, and Reuse company; GDPR compliance is at the forefront of our services, in addition to helping you reach your sustainability and social value goals.

SUPPORTING YOUR SUSTAINABLE ACTIVITIES

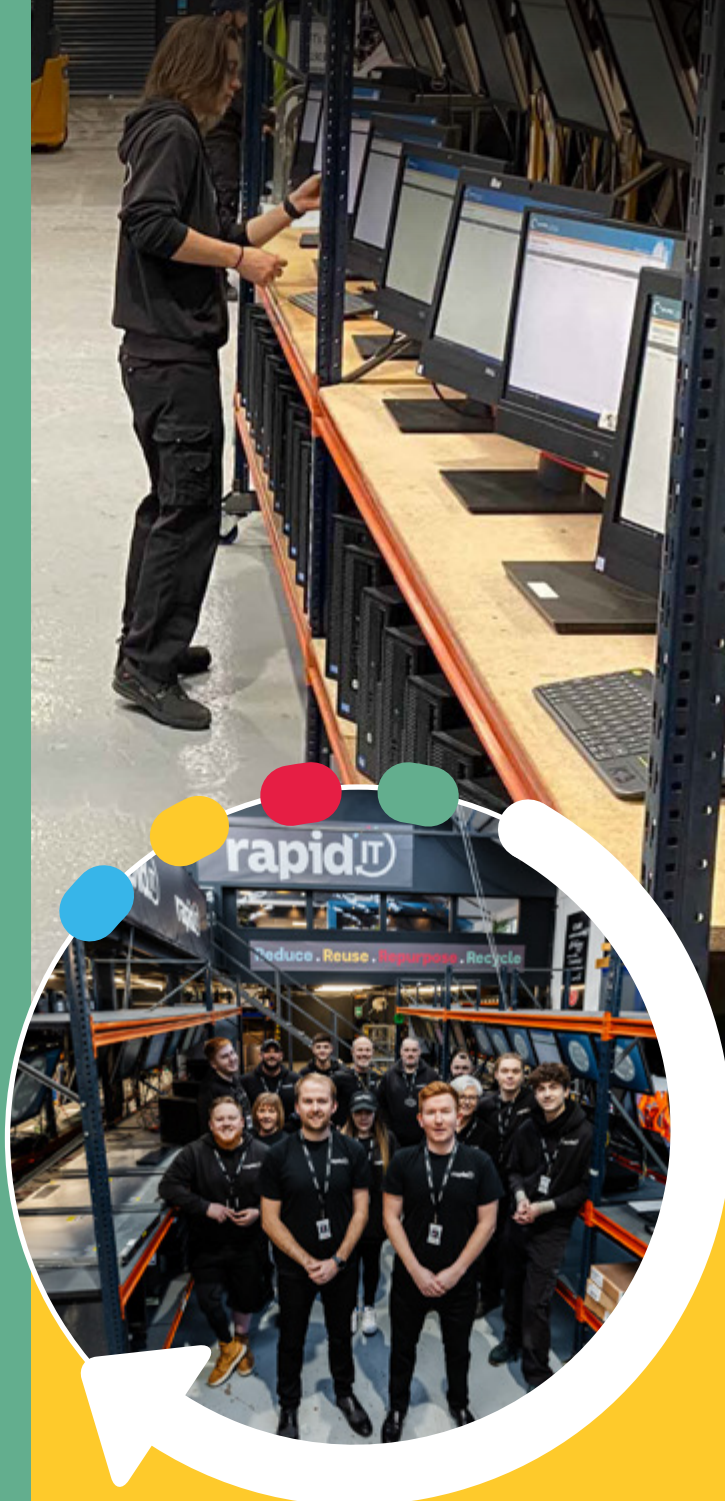
As a producer of electrical waste, NWUPC members have a duty of care to ensure that it is removed, processed, and disposed of sustainability and ethically.

Rapid IT's state-of-the-art premises in Padiham have been designed to meet the specific demands of their industry, with an emphasis on security, sustainability, and efficiency. It's their ambition to help you achieve your sustainability goals by choosing an IT Disposal partner with a passion for sustainability.

Rapid IT have begun rolling out an electric vehicle fleet, and are now able to collect equipment from you, using 100% green energy generated from their own solar panels! They have LED/PIR automated lighting throughout and to date have planted over [5500](#) trees & offset 203 Tonnes of carbon (and counting!)

HOW ARE WE HELPING NWUPC MEMBERS?

With a purpose beyond profit, Rapid IT are on their own journey to net zero. By using Rapid IT as part of your supply chain, you are consciously making a positive change without compromising on service levels to deliver the IT Disposal services you need.



REDUCE. REUSE. REPURPOSE.

RECYCLE with rapidIT

SUPPORTING YOUR COMMUNITY IMPACT

We believe in giving back; and that you should be the change you wish to see in the world. As a community driven organisation, supporting charities and schools both locally and worldwide is paramount. As part of our service, we offer a platform for you to be able to do exactly that.

We can help you support projects you are already involved in, or help us by further assisting projects we are supporting.

Whether that's donating equipment no longer required by your institution to a school, charity or community project; or using the rebates from your end-of-life IT assets to supply clean drinking water to villages in Africa, we can be your chosen partner to make these positive changes.

Examples of Rapid IT's community initiatives are as follows:

FRIENDS OF BURNLEY FC IN THE COMMUNITY PROGRAMME
FURNITURE FOR EDUCATION WORLDWIDE (FEW)
TECH 4 ALL KIDS
SUPPORTING LOCAL GRASSROOTS SPORTS CLUBS

YOUR SUSTAINABLE IT RECYCLING PARTNER

Rapid IT Recycling is passionate about sustainability and the environment. At their core they have a "purpose beyond profit", derived from a deep rooted desire to positively impact the local and wider community.

Rapid IT is intent on looking after their staff, making sure their well being is looked after and they're happy in their roles. Whoever joins the company needs to have an interest in recycling and sustainability - not just from a career standpoint, but also in their personal lives.

Rapid IT pride themselves on actively promoting this as a key part of their culture, communicating this with their clients and employees.

AWARDS

Rapid IT Recycling has won various awards over the years, including **COMPANY OF THE YEAR IN THE CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY CATEGORY** at the North West Business awards 2018.

Managing director, Jack Bannister, was also shortlisted for **ENTREPRENEUR OF THE YEAR** at the Sub36 Lancashire Business View awards in 2018 and more recently won the **SUB36 GO GREEN AWARD** in 2020.

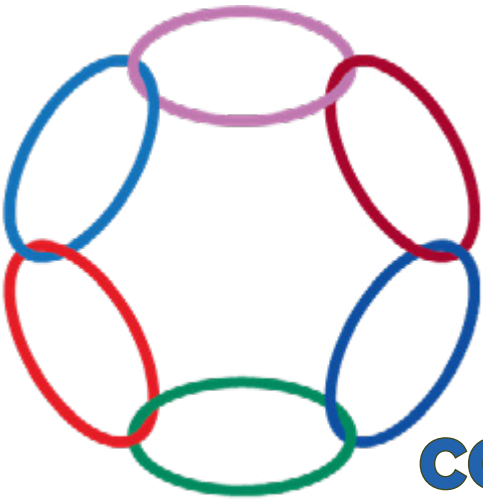


CONTACT RAPID IT RECYCLING TODAY

You can contact Chris Stevenson, Customer Relationship Director at [Rapid IT](mailto:chris@rapidit.co.uk) at chris@rapidit.co.uk or you can [book a call here](#) or call on 01282 798239.

Rapid IT are available through the [IT Equipment, Reuse, Recycling and Disposal Framework](#). For more information on the Framework agreements, please contact [Paula Lister](#), NWUPC's Computing Category Manager.





Plastics Packaging Tax – UKUPC and how the HE purchasing consortia are supporting members and suppliers

In March 2022, NWUPC Ltd working in partnership with the HE consortia who operate under the umbrella of UKUPC (APUC, HEPCW, LUPC, NEUPC, NWUPC, SUPC, TEC and TUCO) along with CPC, contacted our supply base that were considered to be impacted by the [Plastic Packaging Tax 2022 \(PPT\)](#). The suppliers were given a short survey to determine if they were directly or indirectly implicated and asked what mitigating action the supplier was taking.

You can find the results of [the survey here](#).



We want to be able to provide our membership with information on the likely applicability of the tax on the products they buy through our agreements, in order to manage potential cost impacts and to identify and highlight the positive steps our suppliers are taking to optimise recycled plastic or alternative materials within the packaging used in fulfilment of supply under our agreements. UKUPC will continue to liaise with the supply base, chasing up those who have not yet responded and advising those who want or need further information.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact [Helen Dodd-Williams](#) NWUPC's Head of Strategic Procurement

Over the last year new guides have been added to the [UKUPC.ac.uk](#) website to help our members. By visiting the [Responsible Procurement page](#) you can find a range of helpful documents that can be accessed by members such as those below. You will also find a list of external resource links related to sustainability, modern slavery and social value.

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Tender and Call-Off questions - these relate back to the UN SDGs and the Social Value TOMs

UKUPC Responsible Procurement Glossary - The UKUPC Responsible Procurement Network has created this Responsible Procurement Glossary to help bring clarity to some of the terms we use

Modern Slavery Guidance for Suppliers - A guide intended to be used by any supplier who would like information on developing their own Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking Act statement. (It does not constitute legal advice)

Proc HE Risk Analysis Updated With Carbon Emissions Risk Column



BUILD A HEALTHIER HIGHER EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT

GOJO® Hand & Surface Hygiene Solutions for Higher Education

HAND HYGIENE PLAYS A VITAL ROLE IN THE LEARNING COMMUNITY

Students are always on the move, frequenting all types of areas from classrooms and lecture theatres to athletic facilities. GOJO products are available through Bunzl Cleaning & Hygiene Supplies on the Cleaning and Janitorial Supplies - NWUPC Framework (JAN3058 NW) and can help reduce the presence of germs across campus with effective sustainable solutions that are convenient and easy to maintain.

- Hand hygiene is one of the most important steps in helping to stop the spread of germs to others
- Show your commitment to a healthier learning environment by placing GOJO hand soaps and PURELL hand and surface sanitising solutions accessible in high-touch areas throughout campus
- GOJO soap formulas; Freshberry Foam Hand Soap, Luxury Hair, Body & Hand Foam Wash and Mild Foam Hand Soap are Ecolabel certified
- Dispensers offered free of charge, with a free installation service for a minimum of 30 dispensers
- Easy Recycling and Disposal. PET bottle and refill components are easy to disassemble
- GOJO Industries-Europe Ltd was awarded the 2021 Greener Path Landfill Diversion Award for achieving 'Zero Waste to Landfill'.



RECOMMENDED PRODUCT: GOJO & PURELL ADX MANUAL DISPENSERS

- The sturdy ADX dispenser is available in two sizes, containing either a 700 mL or 1250 mL refill for GOJO foam soaps and 700 mL or 1200 mL refill for PURELL hand sanitisers
- Easy maintenance – large sight window and skylight
- GOJO SANITARY SEALED™ Refills – snap quickly and easily into place, and protect users from contamination risks of bulk soaps
- GOJO Controlled Collapse Refills – patent-pending refills engineered to hold their shape while emptying
- Refills made with GOJO SMART-FLEX™ Technology using 30% less material than rigid HDPE bottles

Bunzl Cleaning & Hygiene Supplies are available through [Cleaning Equipment - Supply and Maintenance](#) and the [Cleaning and Janitorial Supplies - NWUPC](#), Framework Agreements, for more information on these Frameworks please contact [Matt Porter](#), NWUPC's Domestic Category Manager.



STUDYLINK TOURS
GROUP TRAVEL FOR UNIVERSITIES & COLLEGES

With a commitment to sustainability and environmentally responsible student group travel, StudyLink have partnered with Carbon Footprint to offset carbon emissions, reduce deforestation, and provide wildlife habitats.

First and foremost, [StudyLink](#) recognise that carbon reductions should be prioritised in travel before any offsetting takes place. So, to support universities and their travel bookers StudyLink provide the greenhouse gas emissions on each and every quote. This information is broken down to display CO₂ emissions by flight, accommodation, and transport. By having access to this information, this can help university staff to get a better understanding of the greenhouse gas emissions culminating from their tour.

To support customers further, the StudyLink Account Executive team have undergone extensive training and are able to make recommendations for travel bookers to reduce the CO₂ emissions from their trip; this might be suggestion a different mode of transport, different route, or even a different destination that still allows the group to have their learning requirements met. In addition, for every trip booked with StudyLink, a Maya nut tree will be planted in Peru supporting reforestation, providing benefits to local communities, and supporting forest biodiversity. They have also committed to offsetting one tonne of CO₂ emissions through the Portel-Para reducing deforestation project in the Brazilian Amazon.

Offsetting carbon emissions through the Travel Management Services Framework

StudyLink have specifically chosen projects that enable the offsetting and continued sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, but also provide numerous benefits to local communities.

To bring tour emissions down to net zero, university travel bookers are provided with a unique link with the option of offsetting the remainder of their CO₂ emissions, by supporting a Carbon Footprint project of their choice.

StudyLink recognises the social and environmental issues arising from increased travel and acknowledge and accept the responsibilities they have to the communities in which they operate. StudyLink are committed to their environmental policy and work alongside their customers, teams, and travel partners to improve environmental practice, by:

Providing responsible tourist advice to their customers

Providing customers with environmental information & promoting the use of greener travel options & third-party environmental schemes

Disposing & managing waste in a responsible manner

Using water & energy saving systems in office sites

Using licensed waste removers who provide appropriate documentation for the transfer of waste

Introduced a rolling programme to replace their company fleet of vehicles with electric and hybrid cars

All documents saved to their online travel management tool and travel app to reduce paperwork

Encouraging team awareness of environmental issues & ensuring they use this awareness in their daily roles

Promoting awareness of environmental issues with travel partners

Working alongside key travel partners to support the increased use and practice of environmentally friendly products & initiatives



StudyLink are also part of the NET positive Supplier Engagement Tool, which is designed to support and develop the supply chain and embedding sustainability in the procurement process. And, from summer 2022 StudyLink are delighted to be a company member of the EAUC (www.eauc.org.uk) The EAUC is an organisation that has sustainability at its heart, promoting collaboration, education and best practice for universities to achieve their sustainability initiatives and targets. Through this membership, StudyLink are pleased to be able to demonstrate their commitment to sustainability and to supporting their university customers on the road to zero.

Ethical practice

Working in the global community StudyLink recognises their role in preventing slavery and human trafficking. Information about their approach to the identification of modern slavery risks and the steps we will take to prevent slavery and human trafficking can be found on their website.

Carbon reporting service

StudyLink can provide you with carbon consumption data for the transport you use. Their award winning, independently validated carbon footprint calculator uses the latest methodologies and DEFRA/BEIS carbon metrics.

CONTACT STUDYLINK TOURS

Contact David Hickinbottom at Studylink Tours via email at david.h@studylinktours.co.uk or call on 07876 841 170.

Studylink are available through the [Travel Management Services Framework](#). For any questions or queries please contact [Dave Yates](#), Category Manager for Travel or call on 0161 234 8002.