

Responsible Supplier Case Studies
Central Procurement Office
#UoMSupplierAwards

## Thomas Kneale & Co Ltd

We supply textiles, such as bedding and shower curtains, for Residential Services. We are based in central Manchester.

In their own words, Thomas Kneale & Co Ltd explains how they are demonstrating the

positive impact they are making:





Understand the impacts of the products our business buys
We are continually developing our products in regard to the ethical, environmental and social impacts. Our products are largely polyester and cotton based. Over time, we have developed our man made materials, including polyester and polypropylene, in different finishes. This has reduced our reliance on cotton. The cotton we do use is sourced from sustainable sources. While polyester yarn is produced using raw materials including coal and petroleum, refined and less pollutant forms of petroleum are used.

Our factories are audited by ourselves and independently to ensure good labour practices including shift lengths, breaks and payment rates. Training, development and health and safety are also monitored.



As we have direct, longstanding relationships with the factories that manufacture our goods, we are able to track and monitor the supply chain that would not be possible if we did not have such a level of control. This also allows mutual objectives and targets to be set as part of our ISO 14001 objectives to ensure more ethically and environmentally sound products are sourced.

## Make a public commitment to purchasing sustainably

Our supply chain is fully Oeko-tex accredited, meaning environmentally harmful chemicals in the dyes are not contained in any of our products. We also have a supply chain accredited to the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System,

which requires continued and ongoing improvements and includes that of sustainable procurement.

We also have products which contain recycled content in them where possible and work closely with The Furniture Recycling Group who re-use and recycle product materials so that used products do not end up in landfill but instead re-use can be made out of the products.

