

Member Guide: Back to work supplies including buying PPE and associated products

As we are all aware, there will be a 'new normal' working environment when we return to work. This will require the purchase of new products to ensure we are operating safely and protecting staff and students.

LUPC is working with the other sector consortia (UKUPC) to provide detailed information from our framework suppliers, identifying who can provide which of these products. It is not always obvious who can supply; as well as the usual PPE suppliers, several consumables suppliers have entered this market to some extent.

This exercise should be complete in the next week or so but, as we have been receiving requests from our members about this, we thought it might be useful to share the information we have at this stage.

Products that will be required include:

- Sanitiser and related dispensing equipment;
- Gloves and coveralls;
- Masks
- Screens for public facing employees (such as in evidence in supermarkets); and
- Social distancing signage.

We have already identified a large number of frameworks where suppliers can provide these products (**please right click on the hyperlinks below and select open in a new window**):

[Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\), Clothing and Uniforms framework](#) – ALL ITEMS.

[Office, Computer & Library Supplies](#) – ALL ITEMS (most suppliers)

[Electronic Components](#) – most items

[Laboratory Consumables](#) – sanitiser, gloves, coveralls, masks

[Cleaning and Janitorial Supplies](#) - sanitiser, gloves, coveralls, masks

[IT Consumables](#) - sanitiser

[Promotional Merchandise](#) – masks, branded for your organisation

[Electrical Supplies](#) – ALL ITEMS

[Furniture Supply and Installation](#) – social distance screens

Pricing and availability is very dynamic and dependent on both supply availability and required quantities, this makes it too difficult to summarise at present.

There are also huge variations in standards. Please note that you should NOT be buying KN95 masks or medical grade gloves, unless essential, because this could lead to shortages in the front-line supplies.

The stationery suppliers (Office, Computer & Library Supplies framework) seem to be particularly ready to deliver most products, especially if you are looking for a one stop shop option. They have

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been gearing up ready to meet the increased demand and it may be the simplest way to buy in one place.

Use trusted suppliers

Please be careful about who you procure from as I have been inundated by dubious 'offers' of PPE. It is better to purchase from known suppliers rather than take a risk on suppliers who may deliver the incorrect specification or make incredible price offers for shipments coming from abroad. These may never arrive or may never have existed in the first place, there are a lot of people trying to profit from the situation.

Do talk to all the departments in your organisation to find out what they require in order to aggregate your organisational spend and secure better prices.

This guide will be updated when we have more information on supplier availability.

Don Bowman

DIRECTOR LUPC

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