

Defra Proposed Actions: Fibres & Fabrics Projects

Clarify the sustainability impacts of “emerging” clothing fibres into include bamboo, hemp, nettle, Tencel®, Ingeo®

Determine the role, capacity & business case for existing and emerging clothing fibres in light of their sustainability impacts

- Manmade (polyester, viscose, composites)
 - Natural (cotton, organic cotton..)
 - bamboo, hemp, nettle, Tencel®, Ingeo® etc.
 - considering all impacts (not just toxicity related), trade offs
 - growing world competition for land use (e.g. crops for food, biofuels, clothes and other applications)
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- Defra funding proposed: approx £100k
 - Timescale: April 2008-2009

Defra Proposed Actions: Procurement

To support a sustainable clothing procurement trial

- Public sector via Green Public Procurement programme
 - School uniforms
 - Corporate clothing
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- Incorporation of key sustainability criteria
 - Include leasing and recovery and end of life
 - Profile the trial to demonstrate the business case

 - Defra funding proposed: approx £25k
 - Timescale: April 2008-2009

Linkages to BREW Centre for Remanufacturing Corporate Clothing project