**Product / Service:** Plastics & Glass (Plastic & Glass Products)

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|  | **Negative Impacts / Risks** |  | **Positive Opportunities** |
| **Environmental** | * Conventional plastic production (incl. extraction) uses petroleum (scarce natural resource) and creates chemical waste & air pollution from waste gases
* Glass production involves high energy (carbon impact) – however the raw material (sand) is abundant
* Vehicle fuel & emissions (carbon impact) – high order frequency
* May be delivered in excessive packaging
* Disposal - potential of adding to landfill (loss of natural habitats / biodiversity) – materials have low decomposition rates
 | * Consider biodegradable & ‘compostable’ plastics (c.f. oil-based plastics)
* Consolidated orders
* Low CO2 vehicles for delivery
* Reduce levels of packaging / use recycled packaging
* Recycle plastics or consider as a source of thermal ‘energy from waste’ (via incineration)
* Recycle glass (closed loop possible)
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| **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 the UK (both plastics & glass are manufactured in the UK)
* Apprenticeship opportunities
* Consolidated orders & deliveries
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| **Economic** | * Recycled products may be more expensive
* Waste disposal costs
 | * Many UK manufacturers & distributors – opportunity to support local economy
* Invest in robust and durable products – whole life cost
 |

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