Please open this material immediately. It should be distributed to candidates no sooner than three working weeks before the examination.

Note: There are no practice files for this examination.

The description overleaf will be used as the scenario for the above specification, and will be reissued with the examination paper. This scenario should be used for the purposes of preparing candidates for the examination. This material must not be taken into the examination.

Further details are in the Instructions for the Conduct of Examinations, available from the Edexcel website for this qualification and subject.

Edexcel will not accept any request for special consideration should candidates be given the incorrect scenario for the examination they are sitting.

Turn over

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Scenario

The Green Bay Building Company

The Green Bay Building Company was founded by David Green in 2003. David trained as an architect and has been designing houses since 1985. Over time David had become concerned about global warming and has introduced into his house designs aspects to minimise the carbon footprint of the occupiers. Unfortunately these modifications tend to make the houses more expensive to produce. The building firm that David worked for at the time did not like the modifications as it meant less profit. As a result David was instructed to remove them from his designs.

Unable to find a building company to take on his revolutionary designs, David decided the only way he was going to get his designs accepted was if he formed his own building company. Consequently the Green Bay Building Company was formed.

Since its inception the Green Bay Building Company has created many successful developments. David has found that some people will pay extra if they think the house is eco-friendly and would pay even more if they thought there would be a fuel saving.

David has also pioneered the idea of intelligent housing estates. In the past there have been 'intelligent buildings'; however David has taken this one step further and linked all the houses to a central computer. This allows the buildings to share facilities such as solar panels, wind turbines and other shared resources. At the same time, the central computer monitors various aspects of the fuel usage of each of the houses. This provides David's company with information upon which he can base the designs of future developments. It also provides the owners with details for their Home Information Pack should they wish to sell their property. David wants all the central computers of each development to be linked to the Head Office.

David's business has expanded at such a rate that the single floor, serviced offices can no longer hold his company. A move to new offices is to coincide with the recruitment of a number of personnel. The new offices will be in Oxford, not far from where David lives.

David's new offices will have two floors. On the top floor will be David's office, the offices of the company architects and the Finance Department. In addition there will be a statistician's office whose job it is to monitor and produce information from the remote housing estate computers.

The Finance Department will accommodate three accountants and their secretary. Each will have their own computer and they will share a printer. There will also be a fax machine and a photocopier. Both architects will have their own computer; they will each have their own printer but share a plotter for printing their plans. David has a laptop which he will connect to the network when in the offices.

The ground floor will be shared by the Administration and the IT Departments. The Administration Department will consist of 15 clerical workers who deal with planning applications and other administrative functions. Each administrator will require their own computer, and they will share three printers. There will also be a fax machine and a photocopier here. The IT Department consists of one IT technician who will have his own computer and printer. His office will be next to the server room which will contain all other equipment.

You have been employed as a network manager/designer by the Green Bay Building Company and you will share the office with the IT technician.