



General Certificate of Education  
Advanced Level Examination  
June 2015

## Business Studies

## BUSS4/PM

Unit 4 The Business Environment and Managing Change

### Preliminary Material (Research Theme)

#### NOTICE TO CANDIDATES

You will be given **one** copy of this Preliminary Material (Research Theme) for use during your preparation for the examination, which you may annotate as you wish, but which you will **not** be allowed to take into the examination.

The Preliminary Material (Research Theme) will be repeated within the question paper for use in the examination.

You should carry out your own research on the Preliminary Material (Research Theme).

**Your teacher is encouraged to give assistance and advice as required.**

#### INFORMATION

The Preliminary Material is to be seen by teachers and candidates **only**, for use during preparation for the examination on Wednesday 17 June 2015. It **cannot** be used by anyone else for any other purpose, other than as stated in the instructions issued, until after the examination date has passed. It must **not** be provided to third parties.

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## Research Theme – Manufacturing in the UK

In your research you should consider:

- the impact of technological change on businesses manufacturing in the UK
- the impact of increasing globalisation on businesses manufacturing in the UK
- the impact of government policy on businesses manufacturing in the UK
- the factors affecting UK location decisions by manufacturing businesses
- the opportunities and threats facing businesses manufacturing in the UK.

You are strongly recommended to:

- compare and contrast different manufacturing businesses and forms of manufacturing in the UK
- consider decisions by businesses to locate manufacturing in the UK, to offshore manufacturing from the UK and to re-shore manufacturing to the UK
- consider how the nature, profitability and international competitiveness of businesses manufacturing in the UK can change over time
- consider how the importance of manufacturing based in the UK – for example, in terms of its scale – is changing over time
- consider how changes in technology, globalisation and government policy might affect the strategy of businesses manufacturing in the UK.

You should make reference to your research in your responses to **Section A** in the examination.