

COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part II – 2021 – Paper 9

3 Business Studies (sam56)

You create a startup that helps companies manage office space use to boost employee wellbeing while minimising the potential for workplace virus transmission.

After an intense 9 months of building a prototype and trialling it with early customers you demonstrate enough market traction to raise funding and hire a team of 15 people to support your growing customer base.

You've just completed your first month of work with the new team in your new and larger office space when the government announces a new 2-month lockdown where your staff must work from home.

As workers are no longer going to be in offices at the same rate, sales slow down. Confident that this is just temporary you decide to put 5 employees on furlough, with government support, until the lockdown is lifted.

- (a) Discuss what needs to be done to support your employees as you transition the business to everyone working from home. [8 marks]
- (b) Unfortunately, at the end of the initial lockdown period the government decides to extend it by another month. Looking at your financial forecasts you do not have enough funds to continue the business in its current form. Discuss what options are available to you. [12 marks]