

Kate Smith

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Employment History:

Developer:

May 23 - Present. *Ministry of Justice - Digital and Technology.*

Background:

Working as a **full stack developer** in a multidisciplinary **agile** team. Building user-centered **RESTful** web systems. Working closely with other developers and Webops staff to write code and resolve live issues. Working with designers, user researchers and product managers to ensure high-quality user-centered code is delivered.

Notable work:

- Generating a scheduled multipage spreadsheet for users in PHP and sending this to relevant parties using the **Notify API**. This involved creating a scheduled AWS task to generate the reports, using a custom database query to identify which individuals needed a report.
It also involved creating a secondary **AWS task** to publish the reports. The reports were written in **SQL** and then generated by **PHP**, and sent to an internal **microservice** written to talk to Notify. From here I worked to amend the microservice to send the report to the third party Notify API and therefore the public.
- Identifying excessive timeouts within the live service and moving some user-generated reports to a read only api endpoint. This optimised database capacity and improved performance for other users without adding additional business costs.
- Creating a header component used across multiple microservices
- **Prototyping a new microservice**. Refining user requirements for this service. Ensuring this was accessible through Wave testing; improved based on user feedback.
- Handling document upload to a new microservice
- Creating automated/ **scheduled letters and tasks** for case managers to highlight when cases require work, tasks were created on the system while letters were sent via the Notify Api to the public.
- Creating permissions so staff can delete documents, with a failsafe of 30 days

Skills:

Front end:

- *Go Templates*
- *HTML/CSS*
- *Angular*

Back end:

- *PHP*
- *Golang*
- *Ruby*
- *Python (learning)*

Testing:

- *Automated*
- *Behat*
- *End to End*
- *UI*
- *Unit*
- *Integration*

Api:

- *Developing RESTful routes*
- *Integration to microservices*
- *Integration with 3rd party APIs*

Devops:

Knowledge of / working with

- *CI/CD pipelines*
- *Containerisation with*

to prevent errors.

Responsibilities:

- **Ensuring service availability:** Working in AWS to monitor and resolve reported bugs. Raising tickets to fix non urgent issues or creating PRs to immediately resolve critical issues. Ensuring we're meeting business needs.
- Writing **automated tests** as part of all tickets to ensure robust system design.
- **User focus:** Attend user feedback sessions, a roadshow and user requirement meetings to help improve the existing services and **champion user needs** within work. This helps me consider all aspects of user interaction with UI during ticket refinement to minimise future bugs or unexpected input.
- Ensuring quality, **secure** code is deployed by myself and others that meets security guidelines and **OWASP** standards.
- **Prototyping** new microservices (Lay Deputy Hub), including liaising with users, product managers and designers to ensure accessible and functional design.
- **Pair programming/ coaching** with Junior members of the team to help them learn the fundamentals of coding. Helping identify areas to help them develop further (e.g. supportive readings to consolidate learning or exercises for them to continue in L&D if desired).
- Pair programming / **collaborating** with other developers of varying levels to share skills and knowledge around certain areas of the codebase (**knowledge sharing**)

Docker

- *AWS services (incl. Cloudwatch)*

Security:

- *Awareness of OWASP top 10*

Other:

- *Debugging*
- *Design patterns*
- *Github and working with source/ version control*

Soft skills:

- *Coaching and mentoring colleagues*
- *Communication*
- *Pair Programming*
- *Gathering user requirements*
- *Refining work to meet user specifications*
- *Discussing technical implementation with non technical staff*

Junior Developer:

April 21 - May 23. Ministry of Justice - Digital and Technology.

Notable work:

- **Creating a new microservice** that integrated with an existing legacy system and database. Designing for accessibility with GDS components, user centric design and Pa11y accessibility testing. This microservices was able to be deployed/ managed separately to the rest of the service but communicated with it.
- Create a **new search endpoint** to only return one type of person from our database. This involved amending an elastic search microservice that was built in house and creating new database queries and APIs. Improved user experience of the service and time taken to complete their tasks.
- Creating a **reusable script** for regularly repeated business database updated requests, saving developers time and allowing them to query the github

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- version history for previous queries.
 - Generating new reports for users with complex SQL queries.
 - Rewriting service and microservice UI tests into Cypress

Responsibilities:

- Fixing bugs in production, **investigating and fixing service faults**
- **Coaching** apprentice developers

Apprentice Developer:

March 20 - April 21. Ministry of Justice - Digital and Technology.

Notable work:

- Improving form field validation to ensure no user entered data was directly passed into the database to **prevent SQL injection attacks.**
- Rewriting service UI to allow translation to Welsh language
- Creating custom error messages for pages to improve user experience
- Creating new permissions to delete users

Education:

- Makers Academy Level 4 **Software Developer Apprenticeship** - Completed Aug 21
 - **AWS Cloud Practitioner Certification** - Completed May 22
 - History Degree at University of Nottingham - 2:1 Completed July 16
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