Head of test

A head of test takes ownership for establishing policy for the test team and setting the testing strategy. At this level, you: will own continuous improvement, research new technology and new techniques to implement change will make important decisions will build the QAT community and provide organisational leadership may advocate test capabilities both internally and outside of government make sure that teams have the right capabilities

Skills needed for this role

• Functional testing. You can design and execute a wide range of testing techniques and communicate test results to both technical and non-technical stakeholders. You know how to make decisions on the environment for testing and coach others. You can identify defects, alerting the business to them, and you can help prioritise them based on defect severity. (Relevant skill level: practitioner)

• Non-functional testing. You know about non-functional testing techniques. You can execute non-functional test scenarios and identify defects. You can run non-functional tests others have written and know the processes to do so. You understand a range of standard non-functional testing techniques. (Relevant skill level: awareness)

• Technical breadth. You have a good working knowledge of different tools and techniques and can train others. You can advise others on testing techniques and frameworks. You know how to research, plan and train others within the team. (Relevant skill level: practitioner)

• Test analysis. You can think creatively, ask the right questions and critically evaluate and communicate findings to a larger team. You know how to lead investigative work into problems and opportunities in existing processes. You can drive the collection of information and creation of recommendations for improvements. You can absorb large amounts of conflicting information and use it to determine solutions. (Relevant skill level: practitioner)