

ENSEK AGILE

DELIVERY TEST

Thanks for agreeing to do our remote Agile Delivery test

The brief is included here

We hope you enjoy it. Good Luck

# 01 TASK

Read the diary that follows and help the team complete a retrospective based on that experience. You can present the retrospective results in any way you like (Spreadsheet, Word, Powerpoint etc.) – just make sure that you can share it with us when you are done.

We will be looking at how you would help the team identify issues, prioritise those issues and generate possible resolutions.

If you have any questions or assumptions, then please highlight these as well.

From the day you receive this test, you have 48 hours to submit your work for assessment.

Please send it to jess.wright@ensek.co.uk. Any work committed after the deadline won’t be considered towards the assessment.​

Please submit your work after a reasonable amount of time. We will use the work you have submitted as a topic of conversation, so please don’t feel you need to complete the task or spend an excessive amount of time on it.​

02 Diary

# Background

It’s your first sprint with your new team. As such you’re just going to observe the way they work and they won’t ask too much of you.

# Note

The characters and the events in this diary are fictional. Whilst, there may be some similarities to life at ENSEK, many of the situations have been exaggerated for this test.

# 02 Diary – Monday (week 1)

## 9:00am

Dave the lead developer and Patty the Product Owner are engaged in an MS Teams chat in the group channel regarding one of the PBIs (58712) from the last sprint. Tim is still testing this item, but is having some problems. Darren, the developer who worked on this item is also helping Tim.

## 9:30am – Team Standup

People start joining the call and saying their hellos. Patty finally arrives and kicks off the meeting. There are 14 people on the call, yourself, Patty the Product Owner, Pam the Product Manager, Dave the lead developer, Darren, Darcy, Dianne and Debs the developers, Tim and Tina the testers, Olga and Oli from the Ops team, Sara from Sales and Prish the Project Manager for one of our client engagements. Everyone takes a minute to update the group on the work they did last week and the work they plan on doing this week. After 30 minutes, not everyone has given their update, but a number of people start dropping off the call to get to their next meeting.

# 02 Diary – Monday (week 1)

## 11:00am – Sprint Planning

Today is the start of the new sprint and the team are excited to find out what Patty has planned for them. The meeting starts well with Patty able to talk through the direction and work items for the next sprint. However, she then drops 2 new items into the sprint that do not have much of a description and don't yet have any acceptance criteria. Patty describes these as really important and urgent so begs the team to accept them into the sprint and promises to get the details added ASAP. The team reluctantly agrees, they like Patty and want to help. In total they agree to the 6 original PBIs for 22 story points and these 2 important ones, which they hope will be less than 3 points each.

## 1:00pm – Release Go/No-Go Meeting

You managed to get a quick update from Tim to find out that the item he was testing this morning has gone back to Darren for a quick fix. They still expect to complete the item today though. Q, the Head of Quality runs the meeting and it goes smoothly until it gets to your team and the item that Darren and Tim are still working on. There is a lot of pressure to release without that item, but eventually it is agreed that the team can have until the end of the day to get that item into this release. Patty is relieved with the decision, but immediately contacts Darren and Tim to make sure they know how important their work is.

# 02 Diary – Monday (week 1)

## 5:00pm

Patty asks the team how they are getting on with PBI 58712. Darren has finished the development, but Tim is again struggling with the test environment. He's pretty sure that Darren's change is OK, but can't prove all of the acceptance criteria yet.

7:00pm

Tim updates the team to say that the final test has passed and PBI 58712 is now ready for the release.

# 02 Diary – Tuesday (week 1)

7:00am

Q updates all of the teams to say that the release is now ready for regression testing.

## 9:30am – Team Standup

The team standup has 12 people in the call today. Tina doesn't join as she wants to get started on the regression testing and Sara has a client call this morning. Despite having a few less people, the call still runs past 30 minutes before it eventually ends.

## 11:00am

Dave asks Patty if she's managed to add any more details to the important PBIs that she asked the team to include in this sprint. Patty explains how busy she's been and how she needs some answers from Pam on how the changes should work in certain scenarios. Dave is disappointed, but asks the team to continue working on the items that are ready.

# 02 Diary – Wednesday (week 1)

## 8:30am

Tina has found a problem in regression. The team thinks it's probably just a problem with the test environment, but nevertheless Dave and Debs start investigating.

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Patty has an urgent client call and the team decides to cancels the standup so that more people can help investigate the regression issue.

## 2:00pm

The regression issue is resolved. It was a problem with the configuration in the test environment. The team are relieved that the release is still good to go, but disappointed that they've lost time in this sprint.

# 02 Diary – Thursday (week 1)

## 9:30am – Team Standup

The standup spends a long time reflecting on the issues in regression and the state of the test environments. No one really talks about what they are going to do about it or whether their work is still on track for this sprint. Patty still hasn't completed the details for those urgent PBIs.

## 2:00pm - Refinement

Patty uses the session to go over the details of the 2 important PBIs. The team seems happy they know what to do for them now. They're slightly larger than they hoped for, 5 points and 8 points.

# 02 Diary – Friday (week 1)

## 8:00am

Patty asks who is working on the new PBIs now that they have been refined. Dave explains that Darcy and Debs will pick them up once their current items have been completed. Hopefully, that will be later today.

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Sara disrupts the call asking about the 2 urgent PBIs. She has a call with the client today and wants to give them some good news. She's annoyed that no-one is even working on them yet and it's nearly a week into the sprint.

## 2:00pm

Sara reports that the client is unhappy and has escalated the teams lack of progress to Cathy the CEO. An emergency meeting is convened and Darren agrees that the team will drop their current work and pick up the 2 important items immediately.

## 5:00pm

Cathy checks in with Patty to see how the work is progressing. Cathy asks if Debs and Darcy can work this weekend to make sure the client commitment is met. Debs and Darcy agree, although this is becoming too much of an expectation for their liking.

# 02 Diary – Monday (week 2)

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Despite having 14 people on the call again, the only conversation is around those 2 PBIs and the progress that Darcy and Debs have made. Sara sounded increasingly concerned that those items won't be ready this sprint and so reminds everyone how important they are and how Cathy is now involved.

## 10:00am

Prish apologises for missing most of the recent standups and asks for an update on the item that he needed in this sprint. Dave explains that Debs had been working on that item and whilst it was nearly ready, they had to stop work on it so that some other really important work could be done first. Prish is annoyed and tells Patty that this item must be competed in this sprint as his project depends on it.

# 02 Diary – Tuesday (week 2)

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Prish joins today and just wants to talk about his item. The team report good progress on the 2 important items, but no one seems very interested in them anymore. Maybe because Sara isn't on the call. Dave agrees to try and finish the item that's important to Prish as it looks like Debs will be busy for the rest of this sprint.

# 02 Diary – Wednesday (week 2)

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Dave reports that Prish's item is now dev done and Tim can start testing it. Debs and Darcy expect to complete the development on their items today. Darren has been slowly working through the other items in the sprint and 3 of those are now done. That leaves 2 items that haven't been started yet.

# 02 Diary – Thursday (week 2)

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Sara is back on the call asking for an update. Despite working until after 8pm last night Debs didn't manage to finish her item. Darcy has better news. She has completed her item and is ready to help Tim with the testing. Unfortunately it's Tim's birthday today and he's already booked the day off.

# 02 Diary – Friday (week 2)

## 9:30am – Team Standup

Today's call is almost an hour long! There is lots of discussion on the 2 important items for Sara (one is almost tested and the other is now ready for test) as well as Prish's item (also ready for test). Darren has started one of the remaining 2 items, but it won't be finished today and the other 1 will also have to carry over into the next sprint.

## 1pm - Demo

Despite not having fully tested all the items, the team is able to successfully demonstrate the functionality for Prish and Sara. Both are pleased and thank the team for their efforts.

## 3pm - Retrospective

This is your retrospective.

Please describe the way you'd run the retrospective - what questions would you ask, what information would you provide to the team? Make up the results of the retro, what items would you like to have seen discussed and what actions could the team take to improve?