What do I want to learn or understand better?

Last week we continued our scrum sprints and had ambitions of writing useful user stories as well as breaking down these user stories into vertical tasks. I believe we were quite successful in that department. However, upon completion we decided that it would be better breaking down task horizontally as we feel it benefits the team more. Therefore my goal for the coming week is again to further improve my task breakdown and instead focus on writing as clear tasks as possible.

First of all, I will improve my skills within user story writing and task breakdown by being as clear as possible when writing the tasks. Secondly, as we have all had easter break, I feel it's important to spend some time getting back into the project and going through all the tasks we have completed so far.

How can I help someone else, or the entire team, to learn something new?

My goal was to be a supporting role while I was away on holiday. I can be very honest and explain that I personally do not believe that I had too much to do this sprint as I was gone and the team didn't necessarily need me for a lot of the pair programming tasks. This week I believe I can help the team by communicating with the other members who are gone this week and work a little bit extra so that my effort makes up for the lack of theirs.

I will help the members who are gone by ensuring that I continuously communicate what needs to be done within our groups and then try to do as much as possible on my own so that I can relieve the other members of some workload. However, it is then imperative that I always update the members with the changes that I have done so that they don't get lost.

What is my contribution towards the team's use of Scrum?

As aforementioned I was away on holiday last week so my contribution towards the teams use of Scrum was not significant. This week however, I wish to contribute to the team's use of scrum by helping the rest of the team to break down user stories into clear and useful tasks even though they will not be vertical slicing. I believe that I will also help the team understand how we use concepts such as velocity, effort and different KPI measurements. I will do so by sitting down with the team members during our stand up meetings and try to run the show when it comes to our scrum board.

What is my contribution towards the team's deliveries?

Last week my contribution to the team's deliverables was fairly limited. Most of my contribution was in the form of learning certain softwares and understanding techniques that we plan to use.

This week I have been given the role of backend developer so I will primarily be focusing on helping create the next stage of our application which is matching people who are nearby into a group depending on both their current destination and the destination they wish to go to. This does however depend on a different task being completed by others. I will also be focusing on writing good tests for the functions that seem to work so that they can be moved to completed.

In order to achieve these goals I will have to be thorough in my communication with the team so that I know when others have completed the supporting tasks allowing me to go ahead with mine. But while I wait for other tasks to be complete I will ensure that my tests are well written by checking online for good test writing convention as well as taking help from other members in my class if I feel i need more assistance.