

Software team health check

How do my team compare with the best?

What do we need to do to meet our deadline?

Why aren't the team predictable? And how can we make the predictable?

What can we do to make the team better? Or simply increase velocity!

Do you ask these questions? Would you like an expert answer? Would you like to understand the options for improvement? Perhaps you have a specific grumble about predictability - or the endless time spent in test.

The **Software Strategy Health Check** is here to answer these, and other questions. Software development expert and author of multiple software development books, Allan Kelly, together with hand-picked experts in agile and software engineering will analyse your teams, your data, working practices and challenges.

We will spend a few days with your team, or teams, do some interviews, observe the teams, and run some exercises. Where possible we will analyse your data: backlogs, burn-downs, bug reports and any other meaningful data you may have.

Within a few days we'll present our findings and recommendations back in a short report, presentation or both. If you have specific questions you want to address, or goals to achieve, we'll make sure to answer.

We'll outline options to achieve your goals and improve your teams. While we would be delighted if you choose to pursue those goals with us you are free to work with whoever you like.

Outline engagement

For a small team, say 4 to 6 people, a short review may be completed in as few as two days and a report back within a week. For larger teams, where multiple

teams are to be considered or where organization structure is exemplified a little longer is needed.

A schedule of activities and interviews is normally agreed in advance. The following description outlines a typical review of a small team over two days.

Day 1

Meet with senior leaders: clarify health check goals and wider company goals and constraints.

Meet with team leaders and understand composition of the team and challenges.

Run team process mapping exercise to understand process, practices and central personnel.

Day 2

Observe standard ceremonies, e.g. team meetings, stand-up meetings, planning meetings, retrospectives, show and tell demos etc.

Interview cross section of team members.

Interview closely related non-team members, e.g. sales and customer support. Where applicable these interviews can include customers.

Review and analyse project plans, requirements documents, story backlogs, data captured in electronic tracking tools, etc.

Additions and variations

Where multiple teams are included in the study interviews and exercises may be repeated several times.

In addition to teams and processes the health check can look into technical quality and code level issues - colloquially called “technical debt”. This will normally require adding a suitable technical specialist to the examination team.

Contact

Interested? - get in touch now and discuss options, contact Allan Kelly, allan@softwarestrategy.co.uk. Or book a call: <http://www.softwarestrategy.co.uk/contact/>