# Software Test Analyst

## Tina Hopkins
**Digital Health and Care Wales (DHCW)**

As a Software Test Analyst, I carry out system testing on new functionality and changes in IT and information systems. I work on the Welsh Patient Administration System (WPAS) which is used in hospitals across health boards in Wales. The role involves analysing the requirements of changes, identifying the areas which could be impacted by them, and then writing and executing test scripts to ensure that any changes introduced into the system meet the requirements of the users and do not have any adverse effect on the current functioning of the system. We also get involved in testing data migrations in WPAS.

I like investigating and solving problems. I enjoy looking into changes and how they interact with the system to identify all the scenarios which need to be included in our testing. Creativity is important when thinking of test scenarios, so having a vivid imagination helps.

As a development team we follow the Agile methodology, which involves daily and weekly meetings to discuss and review the progress of changes. It enables close collaboration across the team and allows us to be flexible in adapting to the needs of the health boards. Despite starting this role during the pandemic and not being able to meet my colleagues face to face for over a year, we have a close-knit team who support each other.

After studying the completely unrelated subject of Mineral Surveying in college, I took a job in the banking sector and ending up staying there far longer than I expected. I became interested in the IT side of the job and I studied part time for a Higher National Certificate. This enabled me to move to a testing role in the bank's credit card division. I also carried out data support and application support roles during this time which increased my testing experience and business knowledge. During my 19 years in testing I have worked at a number of companies and this has allowed me to test a variety of products including hardware, developing my skills furthermore.

I have always had a huge amount of respect for frontline staff, which increased even further during the pandemic. I was therefore really keen to work for the NHS where I could contribute to products which would make a difference to people and provide a valuable

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service. And now, I am proud to say I work for the NHS and do everything I can in my role to help improve it and make the patient experience the best it can be.