



## AGILE FOR THE BUSINESS

### Course Description

This course is designed to help business staff, both senior and lower level subject matter experts, understand what Agile is, its benefits and the impacts for the business.

This course will help in the understanding what an agile project requires from the business to help it run effectively, and what one should expect to get from an agile project. Since no project is ever just plain sailing, it will also highlight some of the potential pitfalls of an agile project from the business perspective. It will also cover the key drivers and levers that business personnel could use to guide and steer an Agile project so that they get the outcome they want.

### Course Outline

#### Introduction

- Why change?
- Target benefits of Agile for the business and IT
- Agile values, principles and practices – a new way of working
- Agile approach and process
- Agile terminology review - feature, story, release, iteration

#### What are we trying to achieve

- Change as an opportunity
- Collective wisdom
- How agile projects respond to change
- Projects in a continuous learning environment

#### Business Roles and Responsibilities in brief

- What are the business roles in each of Concept, Initiate, Develop, Deploy?
- What are the responsibilities of each role?
- How is this different from traditional projects?
- Contributing to retrospectives

#### Focus on Requirements Definition

- How details need to evolve over time
- The cost of too much detail too soon
- Focus on Testing and Acceptance
- The business as customer
- Staying hands-on
- Learning to say “good enough”

#### Impact for the business

- Resourcing impact (optimising for throughput)
- Cost (Budget) impact (total cost of ownership)
- Requirement impact
- Time impact
- Quality impact

#### Monitoring and Steering an Agile Project

- Adding, removing and changing stories
- Agile governance
- Staying focussed on added value
- Reporting - what's velocity? What do we do with defects?

#### Pitfalls and smells

- Smells
- Tips



### Learning Objectives

Provide an in-depth understanding of Agile, its benefits, impact and pitfalls.

It will cover the roles and responsibilities of the various participants in an Agile project with a special focus on the business subject matter expert, the business stakeholders and the business sponsor.

It will provide a clear view to the business of how to steer an Agile project, what the impact would be to them, and how to get the best bang for their buck.

### Target Audience

Any personnel in the business who have to interact with an Agile project in any way.

They could be subject matter experts, business analysts, business stakeholders, sponsors, steering committee members or even service organisations such as legal, marketing or finance.