

Our 'Week in the Life' series gives you an insight into the type of work that is completed by our technical staff in a typical working week...

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As a Power Platform consultant, I work across a variety of industries and with a mixture of people. One day I can be working with a Chief Executive about how they can automate their business applications, the next day with a development team to move their existing Power Apps to a new environment. So, let's look at one of my varied weeks...

### Monday

I am working from home today as I have a Microsoft Certification Exam. I have been revising for the Power Platform Fundamentals exam since Christmas. As it is a beta exam, I will not find out my result instantly but in a few weeks. It is so easy to take the exams. An invigilator checks your surroundings and no pens, books or mobile phones are allowed! After this, they watch you using your webcam while you sit the exam.

Once the exam is finished, I have a much-needed coffee to allow my nerves to calm down and avoid looking anything up on the internet. I do not want to compound that feeling I answered that Power Automate question wrong!

I have been working with one of the Emergency Services over the course of the last year on several Power Apps and Power Automate processes. They are looking to move to use one of the most exciting parts of the Power Platform, the Common Data Service. Prior to my current role I was the Lead Developer at Silversands. This means that I have experience of quoting for software projects of various scales. For the next hour I use these skills to put together a spreadsheet comparing how long it would take to create an expense application I have created in 12 hours with the Power Platform using C#. The results are very surprising. Just convert hours to days and you are nearly there!

Being at home I must make my own lunch. So, with my instant noodles in hand I take an hour and watch some daytime tv. After an hour it is back to work and, anyway, there are only so many antique/housing buying/storage container programmes I can take.

Tomorrow, I have a webinar to present on Compliance and Governance and the Power Platform (you can watch it [here](#)). I completed the slides last week but must put all the demos together. I spent the rest of the afternoon enjoying putting together the demos while listening to music. Working from home for the day is always a great way to get things done but it is important to me to interact with my colleagues. Being part of a team is something that makes my job. We are not islands of knowledge and that ability to collaborate and share ideas is vital. Oh, and it means I will not have to eat instant noodles two days in a row!

### Tuesday

The day of the webinar! I am in the Office two hours before to go through some last-minute checks and ensure I am clear on the slide order. I also give seminars, and these allow me to see how the

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audience is engaging with the content. However, a webinar can feel a little like when I used to present on radio. You are aware that people are there but not if they are following what you are saying or fully engaged. Our marketing manager cues up the webinar, and introduces Silversands and me. I am off...

An hour later and it is complete, and the recording is ready for general consumption. The feedback from the attendees is positive and so it is time for lunch. No instant noodles this time. I have a tuna sandwich that has been made by our catering lady and play Cricket on the Xbox One in the restroom. My colleague and I have been playing a tournament for nearly a year now and are getting close to the quarter finals. We play whenever we are both in the office together so it could be another year until we finish!

Today is the day that Microsoft has announced the changes coming to the Power Platform in April this year. I spend the afternoon reading about the announcements and discussing it with the Power Apps specialist and Power BI specialist. We agree to meet next week to go through it in more detail and then talk to the sales and marketing team about what is coming so it can be communicated to a wider audience.

## Wednesday

Today, I am going to Bristol to hold a workshop around the creation of a Power App that will need to work offline.

The attendees at the workshop are a mixture of job roles from Business Analysts to Senior Civil Engineers. This is always useful because it allows me to get a mixture of opinions on not only how the app should work functionally, but also how it will be used by the people who will be interacting with it daily. I use a mixture of note taking and on-the-fly application building to capture the requirements and demonstrate what can be achieved.

I have captured enough to start building a 'proof of concept' for the application.

## Thursday

I cycle into the office today and, after having a shower and putting all my cycling clothing into the locker, I head up to my desk.

I have one of our clients coming to visit today to go through a Model Driven Power App that I have been creating for them.

The Power Platform is so great to work with because you can quickly make changes to the solution that a user can see instant results from. The client and I spend the day working through the solution and making changes where required. They are testing as I implement some of the changes and can see real progress by the end of the day. We agree what is required to complete the solution. I will do these updates tomorrow and that we will communicate remotely via Teams during the day.

I am looking forward to the cycle ride home as it gives me an opportunity to go through the day in my head and get ready mentally for the night ahead.

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## Friday

The weather is appalling today so I elect to drive into the office. Not quite the same as cycling but I am dry!

During the first hour, I create a Statement of Works based on the requirements I captured at Wednesday's workshop. This is then sent to the account manager to approve. I would at this point say I go and get a coffee, however, due to the number of coffee drinkers around me I am never short of one being delivered to my desk. It will be my turn next, promise.

I have a quick Teams meeting with the client from yesterday to discuss the agenda for today and in case anything has changed while we have both had some time to contemplate what we did yesterday. We agree to catch up at the end of the day. The rest of the morning is spent implementing the agreed changes.

My colleague is in today so, with sandwich in hand and a cup of coffee I have had to make myself, I head downstairs for another hour of (virtual) cricket.

Back at my desk, I finish the changes for the solution and begin my first round of testing and fixing prior to the release at the end of the day. After I have completed the changes, I call the client via Teams and go through what I have achieved and hand it over to him for user acceptance testing.

My earlier Statement of Works has been approved so I can go home ready for the weekend, knowing that my objectives for the week have been completed. Not all weeks end so neatly!