

Anna Shipman

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Strategic technology leader, inspiring teams to deliver impactful business results

Driving transformation. Inspiring and empowering teams to deliver strategic business goals. Strong communicator. Deep technology expertise and a results-oriented approach. Continuous improvement. Highly regarded speaker and writer. Constantly learning and making things better.

Technical Director for Customer Products

Financial Times (April 2018 – date)

Effectively CTO of B2C FT.com products, including FT.com, the FT app and FT Edit.

Defined and delivered technical strategy that improved technical agility, reduced cost of ownership and generated new products and strategic growth opportunities.

Leading on transformational strategy to bring together seven technical organisations into one multi-product team, influencing the work of 250 engineers across London, Sofia and Manila.

Directly lead 75+ engineers to deliver meaningful business outcomes. High-performing, motivated, diverse team. Own all aspects of recruitment, retention and career growth. Transformed team into top internal destination.

Budget of £13mn. Ownership of tech contracts, supplier relationships and service delivery.

Coach principal engineers in the architecture and evolution of a distributed system comprising around 200 microservices. Delivered new and modernised apps. Achieved operational excellence and resilience.

Commercial, results-oriented mindset. Close working relationships with Product Director to deliver highest priority growth-oriented business outcomes. Motivated by user needs.

Strong networking and stakeholder management. Board level interaction. Wide network of senior technical leaders to keep up to date with trends and best practice. Ability to clearly communicate complex technical concepts to a diverse audience.

Recent Speaking Engagements

The difficult teenage years: setting your tech strategy after the launch *LeadingEng*
London, June 2022

No Next Next: Fighting Entropy in Your Microservices Architecture QCon London, April
2022, and QConPlus (online), May 2022

The good, the bad and the tech strategy LeadDev Together, 15th Feb 2022

Writing & Technical Reviewing

Known for my blog about tech and leadership www.annashipman.co.uk/jfdi.html

Published chapter about DevOps for the book *Build Quality In*

Technical reviewer for O'Reilly

Previous Employment

Open Source Lead Government Digital Service (October 2016 – March 2018)

Defined strategy on Open Source for the whole of the UK government. Influenced senior leaders across government to deliver strategy, making the UK a world leader in Open Source. Drove opening of government code including high profile government services such as GOV.UK Pay and Register to Vote, serving a total of 30 million users.

Technical architect *Government Digital Service (September 2014 – October 2016)*

Launched GOV.UK PaaS, an infrastructure platform to host digital services for the UK government. Initiated the work and identified critical strategic criteria. Led technical evaluation of options and delivery of the solution. Previously, technical architect on GOV.UK website: technical oversight of six product teams and an infrastructure team.

Senior developer *Government Digital Service (April 2012 – September 2014)*

Led development of GDS's first Open Source project, worked as a web operations engineer supporting GOV.UK, worked on the GOV.UK website.

Previous roles

Multiple development roles, since 2005. Previous to this, a career in publishing, giving me a good understanding of diverse user needs.

Education & Professional Training

Finance for non-Finance Directors & Strategy for Directors; *parts of the IoD Certificate in Company Direction, Level 9 (SCQF)*

MSc IT (Software Systems) *Heriot-Watt University*

MA honours degree Mental Philosophy *University of Edinburgh*