Anna Shipman

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Focused, strategic and highly skilled technology leader.

Proven track record of **driving technical strategy**, **setting standards**, and **building and leading large technology teams** that deliver strategic business goals**. Excellent communicator**, able to distill complex issues into clear objectives and explain technical issues to non-technical audiences. **Deep understanding of technology** with particular expertise in infrastructure, backend development and open source. Internationally respected **speaker and writer**. I get things done.

Technical Director for Customer Products *Financial Times (April 2018 – date)*

Technical director of the award-winning FT.com website and apps.

- Responsible for the **technical choices**, **quality**, **operational service** and **security** of our website and apps
- Working with the rest of the technology leadership group to develop and evolve the FT's technology strategy
- Managing a budget of ~£7m including all technical contracts and staff costs
- Leading and line managing a team of 50+ engineers
- Working with product and programme management to successfully deliver and continuously improve

Speaking

I am regularly invited to speak at conferences around the world. Notable talks include:

- **How coding in the open can help you release faster** *Pipeline, 20th March 2018*
  The benefits of coding in the open for your code and for your release cycle

- **A PaaS for Government** (Keynote) *VelocityEU, Amsterdam, 29th October 2015*
  Why the government is building a PaaS and how we are going about it

- **Operations: A developer's guide** *FFConf, Brighton, 6th November 2015*
  A clear introduction to web operations to help developers improve their skills

Writing

I am an excellent communicator and published author. I have written several posts on the GDS blogs and also regularly update my own blog. I have written about DevOps at GDS for the book *Build Quality In*. 70% of royalties from this book go to Code Club.

Conference organisation

I lead the committee and manage the website for SPA Software in Practice. I'm currently on the programme committee for XPDay 2018, and have previously been on the committees for O'Reilly Software Architecture, Velocity and Continuous Lifecycle London.

Board membership

Member of the Industrial Liaison Board, Department of Computing at Imperial College London, advising the Department on strategic issues and concerns relating to industry.

Previous employment

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

Setting and delivering strategy on open source for the whole of the UK government.

- **Identifying highest impact work** across government to make the UK a world leader in open source
- **Influencing senior leaders** in GDS and across government to support delivery of strategy through **persuasion, peer support and sharing vision**
- Driving opening of government code using a range of techniques, from hands-on support with code through to business cases for non-technical senior stakeholders; successes include high profile government services such as GOV.UK Verify, GOV.UK Pay and Register to Vote, **serving a total of 30 million users**

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

I led delivery of the first phase of a PaaS for Government, an infrastructure platform to host digital services across the entire UK government, including **identifying strategic criteria** for the solution, leading the **technical evaluation** of capabilities of various PaaS solutions, and being a **senior technical line manager**, reporting to the CTO, **responsible for an organisation of 30 people, leading on developer culture**, **career paths** and **recruitment**.

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

Led development of GDS's first Open Source project, vCloud Tools, now in use across government and industry. Tech lead for discovery phase of rewrite of central government's licence application service. Performed web operations on the Infrastructure & Tools team, supporting GOV.UK.

Java designer/developer *Corelogic Ltd (March 2008 – March 2012)*

Identified an issue with one of key components, and redesigned and rewrote it, increasing functionality and improving user experience. Developed a prototype for the next version of the application.

Application developer *Atos Origin (November 2005 – February 2008)*

Projects included team leading for a multi-million pound project for VOSA and production support for a multi-million pound project for Defra.

Previous career

Prior to technology I had a career in publishing, including children's books and at a charity. This experience allows me to better understand the needs of those less familiar with computers.

Education & qualifications

MSc IT (Software Systems) with Distinction: Heriot-Watt University
MA honours degree Mental Philosophy. Class: 2.1: University of Edinburgh

Other interests

I have participated in three /dev/forts, week-long development working holidays. I have volunteered for IT Can Help, a charity offering free computer support to disabled people.