

# CHRIS BUXTON

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## Profile

Talented and commercially astute, business-focused **Digital Professional** with international experience and expertise in strategic thought leadership, data-driven innovation, cultural change and directing digital transformation. A successful **international Keynote speaker**, delivering on various topics to senior leadership events in the region.



## Key Skills

**Strategic ICT and Digital planning:** Assessing current business strategies and direction, current technologies, and opportunities to establish a compelling vision. Providing strategic planning for now, and for the future with roadmaps, tracking and more

**Transformation of the Digital operating model:** Develop, design, and implement organisational transformation to improve performance and generate lasting growth. Understanding possible modes of operation aligned to business strategy to determine the optimal delivery of digital capability.

**Cloud optimisation:** Assessment of your existing infrastructure and services to develop the policies, processes and management frameworks, plan for, and manage migration of services to the cloud. Assessing organisations readiness for utilising cloud services and developing roadmaps defining the journey to the cloud efficiently and in such a way that cloud services are in line with the organisation's business objectives.

**Portfolio, program and project delivery:** Execution and delivery capability to improve the management and delivery of projects, programs and overall portfolios in both traditional and 'agile' ways including project risk management and on structured identification, quantification and management of work to support realisation of your business benefits and value.

**Cyber security and resilience:** provide organisations with a clear picture of their current cyber risk posture and capabilities, giving them an informed view of how, where, and why to invest in managing their cyber risks. Provide planning and execution to deliver a overarching cyber resiliency program to strengthen organisational capability to respond during crises and improve readiness.



## Career Summary

<i>Department of Internal Affairs</i>	<i>Director of Agency Partnerships</i>	<i>Mar 2021 – April 2022</i>
<i>Stats NZ</i>	<i>Chief Digital Officer</i>	<i>Aug 2016 – Mar 2021</i>
<i>Stats NZ</i>	<i>Chief Technology Officer</i>	<i>Mar 2014 – Aug 2016</i>
<i>Government Communications Security Bureau</i>	<i>Chief Information Officer</i>	<i>Apr 2011 – Mar 2014</i>
<i>Early NZ Career</i>	<i>Capability/Software development manager, Consultant Project/Programme manager,</i>	<i>Nov 2007 – Apr 2011</i>



## Qualifications

<i>The Open University (UK)</i>	<i>Bachelor of Science (Honours)(Open)</i>	<i>2004</i>
<i>The Open University (UK)</i>	<i>Diploma in Computing</i>	<i>2002</i>



## Career History

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### **Digital Public Service branch, Department of Internal Affairs**

*The Digital Public Service branch supports the mandate of the Government Chief Digital Officer (GDCO) and ensures the Strategy for a Digital Public Service is implemented effectively across the public sector. Working with agencies it ensures Digital investment is delivering efficient and effective value outcomes for NZ.*

*The Agency Partnerships team is comprised of teams of specialist consultants providing targeted guidance, advice and practical support to agencies. Specialist areas include assurance, privacy, investment, architecture and digital service design and integrated digital services.*

#### **Director Agency Partnerships**

**Mar2021 – Apr 2022**

##### *Responsibilities:*

- Develop and maintain a customer-centered consulting model, including customer needs, core capabilities required, and a cross-functional view across the broader Branch.
- Development of papers, briefings and advice for Cabinet, Ministers, Chief Executives and agency CIOs
- Maintain awareness of emerging trends and changes in the Public Service system that will impact the work of the Group; and develop the right strategies and set the right objectives and priorities in response to these.
- Build, lead and motivate a consulting team, ensuring the appropriate skills, competencies and customer-centric culture is maintained to support effective delivery of services.
- Takes a lead stakeholder management role by actively establishing, building, and maintaining effective relationships with agencies, understanding their needs and drivers

##### *Achievements:*

- Led the organisation and set up of the first Government Digital Hui, bringing together digital leaders from across the public Service for a 1-day event.
- Leading the strategic response to the Digital Skills challenges facing the Public Service. Providing key insights to government, developing the strategic response and action plan, providing senior executive and Ministerial briefings, supporting governance and oversight.
- Improved investment support through the budget process through definition of transparent assessment criteria, informing investment prioritisation, informing Cabinet approval.
- Improved data insights into the Public Service Digital ecosystem by delivering data collection and management solutions, leveraging existing technology, reducing the burden on agencies to provide data.

### **Stats NZ**

*Stats NZ Tatauranga Aotearoa is New Zealand's official data agency. It collects information from people and organisations through data sharing, censuses and surveys and use this information to publish insights and data about New Zealand, and support others to use the data.*

*Stats NZ is a government department with over 1,000 employees with employees in offices in Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch, and in the field across New Zealand.*

#### **Chief Digital Officer/Chief Information Security Officer**

**Aug 2016 – Mar 2021**

##### *Responsibilities:*

- Lead the delivery of Digital Business Services ensuring operational service levels are met
- Set and implement digital strategy by working with cross-functional partners to map and transition traditional processes to digital
- Be a digital evangelist, championing the use of digital technology and practices to engender a digital mindset from the top down
- Ensure collaboration, knowledge sharing, and digital best practices between partners and colleagues to help embed a robust digital ecosystem

- Measure ROI on digital projects, fine-tuning approaches as needed to ensure we're investing in the right tools and resources
- Work with teams across the business to generate innovative digital solutions for products, services, processes, customer experiences, marketing channels, and business models and serve as a cross-functional change agent across the organization

*Achievements:*

- Transformed the user operating environment to a mobile first, activity based working footing, enabling flexibility and adaptability. This encompassed facilities capabilities, desktop and supporting infrastructure and support models.
- Provided the strategic vision, leadership and planning to move Stats NZ to become 100% hybrid 'As a Service' based organisation, comprising public and private cloud services.
- Implemented an organisational change program to build agility and increase business responsiveness. Moved the technology operating model to an agile DevOps model, together with a agile investment portfolio to ensure alignment to business priorities.
- Transition the most complex budgeting area of Stats NZ from an asset-based CAPEX model to an 'on demand' OPEX model. Provided financial dashboards to provide transparency informing optimisation of this new environment, resulting in savings of \$5M p.a. in the first 2 years.

**Stats NZ**

**Chief Technology Officer/Chief Information Security Officer**

**Mar 2014 – Aug 2016**

*Responsibilities:*

- Develop technical aspects of the company's strategy to ensure alignment with its business goals
- Providing technical leadership at the enterprise level and serve an integral role in operations and business development.
- Led the Technology team in identifying, comparing, selecting, and implementing technology solutions and partnerships to meet current and future needs
- Advocating and communicating technology capabilities internally and externally, including leadership, customers, partners, and vendors
- Oversee the technological infrastructure (networks and computer systems) in the organisation to ensure optimal performance and security.

*Achievements:*

- Reaffirmed the organisation Information System Strategic Plan, providing a clear vision for staff with transparent linkages and integration into the organisation strategy. Provided strong engagement with stakeholders through traceability between strategic ICT initiatives and the organizational long-term plan.
- Driving force behind the Christchurch Integrated Government Accommodation, delivering shared ICT services to collocated agencies. Initially 9 agencies in one building, this has grown to 16 agencies, 3000 staff in 9 buildings. The model delivered is deployed as the preferred option for government shared accommodation.
- Initiated activities to stimulate innovation and drive cultural change, including the adoption of Salesforce.com for customer management and increased vendor engagement to identify opportunities
- Delivered organizational change program, restructuring the ICT group to align to business functions to create improved integration, understanding and responsiveness to needs. Facilitated a personnel cost reduction of 20%

**Government Communications Security Bureau**

*GCSB contributes to New Zealand's national security by providing information assurance and cyber security to the New Zealand Government and critical infrastructure organisations, collecting and analysing intelligence in accordance with the Government's priorities, and providing cooperation and assistance to other New Zealand government agencies.*

As Chief Information Officer I was responsible for all data and information assets and the delivery of all organizational and operations ICT services.

## Chief Information Officer/Chief Information Security Officer

Apr 2011 – Mar 2014

### Responsibilities:

- Set objectives and strategies for the ICT department both within GCSB and how it supports cross government and international integration of the intelligence community.
- Plan the implementation of new systems and provide guidance to IT professionals, operational analysts and other staff within the organisation
- Monitor changes or advancements in technology to discover new opportunities and threats and identify ways the organisation can gain competitive advantage

### Achievements:

- Relocated 5 agencies into a new site, collocating and enabling interoperability. I accomplished this while reducing ICT delivery costs through the implementation of shared services capability, operating at the Top-Secret SCI level, providing collaborative working environments, centralised phone systems, VTC, printing and resource management, amongst others
- Implemented big data and analytic solutions, increasing access to data accompanied by secure government agency collaboration through implementing enhanced certificate-based security architecture with policy-based information management strategy
- Broad relationship management both within NZ and internationally. Represented NZ on international committees, defining and agreeing on secure interoperability strategies and standard and information sharing agreements.
- Implemented cross agency collaboration platform connecting the NZ Defense and Intelligence sector, enabling the sharing of information and collaboration.



## Early Career Summary

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<i>Government Communications Security Bureau</i>	<i>Capability Development manager</i>	<i>Jun 2008 – April 2011</i>
<i>Fujitsu NZ</i>	<i>Senior Project/Programme management Consultant</i>	<i>Dec 2006 – Jun 2008</i>
<i>UK Royal Air Force</i>	<i>Avionics Engineer, various roles including:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Capability Development manager</i></li><li>• <i>Senior Technical Instructor</i></li><li>• <i>Site engineering Manager</i></li><li>• <i>ICT Operations Manager</i></li></ul>	<i>Jan 1984 – Nov 2006</i>



## Professional Memberships and Certifications

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- Member NZ [TechLeaders](#) Executive.
- Member British Computer Society (MBCS)
- Member Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (MIEEE)
- BCS - Information Systems Examinations Board Certifications
  - *Project Management for Information Systems*
  - *Software Testing practitioner (ISTQB)*
  - *IT Service Management*



## Referees

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- Available on request