

Position Description

Position title:	Solutions Architect
Directorate:	Strategy and Engagement
Service Unit:	Information Technology
Reports to:	Strategy and Architecture Chapter Lead
Direct reports:	Nil
Salary point:	SP17
Work location:	City Administration Centre, 12 Stewart Avenue, Newcastle West
Date revised:	February 2021

What's it like working at the City of Newcastle?

We are focused on making a real difference in our community and achieving our vision of **creating a smart, liveable and sustainable global city**. We are proud to deliver services valued by our community. People come first at the City of Newcastle, which means providing employees with meaningful work and capacity for work life balance. As a large local organisation, the City of Newcastle offers opportunity to develop in your current role, grow into future opportunities and reach your full potential.

Our organisation's values are **Cooperation, Respect, Excellence and Wellbeing** which are underpinned by our behaviours of courage, trust and pride. Together, our values and behaviours support our decision making, our day to day interactions and everything we do.

What's it like working in Information Technology?

Information Technology at the City of Newcastle works alongside our colleagues across all Directorates as a trusted business partner. We work in cross-functional teams to understand the needs of our customers, with a unified goal of serving our community with innovative and sustainable technology solutions.

We leverage an Agile approach that is iterative and transparent, with rapid feedback loops. This allows us to make evidence-based and data-driven decisions to identify the greatest value early on, delivering simple and easy to use experiences to our customers and to our colleagues.

What's the focus of this position?

The Solutions Architect is accountable for ensuring new systems and products fit the existing enterprise environment. Specifically, the role develops the entire end to end solution blueprint and acts as a source of guidance and control for the solution implementation. Once implemented the Solution Architect will be regularly consulted for governance and design improvements. The role is an integral part of the IT service unit, mapping all business requirements to technical requirements and the enterprise architecture plan.

What you'll be doing:

- Review, interpret and respond to detailed business requirements and specifications to ensure alignment between customer expectations and current or future IT capability.
- Provide input into the strategic direction of technology investments to assist in the development of the enterprise architecture and maximise the return on technology investment.
- Within the agreed enterprise architecture, define and design technology solutions to assist CN in meeting their strategic vision.
- Ensure all designs align with the design authority and enterprise architecture standards.
- Ensure that appropriate tools and methods are available, understood and employed in architecture development.
- Develop, test and implement technology solutions as well as report on delivery commitments to ensure solutions are implemented as expected and to agreed timeframes.
- Design solutions that best fit the environment, considering how all parts of the business model work together including processes, operating systems and application architecture.
- Confirm solutions are designed and implemented in a way to ensure both technical compliance and profitability.
- Understand all product/system constraints, compare them, and then make technological and managerial decisions to reconcile these restrictions with project goals.
- Within a change programme, lead the preparation of technical plans and ensure, in liaison with Product Managers and Chapter Leads, that appropriate technical resources are made available.
- Collaborate with the Development team to assure architectural solution could be suitably translated into effectual and robust implementation.
- Develop and execute test plans to check infrastructure and systems technical performance.
- You will be required to carry out other duties that are within the limits of your skills, competence, training and/or experience as directed by your Manager.

The essentials you'll need:

- Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology, Computer Science, Software Engineering or a related qualification, and/or demonstrated capability through past employment experience.
- Demonstrated experience in development of systems architecture.
- Demonstrated experience with DevOps enabling technologies.
- Demonstrated experience with design and oversight of the implementation of high volume, highly available client facing solutions.
- Demonstrated understanding of technology, architecture, operations and key business processes.
- Demonstrated knowledge and practical experience of enterprise architecture frameworks and IT governance and information management frameworks.
- Ability to clearly and effectively communicate design processes, ideas, and solutions to teams and clients.
- Ability to effectively engage and influence senior business and IT stakeholders.
- Excellent negotiation, written and verbal communication skills.
- Self-starter who can work independently as well as in a team environment.
- Demonstrates the values and behaviours that contribute to a constructive, high performance culture.

Other valuable skills you may have:

- Certification in TOGAF.
- COBIT 5 Foundation certification.
- Experience with Asset Management solutions.

SFIA (Skills Framework for the Information Age) Skills

- 1.1.3 Strategy and architecture: Information strategy - Information governance
- 1.2.1 Strategy and architecture: Advice and guidance - Consultancy
- 1.2.2 Strategy and architecture: Advice and guidance - Specialist advice
- 1.3.4 Strategy and architecture: Business strategy and planning - Innovation
- 1.3.5 Strategy and architecture: Business strategy and planning - Research
- 1.3.6 Strategy and architecture: Business strategy and planning - Business process improvement
- 1.4.4 Strategy and architecture: Technical strategy and planning - Solution architecture
- 2.2.3 Change and transformation: Business change management - Requirements definition and management
- 3.1.2 Development and implementation: Systems development - Systems design
- 3.1.3 Development and implementation: Systems development - Software design
- 3.1.7 Development and implementation: Systems development - Data modelling and design
- 3.1.8 Development and implementation: Systems development - Database design
- 3.1.9 Development and implementation: Systems development - Network design
- 3.2.1 Development and implementation: User experience - User research
- 3.2.3 Development and implementation: User experience - User experience design
- 3.3.3 Development and implementation: Installation and integration - Hardware design

We'll encourage you along the way

We will partner with you to support your performance and ongoing development to ensure you are fully prepared for future challenges as this position and our organisation adapts and evolves.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the requirements and responsibilities of this position as detailed in the Position Description (PD) and have discussed the PD with my Manager.

Employee Name:	
Employee Signature:	
Date:	