Leadership in the Digital Age for the Public Sector
2018 Program

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The **Leadership in the Digital Age for the Public Sector** is a high level, professional development program for senior leaders in the public sector.

How do you lead your teams in an era where change is happening more rapidly than at any other time in history.

Join a forum of your peers in public sector leadership and further develop the skills, knowledge and understanding of leadership in this age of digital disruption and transformation.

Digital leaders in the public sector are faced with the same challenges as their private sector counterparts: managing the rapidly accelerating expectations of customers for access to services and information online, anywhere, anytime. Add to that the rapidly evolving digital technologies such as AI and machine learning and leadership becomes just even more complex.

Public servants have some unique challenges in leading their organisations and teams through digital transformation:

- balancing the internal risk culture with the need to innovate and respond quickly to changing technologies
- change management within the public sector context
- managing staffing and the annual budget cycle and procurement rules in a complex environment
- managing expectations of ministers and the election cycle.

Join us and enhance your leadership skills in a relaxed and confidential environment and establish relationships with fellow forum participants that will enhance your professional life.

The program

Participants of the program commit to a total of five days across four months. The location and venue to be decided.

The program starts with two successive days covering the foundation leadership concepts, skills and frameworks. In addition, participants have the opportunity to hone their digital brand and get to know each other. The remaining three individual days are dedicated to building confidence in the foundation skills, sharing lessons learnt from your digital-related leadership case studies and hearing from highly experienced guest leaders.

The program challenges participants to consider and develop leadership and communication skills in a collaborative, supportive setting.

Month 1	Month 2	Month 3	Month 4
2 consecutive days	1 day	1 day	1 day
Foundation attributes and skills	Enhancing skills through case studies and guest presentations	Enhancing skills through case studies and guest presentations	Enhancing skills through case studies. Action planning.

We will explore

- Defining and understanding effective leadership in the Digital Age.
- Organisational and personal responses to change.
- Attributes of effective leadership in this complex, dynamic environment.
- Digital skills of leaders – how digitally savvy do you need to be?
- The role of the leader in the organisation's digital journey.
- Influencing and leading digital workers and workplaces.
- Managing digital transformation.
- Developing stronger and more effective work teams.

For more information about the 2018 program please contact stevensmith@unitedfocus.com.au

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Foundation digital concepts and skill set

We will cover some of the foundation digital concepts (eg AI, cyber-security, digital strategy, blockchain) that leaders need to be able to discuss with their teams and the digital skills they need to be credible leaders of innovation and change.

Case studies

Each participant presents their digital leadership journey as a 'case study'. Issues related to how digital strategy, people management, culture change, privacy, unintended consequences, risk management and the changing nature of work and more are analysed and explored. The participants are challenged by other members of the group to see their challenges from a different perspective.

Leadership champions and networks

Participants will hear from some of Australia's most experienced digital leaders from both the public and private sectors. These leaders share, in an informal setting, the issues that shaped them as leaders, their leadership mistakes and successes, their personal insights into trends in the digital age and their observations about the status of digital in the public sector.

One-on-one mentoring

Between each meeting, each participant is contacted to discuss issues raised during the meetings, or other, more confidential, issues that are not explored by the group.

Online resources

Your digital leadership skills and understanding are sustained during and after the program by online resources and forums

The benefits to you

☑ Greater confidence in your ability to lead in the Digital Age and enhance your leadership credentials.

☑ Personal and professional growth arising from developing skills and understanding about leadership and by working through issues that face similar leaders in their professional and personal lives.

☑ Assistance in making difficult decisions at your work because the group, as a collection of peers, can discuss the options in a pragmatic and analytical fashion.

☑ A forum to discuss openly those issues you may find difficult to discuss within your workplace, for a variety of reasons, but which are critical to effective management.

☑ The development of professional networks that build understanding and collaborative opportunities.

☑ Learning from the experience of other digital leaders who are facing similar problems.

☑ Participants become part of an evolving benchmarking process that will identify and measure key performance indicators of digital leaders across the public sector.

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Who should participate in the program?

Public servants who have digital leadership responsibility and aspirations within an agency, department or government body.

Senior public servants in digital service delivery and digital channel management would also benefit significantly from this program.

This program provides an opportunity for experienced and new leaders to come together for high-level digital leadership interaction and learning.

More than a 'dose' of leadership training

This is not merely a one-off course to get a dose of leadership training with a digital spin. Rather, it is an opportunity to meet regularly with peers from other areas of the public sector to discuss management and leadership challenges confidentially and frankly.

We Understand Digital Leadership in the Public Sector Environment

We hear your pain...

- the career pathway challenges for digital leaders and managers where the current pathways still often reflect traditional agency structures and service delivery models
- the contrast often between how digital teams need to operate and perform, and the wider agency's service culture and organisational structure
- the risk/innovation nexus and how agencies often have difficulty balancing their risk appetite with the need to innovate and transform
- the difficulties that arise for digital teams when their agency colleagues do not share their digital vision
- the limitations of managing digital transformation on a budget model designed for internal silos
- the importance of a co-design approach with service providers but that procurement rules and accountability often make that difficult.

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About the facilitator

The facilitator of the Program, Steven Smith, has worked with leaders of digital teams and digital transformation in government across Australia since the 1990s.

He has worked extensively with the Australian, state and local governments as a digital advisor and mentor.

Steven has extensive experience in advising public sector organisations on digital strategies and solutions: from researching and reporting to the Australian Government on the effects digitisation would have on our national cultural organisations, to developing the whole of Victorian Government's and Northern Territory Government's digital strategies; from advising on flexible workplace strategies, to developing a branch strategy for the Cyber Security branch of a Federal government department.

He has worked closely with the SA Government assisting numerous agencies with their digital strategies, channels, and skills. He was inaugural Chief Editor of sa.gov.au
Steven has facilitated numerous industry sector and business development programs and workshops and has a background as a teacher and educator.

He was a Director in digital consulting at KPMG Australia, is a graduate of the AICD Company Directors' Course and is Chair of the SA Chapter of the AIIA.

Steven Smith
BA, BEd, GAICD

Fee and bookings

$3,950 ex gst early bird (normal $4,950) includes:

- Five full-day forums

- Three one-on-one 1hr mentoring sessions with Steven

- Access to online resources and tools.

For more information and to book your place please contact:

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