Role: Lead Data Architect

Purpose of Role

The BBC is changing the way it delivers and approaches technology, focussing on finding new ways of delivering improved benefits and capabilities required to meet our ambitions, and investing in capabilities that move the organisation forward strategically at lower cost.

Change on this scale will not happen overnight, however BBC is transforming and innovating its technology landscape and adopting data-driven approaches enabling tighter business and technology integration across multiple divisions. Data plays an important role in delivering services to our audiences, partners and employees. Data will become the strategic force underpinning BBC's vision and as such, we have highlighted the need for improved Data Management, Advanced Analytics and Data Science to deliver next generation of BBC services.

The Lead Data Architect will lead the transformation of BBC's Data Management and Analytics vision, and a Connected Data strategy to deliver common, secure and consistent data capabilities across BBC. This role will initiate and manage data transformation programmes creating a pan-BBC reusable data capabilities as well as engage in strategic initiatives. This role reports to the Head of Data Architecture and will manage the transformation architecture and design of Data and related approaches, tools and technologies.

A primary task is to transform our data capabilities enabling an internet-fit and data-driven BBC, and therefore will need to work with the architects to ensure designs data is managed as a strategic asset in a centralised, standardised, and consistent manner in order to maintain its value and quality, using mature technologies and emerging data practices. The role requires an understanding of various technology choices and a deep understanding of NoSQL technologies, distributed computing framework, and data processing techniques to make right tools and technology choices.

This is a highly visible role that requires a mix of technical acumen and team leadership skills to drive Connected Data Strategy. This person must be creative, ask questions, and be comfortable challenging the status quo. The position is based in London.

Key Accountabilities

- Lead the architecture and technical strategies of Data, Analytics and delivering transformed, data-driven and secure capabilities enabling reusability and consistent access to our data.
- Lead architects and software engineers to develop an enterprise-wide, business-linked, cohesive understanding of data economy and its value to the organisation.
- Own and manage a portfolio of common Data assets across BBC services, products and partners, promoting reusability, elimination of wastage and consistent access to BBC data including meta-data.
- Create design, develop modules, and coordinate efforts with the development team, working on data architectural implementation
- Take initiative in solving complex technical problems and recommend original solutions and design approaches to data requirements, making decisions between competing solutions

- Own the core architectural implementation effort and deliverables, including technical design, logical and physical design of the solution
- Work closely with the architect, to ensure conformance with the overall architectural guidelines
- Collaborate with Product Analysts and Product Managers to estimate and plan work and provide status updates to stakeholders
- Create a close working relationship with business partners to identify the pain points and provide better services
- Establish strong relationships, and proactively communicate, with team members as well as individuals across the organisation
- Lead in the creation of initiatives, investment cases and architecture models for assigned projects and transformation programmes delivering to the technology and operational strategies.
- Develop and govern the implementation of technical and architecture standards, guidelines and practices which implement platform strategies.
- Lead in the transformation from siloed data duplication to common and data-driven capabilities, evaluating new technologies and approaches leading to scalable and reusable data capabilities.
- Maintain and communicate proactively emerging position on technologies, approaches and architectures that might be relevant to BBC in delivering its objectives.
- Assure that the solutions and technologies recommended will technically deliver and meet the needs of the business and wider strategic aspiration.
- Assures that the solutions recommended to projects takes the BBC closer to its overall business and technology goals and is underpinned by well thought- through, flexible and pragmatic solution architectures.
- Identify innovative technologies pertinent to the Strategic Architecture and lead in the incubation and pilot of these technologies to identify potential business value and technical feasibility.
- Take and entrepreneurial approach in creating technology driven Strategic Opportunities and building Ecosystems and Platforms.

Dimensions of Role

- Technical leadership role across delivery technical resources, programme resources, third parties and the wider business organisation.
- Strategic Dimensions: mid and long-term implementation.
- People Management: Lead architects and Software engineers in a matrix organisation
- Provide a leadership role in the application of architecture and design standards; promoting best practice across BBC.
- Oversee the quality of the work performed by members of any project teams that they lead to ensure it delivers measurable business benefits and maintains integrity with the architecture.

Knowledge, skills, training and experience

Essential

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Engineering
- Experience of transforming traditional Data Warehousing approaches to Big Data based approaches and proven track record of managing risks and data security.
- Experience in finding patterns in data and creating statistical models, data exploration, data visualisation and data mining.
- Experience of leading data science, data discovery and machine learning projects
- Strong DB skills with SQL and NoSQL databases
- Experience in conducting analysis for evidence-based decision making
- 10+ years experience in software development, using Java 2 EE or Python
- 7+ years experience working with, and enhancing, Continuous Integration (CI) and Continuous Development (CD) environments.
- Experience with Open Source Software, Data Platform Services and Open API techniques.
- Ability to lead technical teams on strategic initiatives
- Should have worked on Agile scrum or kanban methodology and has strong communication and collaboration skills.
- Experience in conducting analysis for evidence-based decision making
- You will be able to convey complex information to both technical and non-technical audiences
- You will have high levels of creativity and drive and your genuine affinity for problem solving

Desirable

- Contributing and influencing development of data, data science and analytics subjects in the industry.
- Affiliation with industry or independent forums influencing changes and strategic direction.
- Author / co-author of articles / books on the subject of Data Management, Analytics or Data Science.