UK - Information Security Career Paths

This career path diagram illustrates the potential career progression you can make in information security. It recognises the importance of awarding body professional certificates and your experience over time, and provides a high level alignment with BCS membership grades, as you can see the various frameworks overlap each other, maintaining these frameworks have either 3, 6 or 7 levels. This view allows you to map certificates to job roles and see what development needs should be followed to advance in seniority and even transition to a new career. Above all, we want to point you in the right direction and provide you with the links for further research so you can make an informed decision regarding your future.

### Job Roles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Framework Level</th>
<th>Typical Experience</th>
<th>Job Roles</th>
<th>Sample Professional Certificates</th>
<th>Personal Development</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>15+ years</td>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Lead Accreditor, Lead IA Auditor</td>
<td>CREST, CISSP, ISO-27001 Lead Implementer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Lead IT Security Officer (ITSO)</td>
<td>NCSC Certified Professional Scheme (Lead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>10+ years</td>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Lead Accreditor, Lead IA Auditor</td>
<td>CREST, CISSP, ISO-27001 Lead Implementer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Lead IT Security Officer (ITSO)</td>
<td>NCSC Certified Professional Scheme (Lead)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>6-10 years</td>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Senior Accreditor, Senior IA Auditor</td>
<td>ISC/BCS/PMSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Senior IT Security Officer (ITSO)</td>
<td>NCSC Certified Professional Scheme (Practitioner)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>4-7 years</td>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Accreditor, IA Auditor, Senior Accreditor</td>
<td>ISAICA, CREST, CISSP, ISO-27001 Lead Implementer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Communications Security Officer (ComSO)</td>
<td>NCSC Certified Professional Scheme (Practitioner)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3-4 years</td>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Associate, IA Auditor, Senior Accreditor</td>
<td>ISAICA, CREST, CISSP, ISO-27001 Lead Implementer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Communications Security Officer (ComSO)</td>
<td>NCSC Certified Professional Scheme (Practitioner)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1-2 years</td>
<td>Public Sector</td>
<td>Associate, IA Auditor, Senior Accreditor</td>
<td>ISAICA, CREST, CISSP, ISO-27001 Lead Implementer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Private Sector</td>
<td>Communications Security Officer (ComSO)</td>
<td>NCSC Certified Professional Scheme (Practitioner)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Further Reading
- BCS: Fellow (FBCS) membership
- BCS: Chartered (CITP) IT Professional
- Further practitioner courses and industry certifications
- Professional Development Plan
- Skills Profile
- Personal Development Plan
- Further Practitioner courses and Industry Certifications
- Seek higher level security roles and prepare to:
  - gain breadth and depth
  - widened remit, increased responsibility and authority
  - manage teams, specialise further
  - Further Practitioner courses and Industry Certifications

### Additional Resources
- BCS: Associate (AMBCS) membership
- IISP: Associate (IISP) membership
- CompTIA: Affiliate membership
- CompTIA: Student membership
- BCS membership provides services and benefits to support your career development.

Review your current skills and skill levels by creating a Skills Profile and identify any skill gaps ahead of taking specific certifications.