

Paul Johnston was born in 1962 in London, England and studied at Balliol College, Oxford where he obtained a first class degree in Philosophy, Politics and Economics and completed a D.Phil in Philosophy. He has a strong public sector background, having worked in a variety of management and policy roles in several public sector organisations. His final public sector role was head of the UK Treasury's local government team, where he was responsible for central government support for local authorities, local taxation and performance improvement in the local government sector. Before that, he was a senior policy advisor at the Treasury in a number of different areas including social housing and financial markets. He also worked for HM Customs and Excise, the Housing Corporation and a Department of Work and Pensions-sponsored charity. Prior to his public sector career, he was a journalist with Reuters, the BBC and Tyne Tees Television.

Paul has been working with Cisco Systems for two years. He heads up the European public sector team within Cisco's Internet Business Solutions Group, providing strategic advice and support to public sector organizations on how they can transform their operations through technology-enabled process innovation. Paul has contributed to and edited a number of Cisco publications including: The Connected Republic and Broadband City 2010: a roadmap for local government executives. He has also published three books on philosophy. Paul is married and has two children.