The struggle to lead strategically in the public sector

March 2017



of senior public sector leaders require **further development** in **Strategic Leadership** (leading with influence).



Source: State Services Commission



Strategic leadership is rated the lowest leadership capability out of the LSP areas.



It may well be that while these leaders have the **cognitive grunt** required to think through the complex issues and determine the most viable path for them and their organisation, they aren't quite as skilled in the capabilities that are needed to **persuade or** inspire others to follow.

"few things are more engaging than making important progress toward goals - but the goals of public-sector organisations are often hard to translate into objectively measurable units. Government managers must therefore clearly articulate long-term missions, values, goals, and impacts - and help employees see how their work connects."

Strategic leadership...



...is needed to achieve goals, drive performance and align short-term action with long-term direction



...is central to **influencing organisational culture**, **leading change**, and **aligning different organisational components**.



Multiple stakeholders, lightning fast communication technologies, global market forces, political pressures, legislative requirements, organisational policy and culture, are but a few of the considerations that leaders must contend with when considering the way forward.

The ability to process disparate information, consider diverse perspectives, analyse issues, examine complex relationships, and make sense of all of this are absolutely critical.

TIPS for how to transform your strategic thinking into strategic leadership























