



Laura-Anne Austin

Senior full-stack engineer

eight years building · twelve in computing science

✉ lauraaustin_13@outlook.com ☎ +44 7407 257 138 🔗 [linkedin.com/in/laura-anne-austin](https://www.linkedin.com/in/laura-anne-austin)

🌐 lauraanneaustin.com 📍 Newton-le-Willows, between Liverpool and Manchester · open to remote or hybrid

🐙 github.com/LSmithDoor work, private repos 🐙 github.com/Smittttx the side projects

Eight years in software, around six in financial services; strongest in React, Next.js, and TypeScript on the front end, with Python behind it. I lead the UI and own the design system, and I work across the API, the database and the services too. I run the weekly demo to the business and sit with product on the roadmap, so the design and product calls are as much mine as the code. I am not precious about the stack: I have shipped in Java, Python, Node, and jQuery-era front ends.

🔗 Career highlights

- Cut UI deploy time **from an hour and a half to six minutes**, and UI hotfixes to **under an hour**.
- Rebuilt **both sides of a due-diligence platform in three months**, with clients running on the original throughout.
- Built a **new-to-market escrow product from nothing**, holding funds for multi-million-pound class-action settlements.
- Built and owned the **design system and component library at two companies**, to a WCAG 2.1 AA standard.
- Brought **AI into a live product**, an uploaded document through Bedrock extraction to figures in a shared grid and a populated workbook.
- **Removed the ceiling on questionnaire size** by streaming the review page, replacing a whole-response fetch that failed for the largest clients.

🔗 Work experience

Where I've worked

Door Ventures

Apr 2023 to now · 3 yrs 7 mos · Liverpool · remote

A two-sided due-diligence platform. Leading the UI and the design system, across the API, database and services, and in the roadmap with product

Senior Full-Stack Engineer Oct 2025 to present

- Delivered on a **fully serverless architecture**, API Gateway and Lambda front to back on Aurora Serverless v2, and built the Step Functions and Lambdas behind the document pipeline.
- Built **client error telemetry end to end**, reporting even while the page redirects or logs out, through a FastAPI endpoint into Grafana, with breadcrumbs and an error code users can quote to support.
- Delivered **reporting and exports** across both sides, nine reports with shareable filtered views and a self-serve Exports page.
- Built the **permissions model and the notification engine**, with per-client access, SES delivery and bounces handled.
- **Partnered daily with product** on the roadmap, turning client feedback into delivery priorities, and ran the weekly demo to the business.
- Rebuilt **doornetworks.com single-handedly** on Next.js and Amplify with an admin area the marketing team publishes through.
- Took the work **through to production** on a live platform, writing the release notes and running the deploys.

Senior Software Engineer, UI Oct 2024 to Oct 2025

- Cut UI deploy time **from an hour and a half to six minutes**, and UI hotfixes to under an hour, pulling the React front end out of a nine-year-old Java monolith into a standalone Vite app on S3 behind CloudFront.
- Took ownership of the **design system, the component library** and the colour and status vocabulary the product is built from.
- Rewrote end-to-end testing from **Cypress to Playwright**, with extensive coverage against deployed environments.
- Modernised the classic platform from **Node 14 to the current release**, clearing the dependency blockers, and reskinned it.

UI Engineer Apr 2023 to Oct 2024

- Built **DoorFrame**, the in-house component library, themed across platform versions so old and new UI ran side by side.
- Replaced third-party packages with **in-house components** where they had become a constraint, including Handsontable, the largest.
- **Mentored** junior engineers across the front end and the back end.

Shieldpay

May 2021 to Apr 2023 · 2 yrs · Remote

A new escrow product and the component library it was built on

UI Engineer, React May 2021 to Apr 2023

- Built a new-to-market **escrow product from nothing**, holding funds for multi-million-pound class-action settlements.
- Built the **component library from scratch** with theme tokens to the designers' Figma.
- Moved the full deployment onto **AWS CDK** and migrated the pipelines from CircleCI to GitHub Actions.
- **Pre-wrote the Cypress suite** alongside the QA team.

Working directly with the customer’s team, no agency in between

React Developer Jan 2022 to Jan 2023

- Owned current and future feature requests on the student learning portal, **working directly with the customer** with no agency in between.
- Scoped, prioritised and demoed** the work personally, and shipped AWS serverless to production.

Equator

Dec 2020 to May 2021 · 6 mos · Glasgow

Leading React for an agency team

Senior Web Developer, React Dec 2020 to May 2021

- Delivered **25+ client sites in three months** for big-brand clients, working to their brand standards and their deadlines.
- Brought in to **raise React capability** across a team that had barely used it.
- Mentored** junior members of the team alongside the delivery work.

Virgin Money

Oct 2019 to Dec 2020 · 1 yr 3 mos · Greater Glasgow

The React front end for three bank brands, inside a bank’s change process

React Developer Oct 2019 to Dec 2020

- Rebranded Clydesdale, Yorkshire and B onto Virgin Money across **80 repositories**, inside a bank’s change and governance process.
- Built a customer support application **still in use today**.

Traveltek

Mar 2018 to Oct 2019 · 1 yr 8 mos · East Kilbride

Started as the designer, moved into development within three months

Frontend Web Developer Jun 2018 to Oct 2019

- Won **Star of the Year 2018**, awarded to the top 5% of the company.
- Moved from design into development **within three months of joining**.
- Built and maintained the **booking front ends** travel operators sold through.

Web designer Mar 2018 to Jun 2018

- Designed travel sites on a three-month contract straight out of university, **converting to permanent**.

Skills

What I work with

My strongest and most recent. The full list is on my website: [lauraanneaustin.com](#)

Front End & Design

- React 15 to 19
- Next.js
- TypeScript
- styled-components / Emotion
- TanStack Query
- Design systems & theme tokens
- Figma
- WCAG 2.1 AA
- Coded prototypes & live demos

Back End & Data

- Python
- FastAPI
- PostgreSQL
- SQLAlchemy
- Liquibase
- REST API design
- OAuth
- Role-based access control

AWS & Infrastructure

- Lambda
- S3
- CloudFront
- API Gateway
- Step Functions
- SQS / SNS / EventBridge
- SES
- CloudWatch
- Amplify Gen 2
- Terraform
- GitHub Actions

Testing, Product & AI

- Playwright
- Cypress (e2e & component)
- axe DevTools & axe-core
- PostHog
- Scoping & prioritisation
- Running product calls
- Agile / Scrum
- Claude Code
- MCP servers

Education

BSc (Hons) Computing Science

University of the West of Scotland
Graduated June 2018

First Class Honours

Side projects

Built in my own time

Some of my side projects can be found on my website:
[lauraanneaustin.com](#)