Getting Started with Private AI

A plain-English guide for NZ organisations

AI is already inside your organisation. People are using ChatGPT to write emails, draft reports, and summarise documents, whether your IT policy covers it or not. The question now is whether you are using it safely, on your terms, with your data under control.

Private AI gives you the productivity benefits of AI without handing your data to a third party. It runs inside your own environment, connects to your existing systems, and stays completely under your control.

What is Private AI?

Private AI means running an AI model inside your own network or on your own servers, rather than sending data to an offshore cloud service like ChatGPT or Microsoft Copilot. Your staff get the same kind of conversational, intelligent assistant, and your information stays inside your environment.

Is Private AI right for your organisation?

Private AI is worth exploring if any of the following apply:

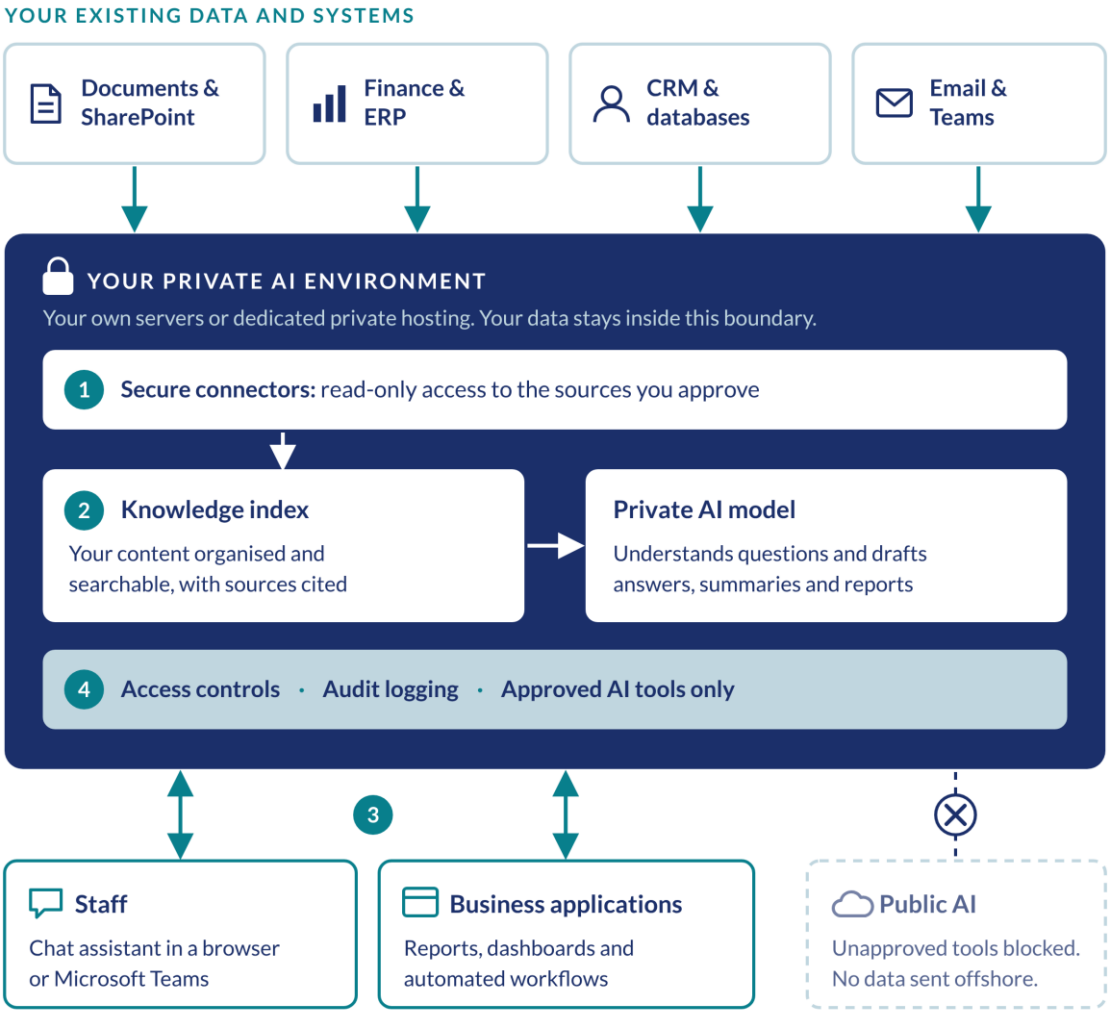
- Your organisation handles commercially sensitive, legally privileged, or personal information
- Staff are already using AI tools and no one has signed off on the risk
- You want AI to work with your own data as well as public information
- You have compliance obligations around where data is stored and processed
- Your board or leadership has asked what your AI policy is and the honest answer is unclear

What you get with Private AI from Secure23

- Integration with the tools you already use, including finance, ERP, CRM, and Microsoft Teams, so the systems that work today stay in place.
- Your data stays inside your environment, which is critical for compliance-sensitive organisations.
- Meaningful hours saved each week on admin, reporting, and repeatable tasks.
- Deployment and support from Secure23, a local team that takes the time to understand your business.
- Onboarding that delivers value within weeks.

How Private AI works

The diagram below shows how a typical Private AI setup fits around the systems you already use.



A typical Private AI implementation. Every organisation is different, so the exact connections are agreed with you during scoping.

1 Connect
Your data stays where it is. Secure connectors give the AI read-only access to the sources you approve, such as SharePoint, finance, and CRM.

2 Organise
Your content is indexed inside your environment, so the AI can find the right information quickly and show where each answer came from.

3 Ask and act
Staff ask questions in a familiar chat window or in Microsoft Teams. Business applications use the same AI to produce reports and automate routine tasks.

4 Control
Access can follow your existing permissions, every request is logged, and unapproved public AI tools can be blocked.

What can Private AI actually do?

Once deployed, Private AI can be connected to your data and your systems. Practical uses include:

Use case	What it means in practice
Reporting and dashboards	Pull live data from your systems into clear, plain-English summaries or visual reports.
Document search and synthesis	Ask questions across your internal documents and get accurate, sourced answers.
Admin and task automation	Automate repetitive tasks such as drafting, summarising, categorising, and formatting.
Simple business tools	Build lightweight tools like CRMs, timesheets, or workflow aids without expensive software.
LLM access control	Ensure only approved AI tools are accessible to your team, and block unsanctioned use automatically.

About Secure23

Secure23 is a Kāpiti Coast-based consultancy delivering practical technology and cyber security services to small NZ organisations and professional services firms. Founded by Tom Anderson, who brings over 25 years of technology experience, Secure23 works with organisations that want clarity and real outcomes, without vendor lock-in or unnecessary complexity.

Clients include membership organisations, legal practices, regional councils, and NGOs across the Wellington region and beyond.

Book a free AI Readiness Meeting

One hour. No obligation. You will leave with a clear picture of where your organisation stands on AI and what, if anything, makes sense to do next.

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