

Our working definition

"Herd-Like Behaviour (HLB) is the tendency for one's own judgement to be influenced by the apparent consensus view of assumptions, methods, processes or approaches leading to a reduction in the variety of ideas in the market."

IFoA Herd Like Behaviour Working Party, 2015

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Case Studies

- Presented example:
 - Reserving methodology
- · Your group case study options:
 - Operational risk
 - Peer review
 - PPO propensity assumption
 - Pricing model / Underwriting risk

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Influencers



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Influencers

External

Regulators Auditors Consultants Software providers Investment Analysts Profession

Cultural

Company structure
Ability to challenge
Remuneration
How busy the teams are
Investment in skilled team
Size of teams / turnover in team
Governance structure

Situational

Greater complexity / opaqueness / riskiness of decision
Lack of data
Greater forecast horizon
Greater market volatility / crisis

Psychological

We like consistency
We like to be safe
Short termism
Looking up to senior colleagues
Some people are more likely to act in this
way

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Encouraging good and discouraging bad Herd Like Behaviour

Non-Actuarial Professional Bodies	Actuarial Profession	Companies	Individuals
Universal Responses			

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Encouraging good and discouraging bad Herd Like Behaviour

Non-Actuarial **Professional Bodies**

- Require justification of assumptions and methods even when in the herd
- Require justification of benchmark
- Comment on the spread of key assumptions / methods / models / software
- Enhance TAS's to address herding

Accept limits – we can't have all the answers

- Monitor compliance with mitigants
- Key risk registers and forums

Effective resourcing Realistic timescales

Knowledge sharing Diverse recruitment and teams

Herding champions

Research sponsorship

Actuarial Profession

- Raise awareness

- Cover herding in exams,
- Principles based regulation

Companies

- Engage with outside experts
- Redefine
- specific and report on their impact

Individuals

- Self-awareness
- Document extend of your herding
- Working party

Universal Responses

- Ensure all views are heard
- Structured brainstorming
- Documented evidence
- Informed use of benchmarks
- Peer review
- Communication

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Thank you!

The content here is our own and does not represent our employers' view or opinions.

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