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**Risk and Investment Conference  
Brighton: 18 June 2013  
So how do you do Risk Appetite for  
With-Profits?**

**John Jenkins (KPMG) & Phil Tervit (AEGON)**

# Three key questions

**1**

**What is risk appetite?**

**2**

**Why is it harder to do for a with-profits fund?**

**3**

**How can this nut be cracked for a with-profits fund?**



# Risk appetite within a wider ERM framework

## Requirements for optimal Risk Appetite framework

- Link with business and risk strategy (feedback cycle).
- Clearly articulated to provide assurance and guidance to stakeholders.
- Support allocation of resources (capital, people, risk versus reward)., and monitoring of risk profile
- Helps to shape the risk culture of the Group.
- Stable, yet flexible to adopt to changes in risk profile or external environment.

## Design challenges

- No standard definition of Risk Appetite in any regulatory guidance, yet integral part of ERM requirements.
- Sufficiently high-level to ensure consistent measurement and guidance to the Board and external stakeholders (oversight).
- Sufficiently granular to provide guidance in decision-making and assurance to management.
- Reporting: Simplicity in high-lighting areas of concern, while providing sufficient assurance on areas within tolerances.
- Roles and responsibilities: Subject to maturity of enterprise's risk management framework – combining financial and operational risk.
- ORSA: Forward-looking perspective (Recovery & Resolution Planning)
- No 'one size fits all' – pragmatic, flexible solutions for all parts of the enterprise.

**Strategy and business plans**  
(corporate and risk strategy, including the risk preferences of the corporate and longer-term goals)

Provide context for stakeholders (external and internal)



More detailed quantitative and qualitative levels

Reporting and decision making throughout the enterprise aligned

Limits and thresholds; Embedding to guide decision-making

**Risk MI and wider ERM framework**  
(link with wider ERM, including ORSA)



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# What is risk appetite?

## Qualitative Examples

- We do not want longevity risk
- We take on credit risk as it is rewarded
- We accept and manage interest rate risk
- These risks (...) we hedge out to the maximum extent
- These risks (...) we do not hedge out

**Can apply easily for a WPF**

## Quantitative Examples

- We wish to maintain a AAA rating
- We want the ICA/SCR to be covered 150%
- We want to cope with a 1 in 500 event
- We want to cope with a 1 in 10 event and still cover ICA/SCR 100%

**Can apply to a WPF but  
there is more to it for a WPF**



# Why is it harder to do for a with-profits fund?

Essentially because there are so many aspects which can change or be changed:

**Investment mix backing asset shares**

**Investment mix backing guaranteed liabilities**

**Investment mix backing capital requirements**

**Investment mix backing excess assets**

- Management actions and decision rules in cost of guarantee liabilities
- Overriding or additional management actions in stress scenarios
- Speed of estate distribution (if any)
- Support from outside of the with-profits fund (if applicable)



# Self-supporting and capital support



If for WPF:  $[\text{Assets}] - [\text{Liabilities}] - [(100+X)\%ICA] > 0 = \text{WPF self-supporting}$

If for WPF:  $[\text{Assets}] - [\text{Liabilities}] - [(100+X)\%ICA] < 0 = \text{WPF not self-supporting}$

**Very common requirement:**

WPF must be ICA **self-supporting**.  $X = 0$  often for this purpose.  $X > 0$  sometimes.

Shareholder will often require action if WPF not self-supporting

**Capital Support Arrangements:** Common modification: No action needed if deficit  $< \text{CSA}$

**Note:**

Regulations require a contingent loan of assets into WPF if liabilities not covered.

Does **not** apply to capital requirements.



# Burn through

Question	Answer
When is a WPF really insolvent?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• When all terminal bonuses have been reduced to zero</li><li>• And all estate has been exhausted</li><li>• And it is necessary for the shareholder to inject money permanently into the WPF to pay guaranteed benefits</li></ul>

## THIS IS KNOWN AS BURN THROUGH

### TCF

- Normally pay 100% asset share (or more if estate being distributed)
- But legal position is as above

- **Common component of a WPF Risk Appetite: Monitor/ Minimise Burn Through**
- Often qualified in £V calculations for 90/10 funds
- Not often quantified for closed 100/0 funds



# Summary so far ...

## Most risk appetite statements for a WPF will include:

- Manage the fund so that it covers its own capital requirement for RBS/ICA/EC/SLR etc.
- Or to within any agreed capital support arrangement outside of the fund
- Manage/minimise burn through risk



**But where do you from here?**





# WPF risk appetite – more detailed level



# First step – a clear segmented ALM approach

Balance sheet component	Inserted in ....
Asset shares	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Need rule/ framework to set EBR – equities (and property)</li><li>• Need rule/ framework to set CBR – credit (versus gilts)</li></ul>
Cost of guarantees	Gilts? Credit? Matched by term? Negative equity hedge? Use of derivatives?
Other long term liabilities	Depends on nature of liabilities
Current liabilities	Cash, short gilts?
RCM/ ICA/SCR	Gilts? Credit? Cash? Short Term? Short term?
Excess assets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• As per RCM/ICA/SCR?</li><li>• Or different?</li></ul>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>As per the above</b>

**Many funds have something along these lines  
– not that hard to do in practice**



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# Next step – apply extensive stress and scenario tests on the balance sheet

Apply stress tests on the entire fund and evaluate impact on the working capital / estate

Or impact speed of estate distribution

Total balance sheet approach

Can apply RCM tests, ICA tests, EC tests  
Both stresses and scenarios

Important to apply in **both** directions

- equities up and down
- interest rates up, down and twists
- Credit spreads up and down
- Property up and down
- Actual credit events

With and without derivatives

Management actions are key for adverse stresses

This will flush out what really hurts the fund, and/or severity of management actions needed



# Realistic balance sheet – basic projections

## Realistic value of assets of fund

	Line	YE 2012	End of Year		
		0	1	2	3
Regulatory value of assets	11	1,020,000	849,218	731,861	674,465
PV of NP business	22	100,000	90,000	81,000	72,900
<b>Realistic value of assets</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>1,120,000</b>	<b>939,218</b>	<b>812,861</b>	<b>747,365</b>

## Realistic value of liabilities of fund

	Line	YE 2012	End of Year		
		0	1	2	3
Asset Shares	31 + 32	788,284	628,733	517,009	462,623
Cost of Guarantees	41+43	138,470	121,972	107,557	102,401
Other liabilities	47	7,000	5,427	4,347	3,799
Current liabilities	51	-	-	-	-
<b>Realistic value of liabilities</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>933,754</b>	<b>756,131</b>	<b>628,913</b>	<b>568,823</b>

## Risk Capital Margin (RCM) Components

	Line	YE 2012	End of Year		
		0	1	2	3
RCM	65	70,004	55,820	45,890	41,055
Realistic excess capital	66	116,242	127,267	138,058	137,487
Realistic excess available capital	67	116,242	127,267	138,058	137,487
Working capital / Estate	68	186,246	183,087	183,948	178,541

## ICA

	Line	YE 2012	End of Year		
		0	1	2	3
Assets net of current liabilities		1,120,000	939,218	812,861	747,365
Liabilities (excl. current liabilities)		933,754	756,131	628,913	568,823
Available capital / Working capital / Estate	68	186,246	183,087	183,948	178,541
ICA including ICG		63,250	52,072	44,218	40,349
Excess assets		122,995	131,015	139,730	138,193

- Being able to project the balance sheet and capital requirements is a key need
- Many funds now able to do basic projections via run off planning



# Possible next step – clever projections

**Project balance sheet stochastically**

**Project capital requirements stochastically**

**Define complex criteria, e.g. self-supporting on  
1 in 200 ICA following a 1 in 10 actual shock**

**Some sophisticated companies do this**

**But is this level of sophistication really  
necessary?**



# Assumed management actions in severe stress scenarios

Two schools of thought. Both need Board buy-in and consideration of TCF.

## A RESTRICTIVE APPROACH

- Build management actions into stress cases according to normal base case decision rules
- No overriding or additional management actions in severe (1 in 200) stress

## Pros/Cons

- Easier to get agreed by Board
- Maybe less regulator pushback
- But does not display true strength of fund
- Could lead to adverse actual actions

## B PERMISSIVE APPROACH

- Allow for reasonable overriding or additional management actions in severe (1 in 200) stresses
- Such as: RB=0, remove past estate distributions, cancel smoothing, change EBR etc

## Consequences

- Sometimes more difficult to get agreed – but by no means always
- Demonstrate the true strength of the fund more realistically
- Better enables fund to be managed as wished for

# So, overall ...

**Do all this and you'll know very clearly what your risk appetite is.**



# Aegon Case Study: Background

- ✓ Key component of Enterprise Risk Management Framework
- ✓ Core aim is to establish the organisation's tolerance for risk and assist in the management in carrying out Aegon's strategy
- ✓ Includes limits and actions to hold the business to account
- ✓ In line with Aegon Group we have risk tolerance statements on:



## Fund structure:

- Non-profit subfund and shareholder fund
- 100:0 With-profit subfund





# Aegon Case Study: Adopting the Non-profit subfund approach to with-profits?

- 1) Financial Strength – Capital Buffer Targeted
  - Set equal to withstanding a preset shock event to agreed strength (1 in 10 year event or 90<sup>th</sup> percentile confidence)
  - Set for Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 in £'s or coverage ratio
  - Dynamic buffer methodology
  
- 2) Risk Balance – Setting limits for more granular risk types
  - Ensures concentration of risks is well managed
  - Promotes risk diversification

## Apply to with-profits subfund

- ✘ Does not directly relate to the capital management of the WPSF
- ✘ Does not handle run-off of a WPSF
- ✘ Allowance for Management actions unclear
  
- ✘ In reality constrained by PPFM

Risk Strategy Statement	Level 1 Risk Type	Level 2 Risk Type	Target ERC Level	Blue Range (Opportunity)	Green Range	Amber Range	Red Range
Desirable up to reasonable and manageable levels	Investment and Counterparty Risk	Fixed Income	200	0 - 150	151 - 180	181 - 250	251+
		Equity	150	0 - 100	101 - 130	131 - 180	181+
		Alternative	20	0 - 15	16 - 19	20 - 25	26+
		Counterparty	10	0 - 5	6 - 9	10 - 15	16+
		Equity Vol	5	0 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 8	9+
Aegon UK does not seek to gain from 'targeted mismatching'	Mismatch Risk	Interest Rate	200	0 - 150	151 - 180	181 - 250	251+
		Int Rate Vol	150	0 - 100	101 - 130	131 - 180	181+
		Currency	20	0 - 15	16 - 19	20 - 25	26+
Desirable	Underwriting Risk	Mortality P	200	0 - 150	151 - 180	181 - 250	251+
		Mortality C	150	0 - 100	101 - 130	131 - 180	181+
		Morbidity P	20	0 - 15	16 - 19	20 - 25	26+
		Morbidity C	10	0 - 5	6 - 9	10 - 15	16+
		Lapse P	5	0 - 2	3 - 4	5 - 8	9+
		Lapse C	200	0 - 150	151 - 180	181 - 250	251+
		P&C u/w	150	0 - 100	101 - 130	131 - 180	181+
		P&C cat	20	0 - 15	16 - 19	20 - 25	26+
		Expense	10	0 - 5	6 - 9	10 - 15	16+
Aegon UK seeks to maintain operational risk to acceptable levels	Operational Risk	Op. Risk	200	0 - 150	151 - 180	181 - 250	251+



# Aegon Case Study: Defining approach for with-profit subfund

## Step 1 – set overall statement

We aim to actively manage the with-profits subfund in such a way as to achieve a stable run-off of the fund, managing customer and shareholder interests equitably

## Step 2 – understanding the risks in the fund

Series of stress and scenario testing under different bases, including future projections. Consider keep guarantees and other ‘pinch points’

## Step 3 – linking to fund management

3i

Outline regular management actions

Quarterly: Review TB Rates  
Annual: Annual estate distribution

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Map severity of management action to assessment of tolerance

- Maintaining business within tolerance
- Monitoring mechanism
- Clear and concise

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Set out further management actions and apply grouping

Group A

Stop future estate distributions  
Reduce Regular Bonuses to 0

Group B

Remove some/all past estate distributions  
Reduce EBRs (to 0)  
Investment switching to gilts

Group C

Reduce payments below 100% asset share

Group D

Burn-through to s/h

severity

# Aegon Case Study: Monitoring definitions

	<i>Definition</i>	<i>Action triggered</i>
Green	<p>WPF can meet all regulatory capital requirements.</p> <p>Regular management actions allowed for</p> <p>Group A - Stop future distributions of the estate.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No specific action</li> </ul>
Amber	<p>New management actions have started to be implemented</p> <p>Group A (1 &amp; 2) and Group B Management Actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WPA to report to Governance</li> <li>• Risk Reporting</li> <li>• TCF</li> </ul>
Red	<p>More significant management actions have started to be implemented in practice</p> <p>Group C and Group D Management Actions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WPA to report to Governance including Board</li> <li>• Regulator engagement?</li> <li>• Capital funding / TCF?</li> </ul>

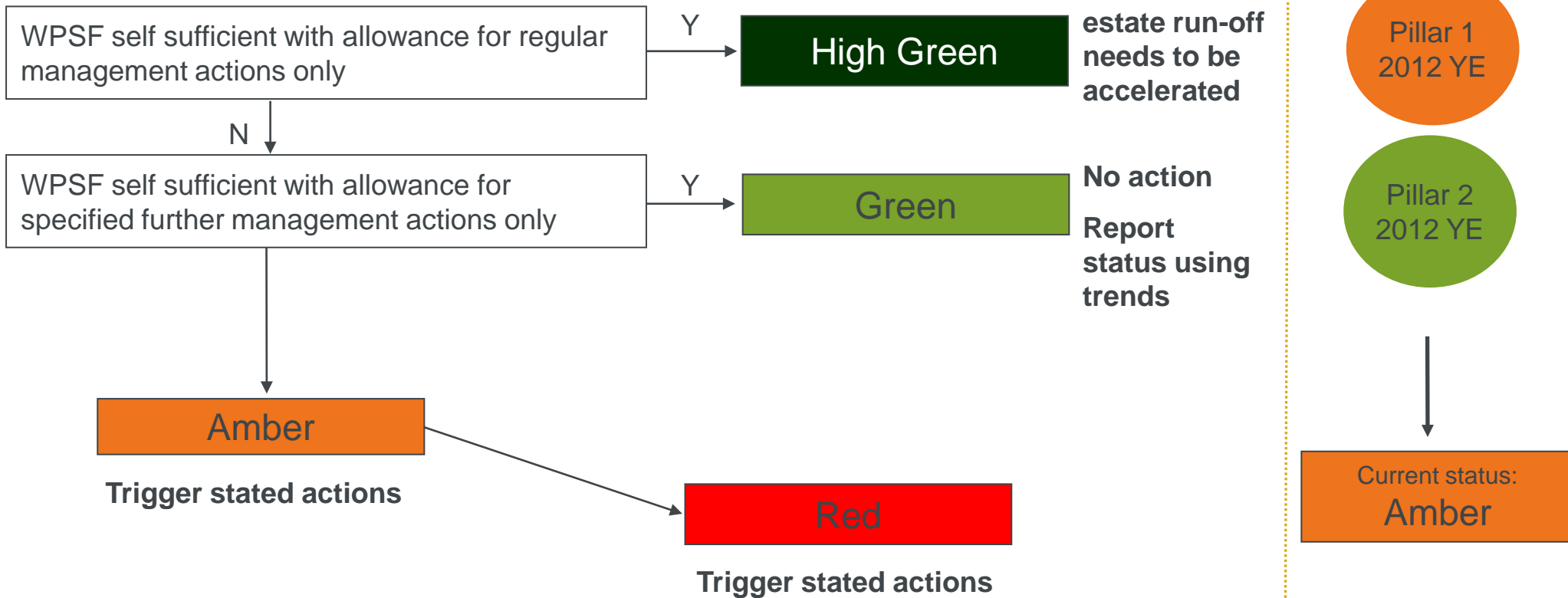
**Test RAG status for Pillar 1 and Pillar 2. The lower RAG status takes precedence**

**All subject to on-going judgement**



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# Aegon Case Study: Monitoring against Risk Tolerance



# Aegon Case Study: Proceed with caution



**Not setting the high level  
'self-supporting' statements  
first**

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**Following the approach  
for non-profit business**

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**Overly complex tolerance  
Limits not mapped to how  
fund is truly managed**



# Questions

# Comments

Expressions of individual views by members of the Institute and Faculty of Actuaries and its staff are encouraged.

The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenters.



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