Why do we need Data Governance?

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What is Data Governance?

“The exercise of authority, control and shared decision making (planning, monitoring and enforcement) over the management of data assets.”

DAMA Dictionary of Data Management
Good and Bad Data Governance

• Can be overcomplicated
• Additional administrative burden
• No clear benefit

• Manages risk of poor data quality
• Mirrors business process
• Enhances understanding of data

When data governance doesn’t work
Fitting in with the business

Claims Administration

Data

Reserving (Technical Provisions)

Data Requirements

Claims Administrators

Reserving Actuary

Data Producers

Responsibilities
• Provide Data Requested
• Confirm required quality standards met

Data Consumers

Responsibilities
• Specify Data required
• Specify Quality Requirements

The Benefits of Data Governance

Benefits
A single view of your data quality needs and issues, without applying a ‘blanket approach’ to data quality
Clear lines of responsibility for data quality
Avoid Gold-Plating and a ‘one size fits all’ approach
Improve the quality of your data
Use data to improve your business
What is happening now?

Observations

An area many firms are having to create from scratch
A variety of approaches and readiness
Data policy can be overly complex and not easily converted into business as usual processes
Data policy should be a statement of the ‘what’ but not the ‘how’
Lack of consistent understanding of what is meant by governance
Challenges in how to assign data responsibilities

Making the most of Data Governance

Approaches

Use the Data Policy as cornerstone of data quality management
Understand and use what already exists in the organisation – build on what you already do well
Align the design to how your organisation operates e.g. reporting and committees
Support data governance with an effective communication plan
Support with effective procedural documentation and templates for consistency
Underpin with senior sponsorship to ‘get things done’
Questions or comments?

Expressions of individual views by members of The Actuarial Profession and its staff are encouraged.
The views expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter.