



Actuarial Data Governance

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Actuarial Society of New York
June 2018

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With You Today



Alex is a Director at the Risk Analytics practice of KPMG LLP. He has over 12 years of experience with consulting, insurance and reinsurance firms. His actuarial experience includes transformation engagements, actuarial modeling and model enhancement projects, pricing and valuation, actuarial software conversions, actuarial audits, experience analysis, product and assumption development. Alex has helped multiple clients across North America build, implement and maintain their model governance frameworks around actuarial modeling. Alex is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, Member of the American Academy of Actuaries and Associate of the Canadian Institute of Actuaries.

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Director, Actuarial and Insurance Risk



Ben is a Director in KPMG's Risk Analytics practice with over 15 years' experience in the life insurance industry. His current areas of focus include financial transformation, business analytics, model validation and risk analysis, and actuarial audits. Ben has also worked to develop a new model governance framework as part of transformation projects and reduce the model risk that has existed with legacy model processes. He is a Fellow of the Society of Actuaries, Member of the American Academy of Actuaries and CFA charter holder.

Benjamin Farnsworth, FSA, MAAA

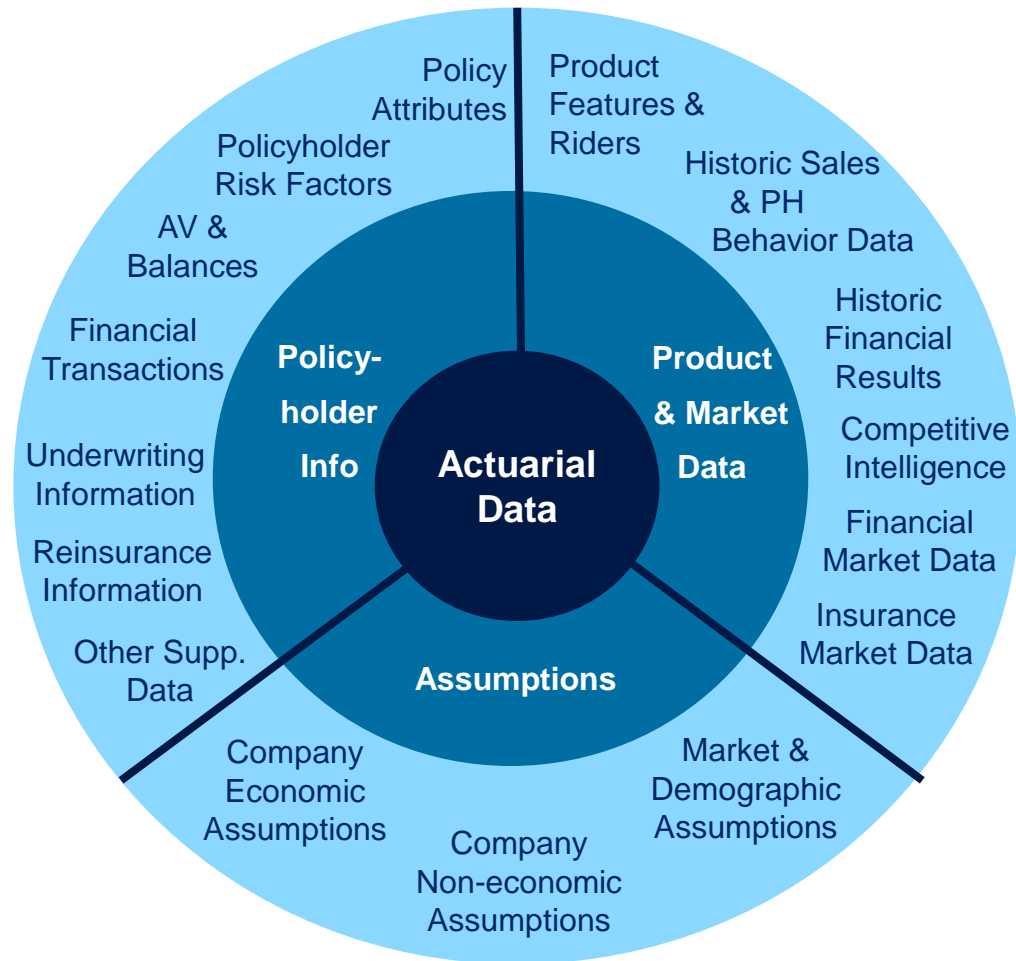
Director, Actuarial and Insurance Risk



Actuarial Data

Actuarial Data

Actuarial data is a segment of the overall company data that is meant to support actuarial operations including experience analysis, modeling, valuation and financial reporting.



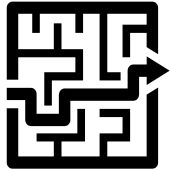
Pitfalls in Actuarial Data Management

Due to the breadth and complexity of actuarial data, it can be often misused, misinterpreted, miscommunicated and incorrectly modified.

Common Actuarial Data Pitfalls

- 1** **“I can do it myself!” approach**
Ad-hoc, undocumented data transformations that inadvertently get integrated into production process
- 2** **The quick Band-Aid solution**
Top-side adjustments made to the data or “recycling” of legacy data processes for new purposes
- 3** **The Phantom table**
Table replication for one-off need combined with inconsistent naming convention may create confusion in data repository
- 4** **Everyone in their own sandbox**
Decentralization of data transformation and management and unavailability of sufficient hardware and software tools to manage data effectively
- 5** **Failure to clean**
Lack of discipline of reviewing and removing outdated data tables and processes

Outcomes of Poor Data Management



Unnecessarily complex and error prone transformation processes



Multiple unvalidated spreadsheets with overlapping functionalities



Time and resources wasted on resolving data issues and tracing back complex transformations



Multiple sources of information, but no single "source of truth"



Storage wastage due to multiple copies of the same data








Production and process errors that can result in misstatements and delays in reporting

What is Actuarial Data Governance?

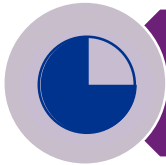




Actuarial data governance framework is the conglomerate of policies, processes and controls put in place to manage availability, usability, accessibility, integrity and security of data used by the insurance company.

Drivers of initial and continuous success for a sound actuarial data governance framework

-  Seniority and influence of the governance committee members
-  Clarity and ease of adaptability of governance policies
-  Periodic critical review, communication and updates to the governance policies and compliance monitoring
-  Periodic critical re-evaluation of effectiveness of controls
-  Timely upgrade and implementation of functional and current data management software and hardware

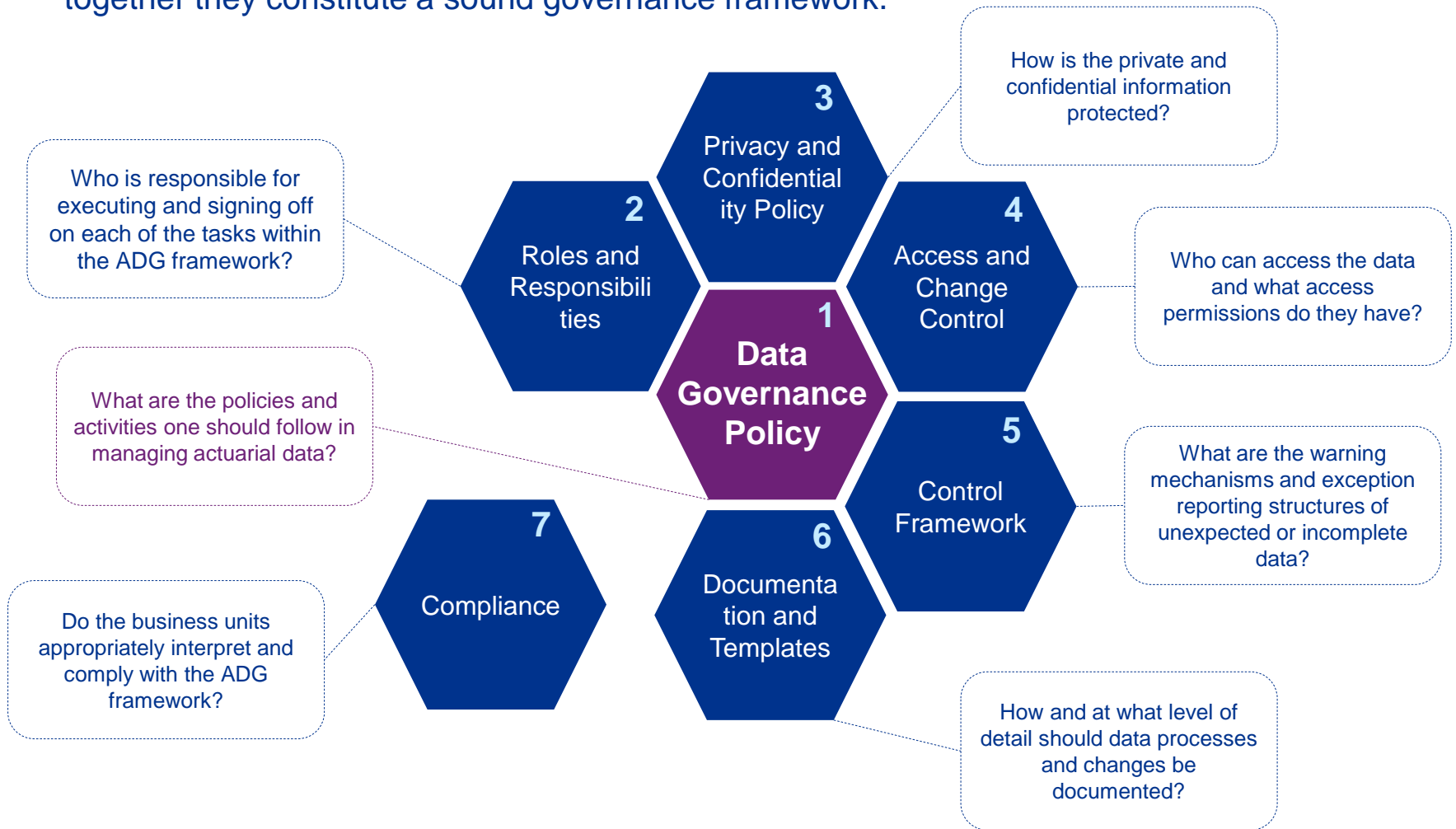
Goals of Actuarial Data Governance

The goals of implementing a sound ADG framework can be summarized in the following five mission statements:

-  Ensure accuracy and completeness of data
-  Increase accessibility to the relevant data by actuarial teams
-  Maintain data in a format useable for the needs of actuarial data
-  Govern change management and controls around actuarial data
-  Preserve privacy and confidentiality of sensitive information

Components of Actuarial Data Governance

With Data Governance Policy in the core, these components are highly interdependent, and together they constitute a sound governance framework.



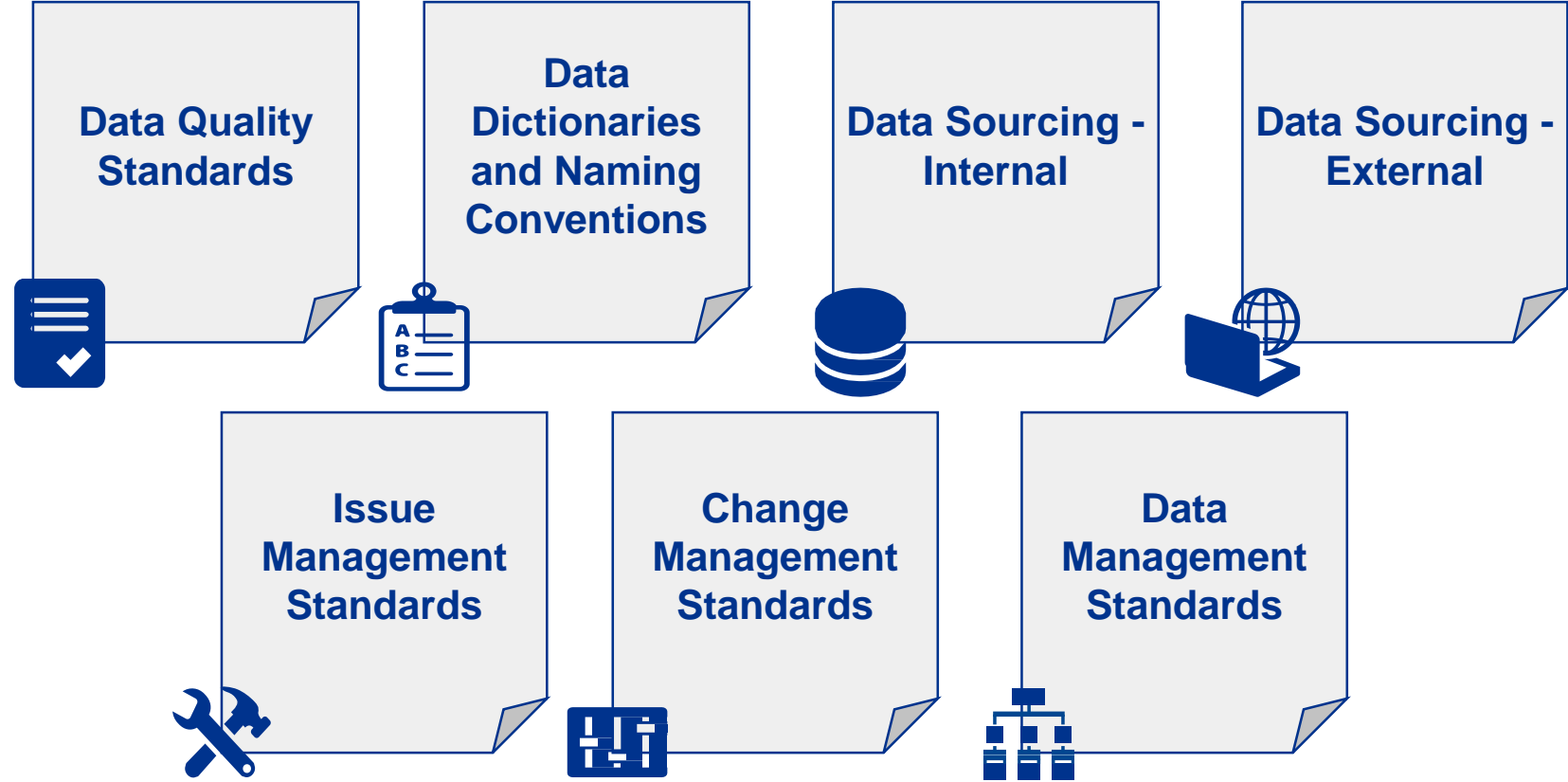


Deep Dive into Components of Actuarial Data Governance

Data Governance Policy

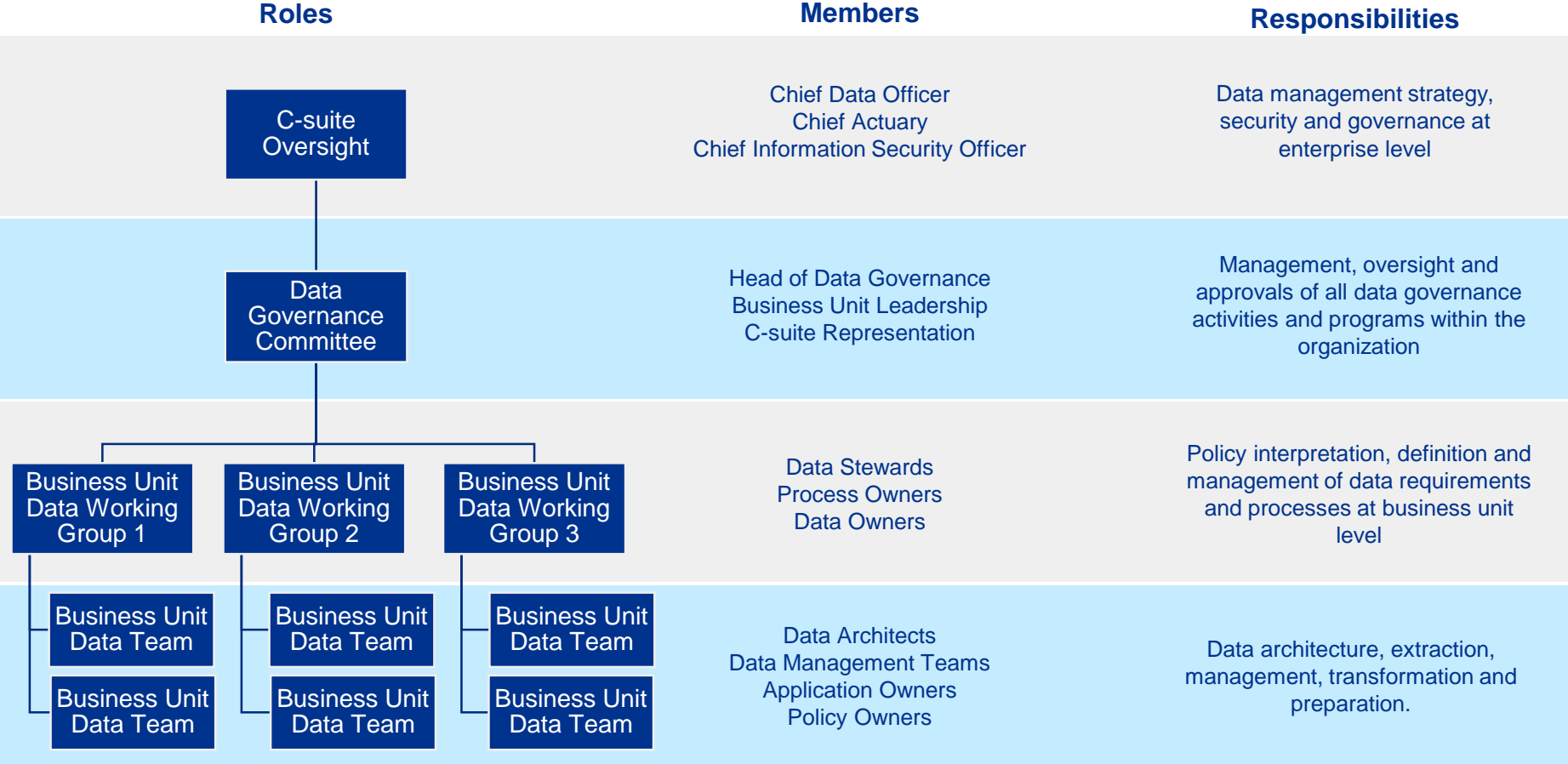
The data governance policy consists of a set of standards around retrieving, managing, transforming, preparing and archiving data. It also contains guidance around data validation, controls and documentation processes.

Actuarial Data Governance Policy Standards



Roles and Responsibilities

Life insurers should aim to build a strong foundation for their enterprise-level data governance framework, and have ADG embedded in the overall policy as one of the segments.



Privacy and Confidentiality Policy

This policy is supplemented by access and change controls and is in place to protect private and confidential data from being viewed, used or removed by an unauthorized party.

Classify all actuarial data sets by level of confidentiality

Identify technological components by ability to securely read, maintain, and output data.

Review and adjust software and process configurations to align data confidentiality classifications with technology level of security

Consider the minimal subset of individuals who should be granted access to confidential data and related processes

Roll out the policy describing treatment of confidential data, requirements for accessing highly secure data sets, and permission levels

Access and Change Control

Limiting the ability to access and change actuarial data is especially important when data contains personally identifiable information of policyholders or other confidential information.

Leading Practices



Minimization of data transformation within actuarial platforms and externalization of ETL processes into locked-down database environment



Environment-based read/write permission structure for actuarial processes that involve data management



Minimization of spreadsheet use for data management and preparation



Streamlining and automation of data processes and embedded data controls to eliminate the need for human interaction and reduce the number of similar data-related processes

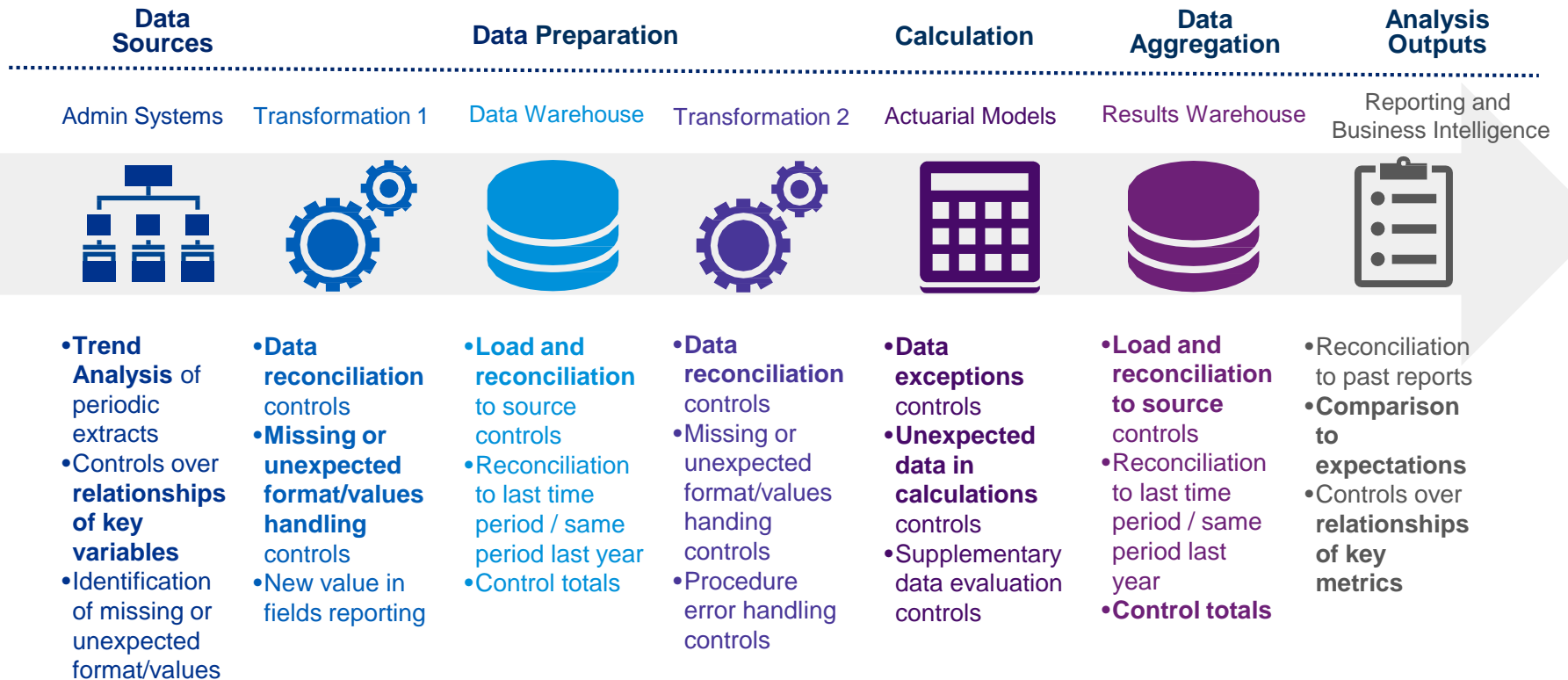


Automated versioning of data tables and implementation of database/table change alerts

Control Framework

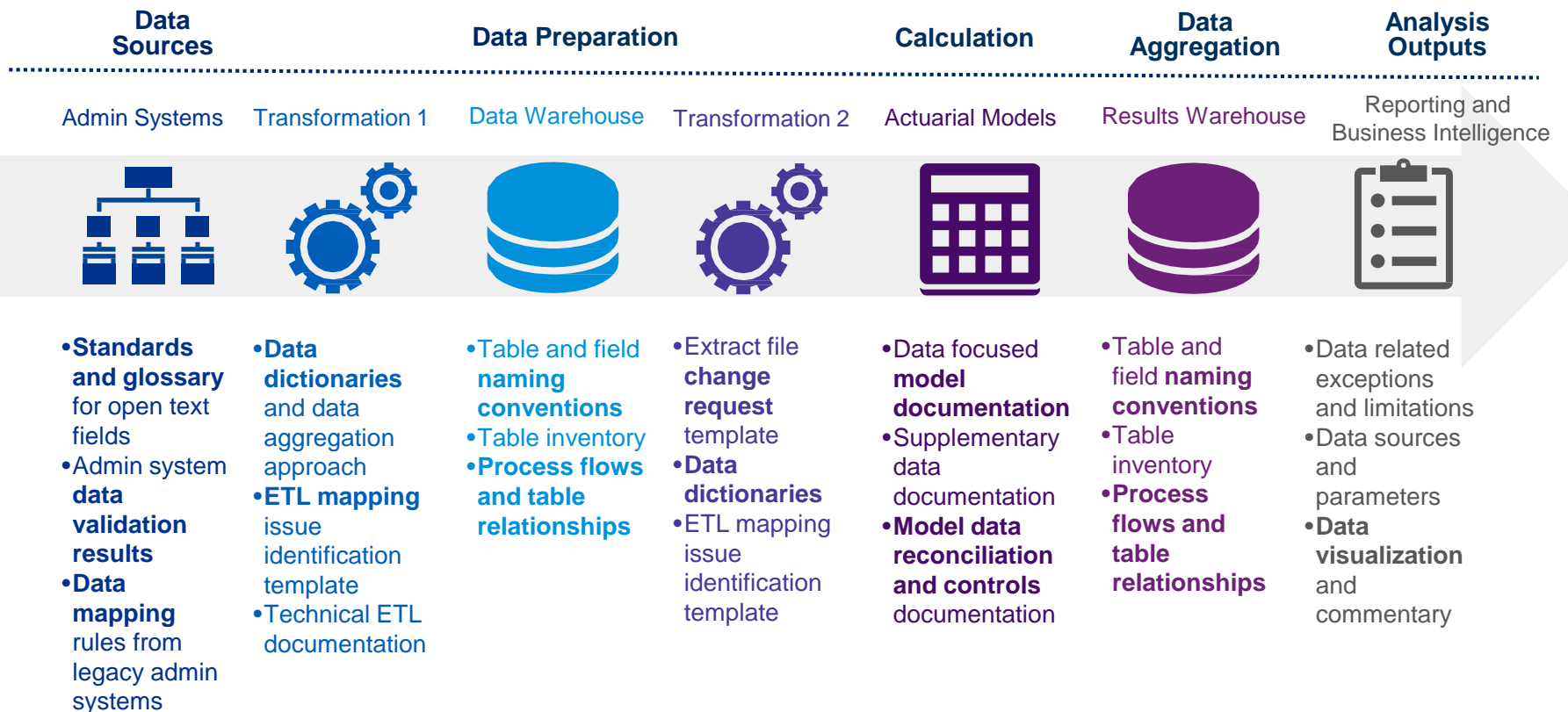
Controls should be built into every stage of the actuarial data lifecycle and be viewed as a vital component of actuarial data processes. Depending on the criticality of data, both active and passive controls should be implemented into the data processes.

These should be periodically evaluated for **adequacy**, **effectiveness** and **implications of failure**.



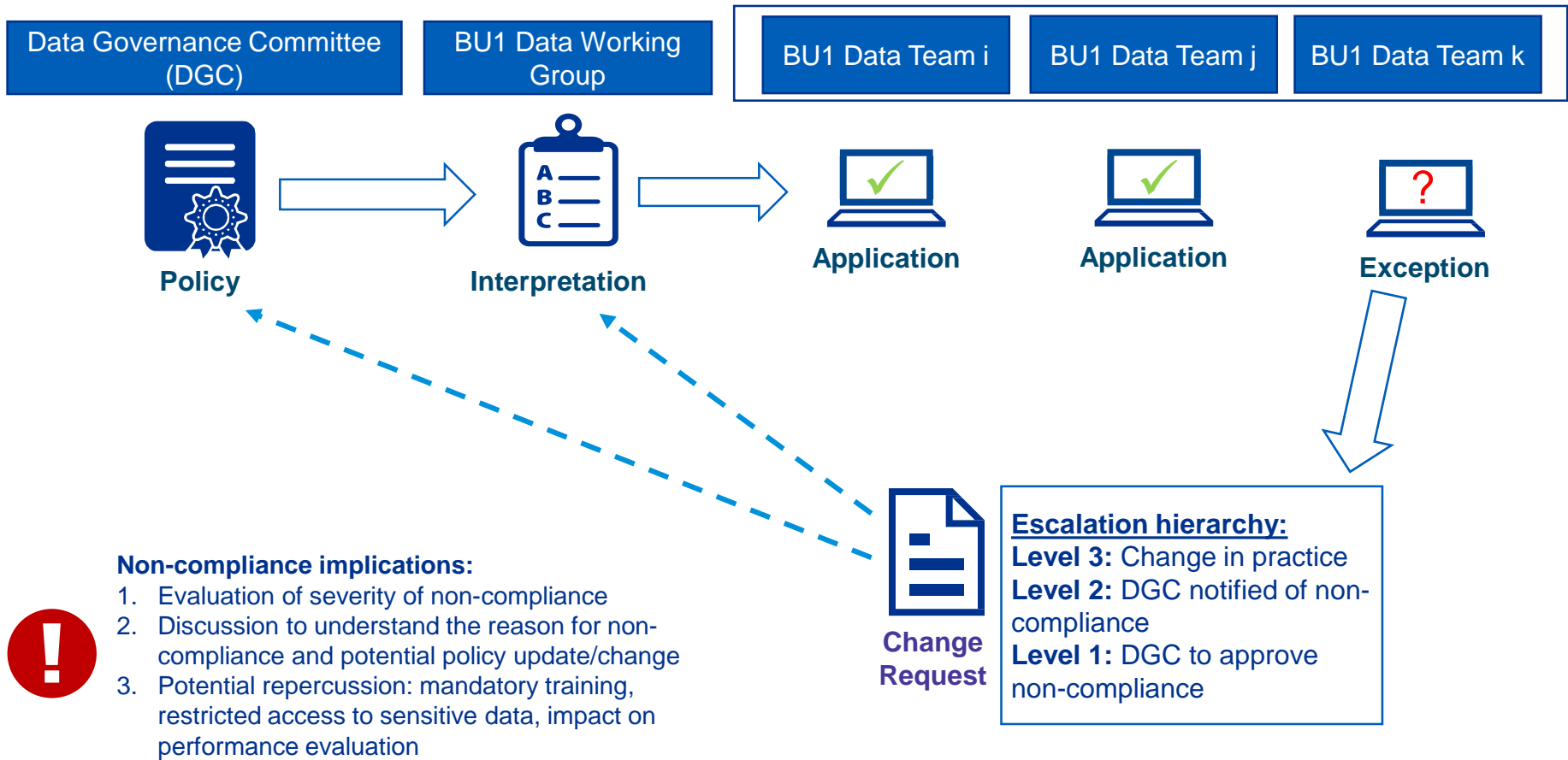
Documentation and Templates

From the very technical comments in the transformation code, to change requests and approvals, documentation is a key for a sound governance framework. To expedite and streamline the documentation process, templates are often created to ensure all the required information is populated.



Compliance

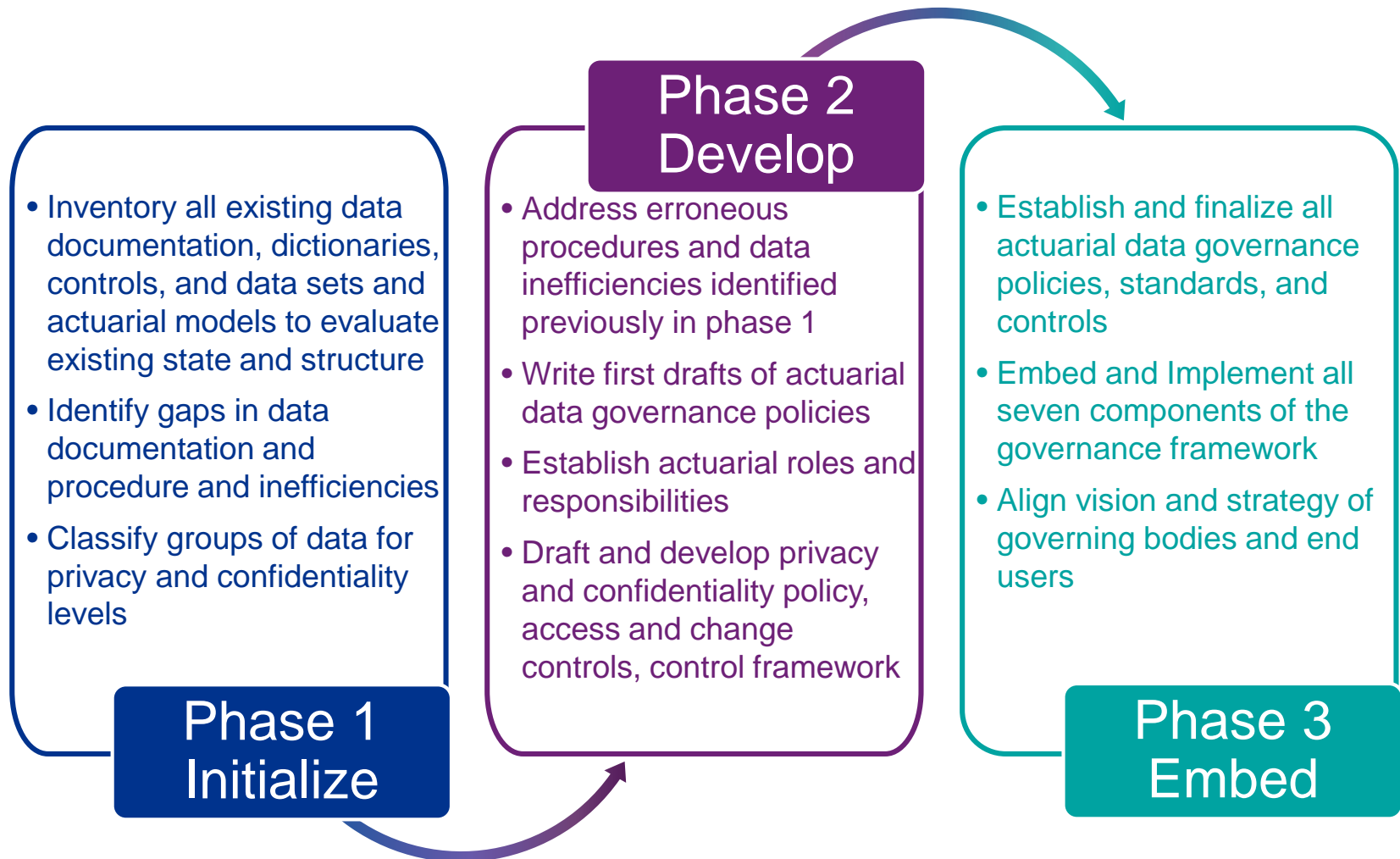
Compliance with the ADG policies will ensure continuous success of the framework.





Actuarial Data Governance – Phased Implementation

ADG Implementation





Thank you



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