

Model Risk Management & Actuarial Modelling

Nicola Barrett – FSA, Head of Forecast Model Development, MassMutual Dec 1, 2023



ERM | Model Risk Management

- Model risk management (MRM) is one aspect of a robust ERM program
- Steering committee oversee and guide MRM approach; contains reps from various organizations, business units and disciplines
- Model quantitative application of math & other theories, techniques and assumptions to process input data into numerical estimates



Model Governance

- Consistent requirements for creation, use documentation, control, monitoring and validation of models
- Applies to all business units using models for financial balances, management decisions impacting financial results, and risk management models used for decision making
- Three levels of risk mgmt. / lines of defence: model/business owners, MRM/SteerCo, internal audit



Model Governance (cont'd)

- Model risk assessment risk rating methodology & classification; drives risk-based controls
- Model inventory accuracy and completeness
- Model validation* appropriateness and implementation of controls, conceptual soundness and continue fit for purpose, includes 3rd party vendor app output
- Model documentation required especially for high-risk models



Model Validation

- Independent verification of performance
- Validation prior to use
- Periodic, scheduled, risk-ranked re-validations
- Three levels of risk management / lines of defence
 - Model/business process owners flexible design of own RM processes based on unique needs
 - MRM SteerCo broad application of policies enterprise-wide
 - Internal audit objective peer review



Model Governance Goals

- Education transparency and credibility
- Partnership opportunity to express business needs; knowledge sharing, planning, long-term solutions
- Environment requirements & specs, planning, prioritization, implementation – all in a controlled process
- Accountability single point of entry thru Model Steward



Model Gov. Roles – Business Unit

Business Unit

- BU Modeler
- BU Model Validator
- BU User
- BU Model Process
 Owner

BU Modeler

- Has subject matter expertise
- Articulates & can sometimes provide model business logic
- Collaborates in design discussions & functional rqmts
- BU Model Validator
 - Executes independent model assessment & UAT
- BU User uses output



Model Gov. Roles – Stewardship

Model Dev. Program

- Model Steward
- Model Actuary
- Model Developer

- Model Steward
 - Design & implement model governance framework
 - Manages model inventory
 - Oversees model dev process & program for all models
- Model Actuary & Developer
 - Comprehend business requirements | creates model design | writes actuarial model specs | coordinates model validation | inventories & documents models



Model Gov. Roles – System Dev.

- System Development Lead
 - Establishes tech development standards & best practices
 - Ensures effective platform utilization
 - Leads technical development
- Solution Architect
 - Understand complex rqmts
 - Design model solutions
- Model Builder
 - Creates & configures models

System Development

- Sys. Dev. Lead
- Solution Architect
- Model Builder/ Developer



Model Dev. Processes

- Initial stage high-level scoping
- Early stage complex requirements
- Mid stage model development
- Late stage model validation & UAT
- End stage model implementation & documentation



Model Dev. – Use Cases

- Non-actuarial
 - Target Asset Allocation
 - Net Investment Income
 - Derivatives
 - Taxes
 - Subsidiary P&L models
- Actuarial
 - In-force liability models
 - Built from a regulatory regime model chassis
 - CFT, IFRS-17



Model Dev. – Use Cases

- Data and data governance
 - Managing data quality, security and usage
 - Data lake (central repository), data management group, access restrictions
 - Data stewardship...same as MRM
- Assumptions & assumptions governance
 - Experience assumptions group
 - Actual-to-Expected
 - Credibility vs. own company experience
 - New emerging experience



Model Dev. – Use Cases

- Model logic & model dev. governance
 - Business requirements | scope
 - Model design (high-level)
 - Mock-up | wireframe
 - Functional specs
- Model coding
- Model validation | UAT | lines of defence
- Model documentation
- Model monitoring



Conclusion

- Thank you!
- Q&A
- nbarrett38@massmutual.com