

ROLES WITHIN A DATA ASSET FOUNDATION

A Data Asset Foundation brings together a defined set of roles, each with specific responsibilities within the governance structure. Some roles are fulfilled by the organisation establishing the foundation; others are independent, regulated, or appointed bodies. Note: several role requirements, including qualification thresholds for Council members and experience standards for Data Stewards, will be set through the Data Governance Framework, which is currently being developed.

Establishing a Data Asset Foundation

Founder

Initiates and establishes the foundation, defines its purpose and operating model, and appoints key roles.

- Establishes the foundation and defines its purpose
- Sets the initial structure and operating model
- Appoints the Council, Registered Agent, and other key roles

Dedicator

Transfers or grants the relevant rights and permissions in data into the foundation via the Data Asset Dedication Instrument.

- Provides data and associated rights through the Data Asset Dedication Instrument
- Evidences rights, restrictions, and permissions relating to the data being dedicated

Registered Agent

Provides the statutory administration and filing interface for the foundation.

- Registers the foundation on behalf of the Founder
- Maintains controlled documents
- Handles formal administration and filing requirements

Operating a Data Asset Foundation

DAF Council

Governs the foundation and acts as the main decision-making body, authorising use of the data asset.

- Makes registration applications to the Data Asset Register
- Ensures compliance with the governance framework
- Appoints the Accredited Assurance Provider and other key roles
- Oversees access controls and authorises use of the data asset

Business Data Steward

Leads the business governance side of the data asset, maintaining policy, permitted use rules, and governance evidence.

- Maintains policy and permitted use rules
- Manages business quality requirements and governance evidence
- Supports utilisation decisions and register inputs

Technical Data Steward

Leads the technical integrity and control environment, overseeing lineage, schema, controls, and monitoring.

- Oversees data lineage, schema, and technical controls
- Maintains technical evidence and monitoring
- Manages technical updates to the asset

Independent Oversight & Regulation

Data Enforcer

Provides independent compliance oversight for the foundation. Every DAF must appoint one.

- Monitors compliance with the governance framework
- Carries out functions set in the framework and regulations
- Provides independent challenge and oversight

Accredited Assurance Provider

Provides the independent assurance needed for full registration and renewal of data assets.

- Assesses data assets against the Data Governance Framework
- Issues and renews accreditation required for registration

Data Asset Registrar

Runs the official Data Asset Register and makes registration decisions.

- Establishes and maintains the Data Asset Register
- Accepts and processes registration applications
- Records provisional and full registration

Department for Enterprise

Sets the regulatory framework for the DAF regime and appoints the Registrar.

- Establishes the Data Governance Framework
- Sets accreditation criteria for the regime
- Makes the regulations that support the Act