

## 60 SECONDS WITH.... Andy White



### Why did you become an actuary?

Like most I suspect, I enjoyed maths at school and wanted a career that used it. My father worked for a Life Insurance company and advised me that a job

as an Actuary might be interesting. He turned out to be right!

### Where have you worked and what have been some of the most interesting things you've worked on as an actuary?

I've worked in consulting and corporate in the UK and Australia. The most interesting (and scary) day of my recent career was probably facilitating a workshop for the Board on risk and capital and answering questions that came from a different point of view than I was used to thinking about. Over my whole career though the most interesting piece of work I've been involved with was in my early days - pricing the personal accident insurance for the English Premier League players and using my obsession with football in my work life.

### When did you start applying your skills to risk management?

On my first day working in an Actuarial department! More so when I moved into capital modelling, and particularly when using that modelling to improve what we're doing as a company, for example:

- ▶ Evaluating controls, such as considering alternative reinsurance structures and portfolio strategies to ensure that we optimise the risk vs. return in line with our risk appetite.
- ▶ Allocating capital so that informed risk vs. reward decisions can be made on portfolio strategy and pricing.

- ▶ Input to capital management and integrating capital held, risk capacity, risk appetite and the risk profile.

### How did this evolve to your current enterprise wide risk management role?

My role now covers the full scope of ERM, including both the quantitative and qualitative sides and all of the steps in the ERM process, which allows us to embed the capital modelling work we do within our risk assessments and to use these to optimise our risk management responses.

### What actuarial capabilities do you use in risk management?

The ability to translate qualitative judgement into figures.

### What skills should actuaries enhance to be more effective in enterprise risk management?

The ability to listen, and question everything you hear.

### What do you advise aspiring actuaries to do to attain wider risk management roles?

Read. Lots. Get involved in projects outside of your day job. Question everything you're asked to do.