

# Role Profile

Role Title	Level	Team	Function
Data Architect		IFGL Technology	Architecture & Engineering

Purpose of the Role
<p>The Data Architect plays a pivotal role in performing data design activities across various group functions, channels, products, and technologies. The primary focus is collection, ingestion, and storage of data from upstream sources (e.g. applications, data stores, data streams) into enterprise data platforms that not only fulfil the strategic data needs of the organisation but also streamline the effective provisioning of data from diverse source systems. The Data Architect provides architectural leadership, governance, and management of key data design knowledge and artifacts, ensuring the centralisation of data into cohesive and enterprise-wide repositories that aligns with both current and future organizational requirements.</p> <p>Data Architects perform design activity for one or more projects throughout their lifecycle, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carrying out design activities in adherence to the Data Architecture Approach and Design Governance Framework, leveraging personal specialisation and subject matter expertise. This involves a strong emphasis on employing effective data gathering methodologies from diverse source systems.</li> <li>• Define and maintain the data technology architecture, including metadata, integration and business intelligence or data warehouse architectures. This involves not only designing but also optimizing data technology solutions and patterns to ensure efficient data gathering and centralization processes.</li> <li>• Bringing an end-to-end “Data Solution Architecture” focus, ensuring the functional fit of data solutions to meet upstream business needs and operating models, along with technical suitability and integration of systems. This is to be delivered in line with Data Strategy and Technology Principles.</li> <li>• Identification and maintenance of key data source assets, including extraction, ingestion, steaming, and centralised storage and options/assessment papers for the same.</li> <li>• Safeguarding and manage sensitive data across its lifecycle, wherever it lives.</li> <li>• Liaising with relevant stakeholders and suppliers to identify and resolve design questions, issues, and gaps.</li> <li>• Identifying and resolving design issues, risks, and gaps for project(s).</li> </ul>

Key Contribution Areas	Measures
To be a recognised data architect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Owns Target State Architecture services for Data Solutions</li> <li>• Maintains Solution Building Blocks for Data Design Patterns</li> <li>• Supports TSA Activity for Data Infrastructure Concerns</li> <li>• Developing and maintaining data architecture principles and ensuring standards are followed that guide development to well architected, scalable, robust, and cost-effective Data Solutions</li> <li>• Developing policies, standards and guidelines for data architecture solutions</li> <li>• Develop and evolve the enterprise-wide data strategy to support delivery of corporate objectives</li> <li>• Be a key stakeholder and advisor in all new strategic data initiatives and ensure alignment to the enterprise-wide data strategy</li> <li>• Ensure that the Data Architecture strategy and roadmap is aligned to the business and technology strategies.</li> <li>• Be an advocate of data security principles and ensure appropriate security practices are embedded in any data strategy</li> <li>• Be an active contributor to how the company evolves Data Governance practices and influence the adoption of data standards</li> <li>• Develop key performance measures for data integration and quality</li> <li>• Identification and assessment of relevant new and emerging technologies and opportunities that support achievement of stated business goals</li> </ul>

To support large or complex programmes/projects as the architecture and technology subject matter expert

- Proven experience in architecting and implementing Business Intelligence and Data warehouse platforms, Master data Management, data integration and OLTP database solutions.
- Possess in-depth knowledge of and able to consult on various technologies with strong knowledge of industry best practices around data architecture in both cloud based and on premise solutions.
- Strong analytical and numerical skills are essential, enabling easy interpretation and analysis of large volumes of data.
- A comprehensive understanding of the principles of and best practices behind data engineering, and the supporting technologies such as RDBMS, NoSQL, Cache & In-memory stores.
- Experience of architecting data solution across hybrid (cloud, on premise) data platforms.
- A comprehensive understanding of data warehousing and data transformation (extract, transform and load) processes, OLAP processing and tabular models.
- Knowledge of SSRS and Power BI.
- Knowledge of Data Science tools (e.g., Python, R) and an understanding of machine learning.
- Experience of implementing data solutions
- Excellent problem solving and data modelling skills (logical, physical, semantic and integration models) including; normalisation, OLAP / OLTP principles and entity relationship analysis
- Acting as the point of escalation if solutions do not meet business expectations, or deviate from IT principles or the IT Strategy
- Ensuring that IFGL architecture standards, policies and design and design governance approaches/processes are understood and adhered to
- Assuring that build activity is completed in line with agreed architecture
- Collaborate with the operations team to ensure seamless integration and maintenance

<p>To be an active contributor to the evolution of the Architecture capability and collateral in support of delivering IFGL's Business and IT Strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Helping to translate IT and Business strategy into tangible change activity through the creation of domain roadmaps (e.g. Insurance, Pensions, Corporate)</li> <li>• Working with external suppliers to ensure that the appropriate technology direction is set with respect to systems, data and technical infrastructure</li> <li>• Influencing and communicating at all levels across IFGL</li> <li>• Proactively engaging with colleagues in other areas of the business to keep up to date with company / divisional priorities, and assist others in understanding the 'art of the possible' from a technology perspective</li> <li>• To maintain an up-to-date understanding of the Group's technology landscape, and a general understanding of relevant industry technologies</li> </ul>
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<b>Functional or Technical Knowledge and Skills Required</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proficiency in data modelling, covering conceptual, logical, and physical levels.</li> <li>• Strong understanding of data integration strategies and methodologies.</li> <li>• Experience of Life Insurance (ideally international)</li> <li>• Experience in the Microsoft BI Stack on-premises and/or Azure, i.e. Azure Databricks, Azure Synapse Analytics, Azure Stream Analytics, Azure Machine Learning, Azure Data Lake, Azure Cognitive Services, Azure Data Factory etc</li> <li>• Experience of data modelling and documentation tools e.g. Visual Paradigm, DataEdo</li> <li>• Familiarity with security best practices in data management.</li> <li>• In-depth knowledge of data governance principles and frameworks.</li> <li>• Expertise in evaluating and adopting emerging data management technologies.</li> <li>• Experience with major change or transformational programs in data architecture.</li> <li>• Degree qualified or equivalent professional experience in a related field.</li> <li>• Recognised Architecture/IT qualifications (e.g., TOGAF) are desirable.</li> <li>• Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills for designing flexible, reliable, and cost-effective data solutions.</li> <li>• Experience of working in a complex sourcing environment with multiple, diverse partnerships</li> <li>• Well organised and able to prioritise workload in line with tight deadlines and work effectively under pressure</li> <li>• Broad experience of all architecture domains (including business, data, applications, integration, infrastructure and security) and reference models, standards and patterns</li> <li>• Business and IT architecture design at the conceptual (high-level), logical and physical (detailed) levels</li> </ul>

- Ability to take a strategic view and see the 'big-picture', aligned to the ability to adopt an analytical approach to complex problem solving and consideration of operational implications
- Proven ability to design and deliver flexible, reliable, operable, cost effective solutions
- Demonstrable experience in architecture standards, services, solution design and implementation, architecture principles and architecture views

#### **Personal Capabilities Required, e.g. skills, attitude, strengths**

- Demonstrate an ability to think and reason logically
- Strong relationship management skills
- Excellent spoken and written communication skills, with the ability to translate complex technical topics into a language that meet the audience's knowledge level

#### **People, Budget and Project Scope**

- Reports directly to the Head of Architecture and Engineering.
- Works closely with senior business stakeholders and is an advocate of the Technology function within those groups.
- Help transform Technology function from service provider to trusted advisor.
- Works closely with the other Technology departments (Change, Delivery, Service, Operations and Security).
- Works closely with Citizen IT function
- Takes into account the corporate risk framework in relation to risk appetite
- Has no direct responsibility for departmental budgets, but will contribute expertise to support the effective definition of these budgets