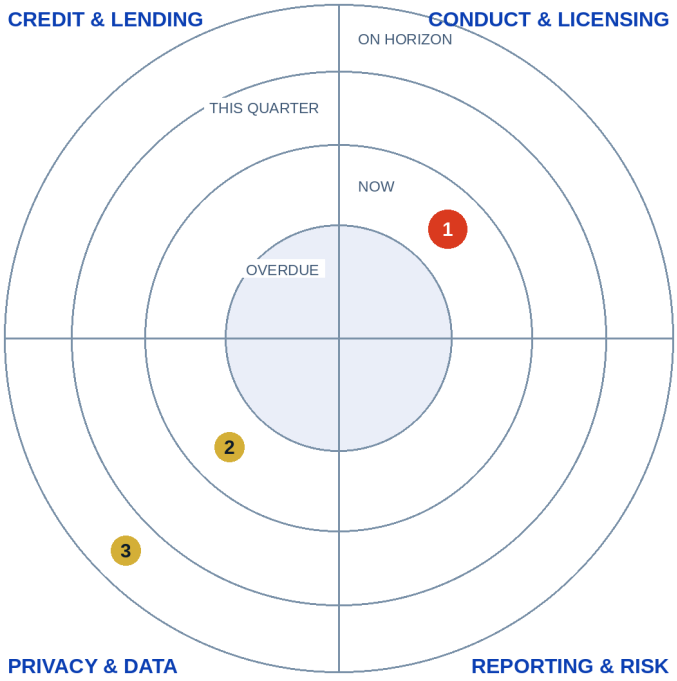
DARK ARTS
EVENT HORIZON

REGULATORY RADAR
AUSTRALIAN INSURERS
SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2026

What's moving on the horizon for these firms and what it quietly breaks.

LEAD SIGNALS

No insurance-specific rule moved this window, but the cross-industry signals are loud: APRA's licence conditions on a bank turned on its view of obligations and controls, and regulators want AI-era cyber plans tested, not described.



ANGLE = CATEGORY · DISTANCE FROM CENTRE = WHEN IT BITES · SIZE & COLOUR = SEVERITY

1 CONDUCT & LICENSING · NOW HIGH

Licence conditions over a risk framework

WHO: insurers under APRA's risk management standards, which face the same obligations-and-controls test

WHAT: obligations registers and controls inventories that cannot show every obligation and who controls it

WHEN: Conditions imposed 18 August: a rectification program, an independent assurer and board attestation. The $50m capital add-on stays.

SOURCE: apra.gov.au

2 PRIVACY & DATA · NOW MEDIUM

Regulators want AI cyber plans tested

WHO: insurers under APRA's operational risk and security standards

WHAT: incident playbooks, escalation paths and third-party maps never tested at the speed of AI-enabled attacks

WHEN: Board checklist published. APRA and ASIC point to existing standards, so the test is evidence, not new rules.

SOURCE: apra.gov.au

3 PRIVACY & DATA · ON HORIZON MEDIUM

Company register access is being tiered

WHO: commercial insurers verifying business policyholders and their officeholders

WHAT: KYC, credit and collections workflows that pull director details from open register searches

WHEN: Proposed, not final. Consultation closed 12 October; new access settings planned from 1 July 2027, fully in place by 1 August 2028.

SOURCE: asic.gov.au

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