

The UK's Leading Forum Where Data, Al, and Strategy Converge to Shape The Future of Business

Dive headfirst into the data realm like never before at <u>CDAO UK 2026</u> on 25-26th February in London at The Minster Building.

Data is now centre-stage — shaping competitive advantage, powering transformation, and influencing the boardroom. CDAO UK 2026 is where the UK's most progressive data leaders meet to challenge outdated thinking, share practical strategies, and define what's *next*.

# What to Expect:

## A Refined, Business-Led Agenda

Two focused tracks over 2 days:

- Data Integrity & Trust at Scale Governance, ethics, privacy, and regulation that enable innovation, not block it.
- Smarter Data Strategy for Business Impact Operating models, leadership, value delivery, and scaling what works.

#### GenAl Unplugged: Ask-Me-Anything

No slides. No script. Legal, technical, and ethical experts tackle *your* toughest questions on risk, IP, and responsible GenAl use.

#### Workshop: Future-Ready Governance

Build governance that's agile, adaptive, and autonomous — aligned to real-world tech stacks and team realities.

#### Live Poll Debate: Should Data Act Without Human Review?

Join the audience-driven debate on automation vs human oversight. You vote. Experts challenge.

## Fireside Chat: The CDAO as Storyteller

Explore how top CDAOs frame data as influence — turning insight into action that lands with CFOs, COOs, and Boards.

#### Leadership Roundtable: Next-Gen Data Leaders

What defines a modern CDAO? Candid conversations on how to lead, scale, and build a resilient, future-ready data team.

## Interactive Formats That Deliver:

#### Roundtables

Intimate, honest conversations across industries. Real insights. No filter.

#### Think Tanks

Hands-on problem-solving sessions where leaders unpack real challenges and co-create solutions.

#### Confirmed Speakers:

- Akhil Lalwani, Chief Data Officer Allianz UK
- Emma York, Chief Data Officer London Stock Exchange Group
- Deepika Adusumilli, Chief Data and AI Officer BT Group
- Masood Alam, Chief Data Architect The Scottish Government
- Vladimir Bendikow, Chief Data Officer Firstbank UK Limited
- James Davies, Chief Data Analyst Officer- By Rotation
- Ed Brafman, Director of Consumer Intelligence- Manchester United
- Amit Nandi, Vice President Solutions & Data Architect Barclays Investment Bank
- Francesco Di Costanzo, Chief Executive Officer- JAJA Finance
- Anna Gill, Global Digital Core Deployment Senior Director Mars
- Sanja Hukovic, Group Director, Head of Model and Al Risk London Stock Exchange Group
- Francisco Mainez, Senior Director, Global Head of Financial Crime Strategy Nium
- Kaushik Chaubal. Senior Director BlackRock
- Gael Decoudu, Director Data Science Chetwood Financial Services
- JP Bhamu, Director of Data & AI NHS Business Services Authority
- Murtz Daud, Director of Data & AI British Gas
- Tom Trolez, Director of Global Data & Analytics Solution Deliver **Novartis**
- Uzo Okelua, Associate Director, Systems & Data Aviva Investors
- Andy Isaacs, Director of Data & Analytics UK TV
- Felix Sanchez Garcia, Director of Data & AI Unmind
- Pedro Liaño, Executive Director Data Intelligence Bed Bath & Beyond
- Beatrice Russell, MDM Global Implementation Leader Technology AON
- Elena Streltsova, Head of Data Analytics Asahi Europe & International
- Patrick Osborne, Head of Customer Insights & Analysis QVC
- Sharada Khanna, Global Lead for Originations and Credit Bureau Data Strategy, Retail Banking –
   HSBC
- Martin Nelson, Data Platforms Adoption Lead and Product Owner- NFU MUTUAL
- Rickie Glasgow, Global Head of Data Governance -Northern Trust
- Calum Conejo-Watt, Head of Data Governance & Quality Lombard Odier Investment
- Aditya Sharma, Head of Engineering Data Platform & Analytics Tide

- Premal Desai, Head of Data & AI The Gym Group
- Alan Strange, *Head of Underwriting & Analytics –* **Sophro**
- Atul Agarwal, *Data Lead* Barclays Investment Bank
- Igor Stojkovic, *Data Science Lead* **ING**

|                  | 25 <sup>th</sup> February, Wednesday   |
|------------------|--|
|                  | DAY 1  |
|                  | CDAO UK 2026   |
| 08:00<br>08:45   | Registration & Coffee in the Exhibition Area   |
| 8:45 -<br>8:55   | Chair's Opening Remark   |
| 8:55-<br>9:00    | Speed Networking – Making new connections at CDAO UK!  |
| 3.00             | During this 5-minute networking session, the aim of the game is to go and meet two people you don't already know.  |
| 09:00 -<br>09:30 | Panel: The Future Data Team: Adaptive, Interdisciplinary & Impact-Driven   |
|                  | <ul> <li>What skills and roles define the modern data team in 2026?</li> <li>Moving from data scientists and analysts to product managers, UX designers, and prompt engineers.</li> <li>How to build fluid teams that evolve with tech and business strategy.</li> <li>Leveraging low-code, GenAI, and automation without shrinking the talent vision.</li> <li>Ensuring diversity of thought and domain expertise drives innovation.</li> </ul> |
|                  | Speakers: Anna Gill, Global Digital Core Deployment Senior Director – Mars Sharada Khanna, Global Lead for Originations and Credit Bureau Data Strategy, Retail Banking - HSBC Beatrice Russell, MDM Global Implementation Leader - Technology – AON Martin Nelson, Data Platforms Adoption Lead and Product Owner- NFU MUTUAL James Davies, Chief Analyst Officer- By Rotation  |
| 09:30 -<br>10:00 | Co-Presentation: Invisible Governance: Embedding Guardrails Without Slowing Innovation   |

| Great governance doesn't get in the way — it guides without being seen. This session explores how to embed compliance and ethics directly into systems, without slowing teams down.  • Building policy-as-code directly into platforms, data pipelines and AI models, so   |  |  |
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| - ' ' '  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>Designing governance frameworks the<br/>static rulebooks</li> </ul>   | at respond in real-time to business events, not  |  |
| · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  | built-in tools, defaults and nudges to support iction  |  |
| Moving from reactive compliance to<br>can scale together   | proactive design — where trust and flexibility   |  |
|  |  |  |
| <ul> <li>How can effective data management accelerate and drive digital transformation?</li> <li>How does effective data management serve as a catalyst for digital transformation within organizations?</li> <li>Real-world examples where data management has significantly accelerated digital transformation</li> </ul>          |  |  |
| <ul> <li>How important is cross-functional collaboration in implementing successful data management strategies for digital transformation?</li> <li>What roles do technologies like AI, machine learning, and analytics play in transforming raw data into actionable insights that drive innovation and decision-making?</li> </ul> |  |  |
| Mid-Morning Coffee & Networking in the Exhibition Area   |  |  |
| TRACK A:   | TRACK B:   |  |
|  | explores how to embed compliance and ethic down.  Building policy-as-code directly into present the static rule books Designing governance frameworks the static rule books Giving developers and data scientists responsible choices without added free Moving from reactive compliance to can scale together  Speakers: Emma York, Chief Data Officer – London Stoc Sanja Hukovic, Group Director, Head of Mode How can effective data management accelerate How does effective data management within organizations? Real-world examples where data management strategies for digital trate. What roles do technologies like AI, metransforming raw data into actionable making?  Mid-Morning Coffee & Networking in the Exhaustical Company Coffee & N |  |

| 11:00-<br>11:30  | Panel Discussion: Data Leaders Under Pressure: Leading Through Regulation, Automation & Uncertainty  • Adapting strategy when regulations evolve faster than your roadmap • Building credibility in the boardroom through risk-aware storytelling • Staying agile without weakening governance or trust • Leading teams through automation shifts without losing clarity or control  Speakers: Francisco Mainez, Senior Director, Global Head of Financial Crime Strategy - Nium Subramanian Ramakrishnan, Director - Head of Data and Analytics — SquareTrade Pedro Liaño, Executive Director Data Intelligence- Bed Bath & Beyond Martin Nelson, Data Platforms Adoption Lead and Product Owner- NFU Mutual | Presentation: Private by Design — Using Data Without Losing Trust  Privacy isn't just a compliance box, it's a foundation for credibility. Here's how to use sensitive data responsibly, without eroding trust.  • How to apply concepts like federated learning and differential privacy • Ways to stay compliant as global data laws evolve • How to balance innovation with user expectations on privacy • Communicating trust clearly, and what your data policy really tells users  Tom Trolez, Director of Global Data & Analytics Solution Deliver — Novartis |
|------------------|---|--|
| 11:30 –<br>12:00 | Group Session and speaker TBC   | Session and speaker TBC  |
| 12:00 -<br>12:30 | Discussion group A: Invisible Governance – Control Without Friction  • How to implement policy-as-code inside platforms and workflows • Making compliance adaptive to real-world business needs • Empowering data teams to move   | Discussion group B: Leading Through Data Fatigue – Keeping Teams Inspired in the Age of Overload  As data volumes grow and AI reshapes workflows, teams risk burnout, disengagement, and "data fatigue." This session explores how leaders can maintain  |

|                 | Speakers: Uzo Okelua, Associate Director, Systems & Data - Aviva Investors Elena Streltsova, Head of Data Analytics — Asahi Europe & International  | <ul> <li>Building resilience and clarity when everything seems urgent.</li> <li>Storytelling and purpose as tools to keep teams aligned.</li> <li>Creating psychological safety in highly technical environments.</li> <li>Leadership practices for sustaining energy through disruption.</li> <li>Speakers:         <ul> <li>Gael Decoudu, Director Data Science -</li> <li>Chetwood Financial Services</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |
|-----------------|---|---|
| 12:30-<br>13:30 | Lunch & Networking in the Exhibition Area   |   |
|                 | TRACK A   | TRACK B   |
| 13:30-<br>14:00 | Presentation: Data as a Product: Turning<br>Strategy into Delivery  | Presentation: Operationalizing Agentic AI —<br>Turning Autonomy into Scalable Business<br>Impact  |
|                 | Discover how leading organisations are transforming their data strategy by treating data as a true product. This session explores what "data as a product" really means, how to align ownership and delivery, and how to  | Most enterprises are still figuring out what "agentic Al" means in practice — how to move from controlled pilots to production systems that can act, adapt, and deliver measurable value.   |
|                 | avoid the common pitfalls in execution.  Learn how to turn vision into tangible business outcomes.   Treating data as a product change  | In this session, <b>Amit Nandi</b> , Vice President Solutions & Data Architect at <b>Barclays</b> Investment Bank, will break down the <i>real-world challenges</i> and <i>technical shifts</i> required to make that leap:   |
|                 | <ul> <li>everything — how you plan, who owns what, and what gets delivered.</li> <li>What "data product" really means beyond the buzz</li> <li>Who owns what, aligning roles, delivery, and accountability</li> <li>How to embed product thinking into data roadmaps</li> </ul> | <ul> <li>From MLOps to AgentOps: what changes when models start taking actions, not just making predictions.</li> <li>Governance in motion: aligning autonomous systems with evolving business objectives, risk, and compliance.</li> <li>Future-proofing your architecture: balancing innovation with control to stay ahead of fast-moving AI trends.</li> </ul>   |

|                  | <ul> <li>Common pitfalls in execution, and<br/>how to avoid them</li> <li>Vladimir Bendikow, Chief Data Officer –<br/>FirstBank UK Limited</li> </ul>  | Amit Nandi- <i>Vice President Solutions &amp; Data Architect</i> - <b>Barclays Investment Bank</b>  |
|------------------|--|---|
| 14:00-<br>14:30  | Discussion group A: Smart Boundaries –<br>Ethics, Law & Data in the Real World   | Discussion group B: Working Together, Apart:<br>Building Impact Without Central Control   |
|                  | <ul> <li>Where governance and ethics collide with real-world business demands</li> <li>How to align responsible data use with stakeholder pressure for speed</li> <li>Cross-border challenges: What happens when global rules conflict?</li> <li>What ethical operations look like under pressure</li> </ul> Speakers: Francisco Mainez, Senior Director, Global Head of Financial Crime Strategy – Nium Gael Decoudu, Director Data Science - Chetwood Financial Services | <ul> <li>How to make federated or hybrid data teams work in real life</li> <li>Aligning pods or domains to shared goals and metrics</li> <li>Managing data consistency without recentralizing everything</li> <li>Avoiding fragmentation across tools, talent, and vision</li> </ul> Speakers: Elena Streltsova, Head of Data Analytics — Asahi Europe & International Atul Agarwal, Data Lead - Barclays Investment Bank |
| 14:30-<br>15:00  | Keynote Speaker TBC  |   |
| 15:00 -<br>15:30 | Afternoon Break & Networking in the Exhibition Area  |   |
| 15:30-<br>16:00  | <ul> <li>Panel: From Insight to Action – Why Data Still</li> <li>How to get business teams to act on</li> <li>Embedding data into real workflows</li> <li>The tools and habits that close the "la"</li> <li>Why relationships, not reports, rive or</li> </ul>   | insight, not just view it<br>ast mile" gap  |
|                  | Speakers:  |   |

|                  | Subramanian Ramakrishnan, <i>Director - Head of Data and Analytics -</i> <b>SquareTrade</b> Vladimir Bendikow, <i>Chief Data Officer —</i> <b>FirstBank UK Unlimited</b> James Davies, <i>Chief Analyst Officer-</i> <b>By Rotation</b> Patrick Osborne, <i>Head of Customer Insights &amp; Analysis -</i> <b>QVC</b>  |  |  |
|------------------|--|--|--|
| 16:00 -<br>16:30 | Presentation: From Insight to Impact: Making Data Actually Change Things   |  |  |
| 10.50            | Good insights aren't enough — the real challenge is getting them used. This session focuses on making data operational, not just visible.  |  |  |
|                  | <ul> <li>Why insights often stall after delivery, and how to design for adoption from the start</li> <li>Embedding data into daily decision-making — integrating it directly into tools, processes and frontline workflows</li> <li>Building stronger collaboration between analysts, business leads and product teams to close the "last mile" gap</li> <li>Choosing the right tools, rhythms and architecture to turn insight into timely, trusted, and actionable outcomes</li> </ul> |  |  |
|                  | Beatrice Russell, MDM Global Implementation Leader - Technology — AON  |  |  |
| 16:30 –<br>17:00 | Roundtable: Sustainable Data – Balancing Growth, Efficiency & Responsibility   |  |  |
|                  | As enterprises scale data and AI, the unseen costs—energy consumption, carbon footprint, and resource inefficiency—are growing. This session explores how data leaders can embed sustainability into data strategy without sacrificing innovation or performance.  |  |  |
|                  | <ul> <li>Measuring and reporting the carbon footprint of data systems (cloud, storage, Al<br/>training).</li> </ul>  |  |  |
|                  | <ul> <li>Strategies for "Green Al" – optimizing models and infrastructure for efficiency.</li> <li>Balancing cost savings, sustainability targets, and business growth.</li> <li>Embedding ESG goals into data governance and procurement decisions.</li> <li>The CDAO's role in aligning data strategy with corporate sustainability commitments</li> </ul>   |  |  |
|                  | Speakers: Elena Streltsova, Head of Data Analytics — Asahi Europe & International Atul Agarwal, Data Lead - Barclays Investment Bank   |  |  |
| 17:00-<br>17:15  | Chairs Closing Remarks   |  |  |

| 17:15 -<br>18:15 | Networking drinks and Prize Draw |
|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 18:15            | END OF DAY 1                     |

# 26th February, Thursday DAY 2 CDAO UK 2026

|                | CDAO UK 2026  |
|----------------|---|
| 08:00          | Registration & Coffee in the Exhibition Area  |
| -<br>08:45     |   |
| 8:45 -<br>8:55 | Chair's Opening Remarks   |
| 8:55-<br>9:00  | Speed Networking – Making new connections at CDAO UK!   |
| 9.00           | During this 5-minute networking session, the aim of the game is to go and meet two people you don't already know.   |
| 09:00<br>09:30 | Panel: The CDAO as Storyteller – Turning Data into Decisions  |
|                | Forget dashboards that no one reads. Today's CDAO must translate complexity into clarity — framing insights in ways that resonate with CFOs, COOs, and the Board. Learn how to bridge the gap between data science and business strategy and become the storyteller who drives action at the top. |
|                | <ul> <li>Craft narratives that align data insights with executive priorities</li> <li>Move from reporting metrics to influencing business decisions</li> <li>Translate technical outputs into compelling business value stories</li> </ul>  |
|                | Speakers: Akhil Lalwani, Chief Data Officer – Allianz UK Deepika Adusumilli, Chief Data and AI Officer - BT Group Tom Trolez, Director of Global Data & Analytics Solution Deliver - Novartis Murtz Daud, Director of Data & AI – British Gas   |

| 09:30-<br>10:00  | <ul> <li>shape organisational strategy and o</li> <li>Building High-Performance Teams:         agents who can deliver at scale.</li> <li>Data Foundations for Al: How to dearchitecture to power responsible A</li> <li>Governance and Agility: Balancing c</li> </ul> | n: How the Chief Data Architect role is evolving to utcomes.  Turning data engineers and architects into change sign resilient, secure, and adaptable data al.  ontrol and innovation in a public-sector context. ng data literacy and cross-functional collaboration |
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| 10:00<br>-10:30  | Session and Speaker TBC  |   |
| 10:30 -<br>11:00 | Mid-Morning Break & Networking in the Exhibition Area  |   |
|                  | TRACK A  | TRACK B   |
| 11:00-<br>11:30  | Session and Speaker TBC  | Session and Speaker TBC   |
| 11:30-<br>12:00  | Presentation: Trust by Design – Building<br>Confidence in Your Data  | Presentation: Data Capital: Turning Enterprise Data into a Measurable Asset Class   |
|                  | Data trust isn't a given, it's engineered. This session explores how leading organisations are reshaping their data  | If data is the new oil, where's the balance-sheet line for it? This session looks at how to turn enterprise data into something financial leaders   |
|                  | foundations to deliver transparency, accountability, and measurable business confidence at scale.  | can track, value, and manage like any other strategic asset.  |

|                 | compliance  • Measuring trust: linking data quality, transparency, and confident decision-making  Akhil Lalwani, Chief Data Officer – Allianz UK   | <ul> <li>Working with finance leaders to define data ROI in terms they trust — not just dashboards, but economic impact</li> <li>Shifting the CDAO role from enabler to asset manager, with accountability over data's tangible contribution to the business</li> <li>JP Bhamu, Director of Data &amp; AI - NHS Business</li> <li>Services Authority</li> </ul> |
|-----------------|--|---|
| 12:00-12:30     | Discussion Group: Trust Layer: Architecting for Explainability, Provenance & Consent  • How to build traceability into data and AI pipelines • Practical ways to manage realtime consent and provenance • What a functional "trust layer" looks like across tech, process, and teams • How to ensure transparency and accountability end-to-end  Speakers: Masood Alam, Chief Data Architect – The Scottish Government Andy Isaacs, Director of Data & Analytics - UK TV | Workshop: Future-Ready Data Governance: Adaptive, Agile & Autonomous  What You'll Learn:  |
| 12:30-<br>13:30 | Lunch & Networking in the Exhibition Area  | <u> </u>  |

| 13:30-<br>14:00 | Panel: LLMs in the Enterprise: Governance, Scaling & Responsible Use  |
|-----------------|---|
|                 | <ul> <li>Identifying hidden governance and compliance gaps when teams adopt GenAl tools outside approved channels — and what data leaders often miss</li> <li>Balancing the need for model customisation with the risks of using unverified datasets, breaching regulatory requirements, or exposing sensitive business information</li> <li>Creating clear data policies that define acceptable LLM use while enabling innovation and measurable business impact</li> <li>Educating teams on how LLMs really work — limitations, biases, data quality issues, and their impact on business decision-making</li> </ul> Speakers: Kaushik Chaubal, Senior Director - BlackRock Calum Conejo-Watt, Head of Data Governance & Quality — Lombard Odier Investment Tom Trolez, Director of Global Data & Analytics Solution Deliver - Novartis Felix Sanchez Garcia, Director of Data & AI - Unmind Igor Stojkovic , Data Science Lead—ING |
| 14:00-<br>14:30 | Expert Ask-Me-Anything: Navigating GenAl Risk, IP Challenges & Human Oversight  |
|                 | An informal, interactive session where you can ask your burning questions directly to a GenAl risk and data governance expert.  Expect practical, on-the-spot answers about managing Al risk, navigating murky IP ownership, and ensuring human oversight in automated systems. Bring your questions: big or small.   |
|                 | Speakers: Premal Desai , Head of Data & AI- The Gym Group   |
| 14:30-<br>15:00 | Live Poll Debate: Should Your Data Be Allowed to Trigger Action Without Human Review?   |
|                 | A sharp, audience-driven debate on where data ends — and decision-making begins.  |
|                 | <ul> <li>Live audience poll to kick things off and see where the room stands — then again at the end to track any mindset shifts.</li> <li>Debate on a big question: Should AI be trusted to act on its own during a cyber threat in FS?</li> <li>Audience gets involved — ask questions, share views, and see how your take compares to the room.</li> </ul>   |
|                 | Speakers: Calum Conejo-Watt, Head of Data Governance & Quality – Lombard Odier Investment   |
| 15:00-<br>15:30 | Afternoon Break & Networking in the Exhibition Area   |

| 15:30-<br>16:00 | Presentation: Rethinking Al: What's Worth Automating, and What's Not   |  |
|-----------------|--|--|
|                 | When everything can be automated, the real skill is knowing when not to. This session challenges leaders to make smarter, sharper calls on automation.   |  |
|                 | <ul> <li>How to identify the business areas where automation delivers real, measurable value</li> <li>Recognising the processes that should stay human-led — and spotting early warning signs</li> <li>Balancing speed and oversight in decisions that affect customers, risk, and reputation</li> <li>Moving from "Al-first" hype to selective, high-impact deployment across the organisation</li> </ul> |  |
|                 | Francesco Di Costanzo, Chief Executive Officer- JAJA Finance   |  |
| 16:00-<br>16:30 | Roundtable: Decentralised Data Teams, Centralised Impact: What's the New Operating Model?  |  |
|                 | <ul> <li>Navigating federated vs centralised governance models and knowing when each works best</li> <li>Aligning cross-functional pods to shared metrics, business outcomes, and data</li> </ul>  |  |
|                 | <ul> <li>accountability</li> <li>Avoiding fragmentation in tools, platforms, and decision-making culture across teams</li> <li>Building lightweight coordination mechanisms that preserve speed without losing cohesion</li> </ul>   |  |
|                 | Structuring roles and ownership so that autonomy doesn't become chaos  |  |
|                 | Speakers: Andy Isaacs, Director of Data & Analytics - UK TV Subramanian Ramakrishnan, Director - Head of Data and Analytics - SquareTrade Rickie Glasgow, Global Head of Data Governance -Northern Trust   |  |
| 16:30<br>-16:40 | Chairs Closing Remarks   |  |
| 16:40           | END OF THE CONFERENCE  |  |