Deliberations started with the following questions, taken from the Charter and Phase 1 Mind Map
2. Who should have access to gTLD registration data and why?
2.1: Should gTLD registration data be accessible for any purpose or only for specific purposes?

To seek common ground, we decided to focus first on "thin data" per Thick WHOIS Policy, asking:
What IS the purpose of "thin data" for gTLD domain names?

Thin data, as defined by Thick WHOIS report
"A thin registry only stores and manages the information associated with the domain name. This set includes data sufficient to identify the sponsoring registrar, status of the registration, creation and expiration dates for each registration, name server data, the last time the record was updated in its Whois data store, and the URL for the registrar's Whois service."

Example of Thin WHOIS record

    Domain Name: CNN.COM
    Registrar: CSC CORPORATE DOMAINS, INC.
    WHOIS Server: whois.corporatedomains.com
    Referral URL: http://www.cscglobal.com
    Name Server: NS1.TIMEWARNER.NET
    Name Server: NS3.TIMEWARNER.NET
    Name Server: NS5.TIMEWARNER.NET
    Status: clientTransferProhibited
    Updated Date: 04-feb-2010
    Creation Date: 22-sep-1993
    Expiration Date: 21-sep-20184

If the WG reaches rough agreement that **specific purposes may play some role in RDS/WHOIS policies pertaining to thin data**, deliberation could continue by trying to address the following question:

2.2 For what specific purposes should gTLD registration [thin] data be collected,
maintained, and made accessible?

To seek common ground, we suggest narrowing our focus for now to two areas: thin data elements and collection only. For example:

What is the purpose of collecting the domain name's Sponsoring Registrar?
What is the purpose of collecting the domain name registration's Status(es)?
What is the purpose of collecting the domain name registration's Creation Date?
What is the purpose of collecting the domain name registration's Expiration Date?
What is the purpose of collecting the domain name's Name Server(s)?
What is the purpose of collecting the domain name's "Thin Data" Last Updated Date?
What is the purpose of collecting the domain name's Sponsoring Registrar's RDS/WHOIS URL?

Here, "collection" refers to populating the RDS/WHOIS "Thin Data" record with values.

For reference, the EWG Report provides input on the purpose(s) supported by the individual data elements. Excerpts covering the "thin data" elements enumerated by the Thick WHOIS Report:

ANNEX D: PURPOSES AND DATA NEEDS

The EWG analyzed use cases to identify users who want access to gTLD registration data, their purposes for doing so, and the stakeholders and data involved. The following table summarizes the RDS data elements recommended in Section IV and mapped to permissible purposes defined in Section III. Refer to Section IV for collection and disclosure recommendations for each data element.

Data Element	Purposes
Domain Name	All
DNS Servers	Domain Name Control Technical Issue Resolution Domain Name Certification Business Domain Name Purchase/Sale Academic/Public Interest DNS Research Regulatory/Contractual Enforcement Criminal Investigation/DNS Abuse Mitigation
Registration Status Client Status (Registrar) Server Status (Registry)	Domain Name Control Business Domain Name Purchase/Sale Academic/Public Interest DNS Research Regulatory/Contractual Enforcement Criminal Investigation/DNS Abuse Mitigation
Registrar Registrar URL	Domain Name Control Academic/Public Interest DNS Research
Creation Date Updated Date Registrar Expiration Date	Domain Name Control Business Domain Name Purchase/Sale Academic/Public Interest DNS Research Regulatory/Contractual Enforcement Criminal Investigation/DNS Abuse Mitigation

Note: The EWG Report identified several additional data elements for the purposes listed above. Please refer to pages 129-132 for a complete list of EWG-identified data elements, some of which are directly related to "thin data" elements (e.g., Registrar IANA Number). Refer also to pages 42-45 of the EWG Report for data collection principles which the EWG applied to make more detailed recommendations about which data elements should be mandatory or optional to collect and why.