



Standards Challenge Fund Guidance Pack

Guidance on submitting an idea

We are looking for ideas to respond to challenges and opportunities for SMEs in scaling their businesses. This is likely to be in the form of a new standard but could also be a way of accessing information, a standards-related product, a piece of research or something else entirely.

This guidance pack takes you step by step through the submission form and tells you what you need to know to give your idea the best chance of success. It describes the assessment process and what you can expect once you've submitted your ideas.

More information can be found in the FAQs.

The Submission Form

Section 1: About your idea

This section explains your idea and how it will help SMEs.

Q1: Which theme does your suggestion fall into?

Tell us whether your idea is related to Net Zero, Digital and Technologies or Healthy Living and Ageing. To be eligible for the Standards Challenge Fund, an idea must fall into at least one of these categories. If your idea spans across these themes, please select the most relevant.

Q2: What challenge do you see in developing and scaling-up products, services, and markets?

Tell us what the challenge is and the impact it has on you, businesses like yours, and your customers.

What is the problem that you and businesses like yours are facing? Where do you need best practice to be developed, or guidance to be provided? Maybe there are different ways of doing something in your industry and it makes it hard for customers to make a good choice. Perhaps there are quality or consistency issues in products that need to be addressed. Perhaps you need guidance on how to implement business-wide systems so your business can grow.



Q3: What is your suggestion for a standard that would help address this challenge?

This is the place to describe your idea. What is your proposal for addressing the challenge you've identified? Tell us what you want the outcome to look like for potential users of this standard.

If your idea is not for a standard, but is for something else that would address the challenge, then this is the place to describe your idea.

Q4: What is the scope of this proposed standard?

A scope tells a user what a standard will and won't do. It explains the purpose of the standard, who it is for, what it covers and what it excludes. We don't expect you to write a perfect scope, we're looking for clarity in your idea about what it will cover. If your idea is not for a standard, use this space to describe the scope of your idea – what it will do and who it is for.

Here are some example scopes:

BSI Flex 350 v1.0 Alternative binder systems for lower carbon concrete. Code of Practice

This BSI Flex provides recommendations for the assessment and use of alternative binder systems (ABS) as part of a strategy for meeting the proposed Net Zero 2050 target when building structures in accordance with BS 8500 and BS EN 1992.

This BSI Flex covers properties of ABS and provides recommendations on testing and monitoring to demonstrate conformity with the recommended performance for different applications.

The types of ABS covered include, but are not limited to, geopolymers or alkali-activated materials. It does not cover the cement types covered in BS EN 197, BS EN 15743, BS EN 14216 or BS EN 14647.

This BSI Flex is not applicable to any other methods of concrete carbon reducing measures.

This BSI Flex is intended for use by ABS and ABS concrete manufacturers/producers. It may also be of interest to engineers, designers, end users, and contractors.

It is intended that:

a) all the recommended performance tests are conducted on a representative grade of ABS concrete on behalf of the producers to demonstrate acceptable properties of the ABS; and

b) project specific testing and conformance testing are conducted on behalf of the engineer/designer to demonstrate suitability of the specific ABS concrete mixes and quality control.



BSI Flex 1889 v2.0: Formalised natural language description of scenarios for automated driving systems. Specification

This BSI Flex sets out requirements for a structured natural language format for test scenario definition of an automated driving system (ADS) Level 3 and higher.

BSI Flex 1889 v2.0 supports users of scenarios by providing a natural language for the description of scenarios used in scenario-based testing of ADS. This BSI Flex, however, does not cover the processes required to assess or approve that an ADS is safe.

This BSI Flex is intended to be used by organizations providing test/audit services of the systems and processes related to the assurance of an ADS and automated vehicle (AV). It might also be of interest to manufacturers, developers of Level 3 and higher ADS, suppliers of components and subcomponents, simulators and anyone involved in scenario-based testing.

PAS 6463: Design for the mind. Neurodiversity and the built environment. Guide

This PAS gives guidance on the design of the built environment to include the needs of people who experience sensory/neurological processing differences.

NOTE This includes neurodivergent, neurodegenerative, hypersensitive and other neurological differences which can affect sensory processing and mental wellbeing.

The PAS gives guidance on buildings and external spaces for public and commercial use, and residential accommodation for independent or supported living. The PAS covers:

- lighting;*
- acoustics;*
- décor;*
- flooring;*
- layout;*
- wayfinding;*
- familiarity;*
- clarity;*
- safety;*
- thermal comfort;*
- odour;*



- *preview of an environment; and*
- *other sensory design considerations.*

This PAS does not cover:

- *user requirements for special education environments, dementia, or complex care settings; and*
- *detailed guidance on sensory room design.*

This PAS is for use by designers, planners, specifiers, facilities managers and decision-makers on design and management considerations to make places more inclusive for everyone, by reducing the potential for sensory overload, anxiety or distress.

Q5: Who will use the standard?

Standards are aimed at one type of user. It might be for manufacturers, designers, installers, businesses of a certain type or doing a specific activity. While standards aimed at one user might be relevant to other user groups (purchasers, testing houses, regulators) there should always be a primary audience for the standard. You can tell us about types of business or give us job titles.

Q6: What will the standard do for users?

Select Set Requirements if your idea will tell users what they have to do in order to comply with this standard. Requirements are often used for product specifications or areas where absolute quality performance is needed.

Select Make Recommendations if your idea will help users improve what they are doing and tell them what they should have in place to support their business and operations.

Select Give Guidance if your idea is introducing something new to the industry for which users need to build up their knowledge. Guides are a starting point for implementing something new and are often used for business-level concepts such as supporting employees with health and wellbeing, or working towards reducing environmental impact.

Select Other if your idea is not for a standard.

Q7: What benefits will be realised from this standard?

A standard is aimed at a particular user, for example manufacturers, but they are not the only groups that will benefit. Standards that support the transition to Net Zero



benefit the organizations that use them and they also benefit the wider community. Standards that introduce new technologies can benefit consumers and users of products. Standards that address healthy living and ageing can benefit practitioners, patients, and wider communities.

Once you've identified who will benefit, tell us how they will benefit from your idea. Benefits of standards include improved safety, lower costs, improved accessibility, and new capabilities.

Q8: List up to 20 keywords that are related to your suggestion.

As part of the assessment process, we'll check whether there are already standards that cover this idea. When an idea is selected for further development we will do another thorough check for existing standards and standards in development. The keywords you list here will provide the basis for those searches.

Your idea is more likely to be successful if your keywords are specific and well thought through.

Keywords can be single words or phrases.

Be specific and technical. Avoid generic keywords like quality as there are many existing standards that will be related to generic keywords.

If your idea uses a term that has synonyms or is known by another word or phrase, please include those as well.

Q9: Is your suggestion linked to any other Innovate UK funded programme or challenge?

Please let us know if your idea has been developed through participation in another Innovate UK funded programme or challenge, or if it has been submitted elsewhere. This helps us understand how your idea might connect to other work underway.



Section 2: About your industry

If your idea is selected for further development we will bring together a group of stakeholders to develop the standard. This group will be broadly representative of the industry including organizations with expertise and representatives of stakeholders that will be affected. It will have a mix of relevant manufacturers, trade associations, professional institutions, consumers, labour groups, regulators, academics, and testing houses.

Q10: What industry are you in?

Tell us about you! What do you or your organization do? What products or services are you providing? Tell us what industry you consider yourself to be in, or if you are in more than one, use the 'Other' option to open the text area to elaborate.

Q11: Which organizations need to be involved in the development of this standard to ensure it can be successfully developed and is widely adopted by the industry?

Think about what organizations will need to be involved to make this idea a success. Perhaps there are key user groups whose requirements have to be considered, or there's a regulator that will need to give its support to the work, or there are influential organizations (such as charities) that will be key to raising awareness of the standard.

You may already have discussed your idea with other organizations. Tell us about who supports it or who might have some reservations. If your idea is selected, this will help us assess who should be involved in the development and how much consensus-building is needed.

If you haven't talked to anyone, do you have an idea from the trade press or other news sources if any other organizations are facing the challenge you've identified? If not, tell us that too.

Q12: Do you know of a person or organization who would be able to write a first draft of this standard?

When an idea is selected for further development BSI will engage a Technical Author to create a first draft of a standard or a Technical Expert to support with research or other ideas. If you have someone in mind, please tell us.



Section 3: About you

This section is about you so we can check your eligibility and so we can contact you if we have any questions about your submission. Please provide as much information as possible. Please also read the Terms and Conditions.

The Assessment Process

When you submit your idea, we will check that it is eligible under the Standards Challenge Fund Terms and Conditions. Next, we'll check whether there are any existing standards published by BSI covering the substance of your idea.

All ideas that meet the eligibility criteria will be reviewed by a panel of BSI standards development experts. We'll be looking for ideas that will have great benefits and are good candidates to be developed as standards (or taken forward as other projects). This will include further research on existing standards. The assessment criteria are:

- Desirability – how well aligned to the priority themes and programme objectives is the idea?
- Feasibility – can the idea be turned into a standard (or product or research project) and a group of industry experts be assembled?
- Viability – what impact and benefits will the idea have for SMEs?

The best ideas will be put before the Standards Governance Board for the Standards Challenge Fund which is made up of senior representatives from BSI and Government. They will then select the top four ideas for further development.