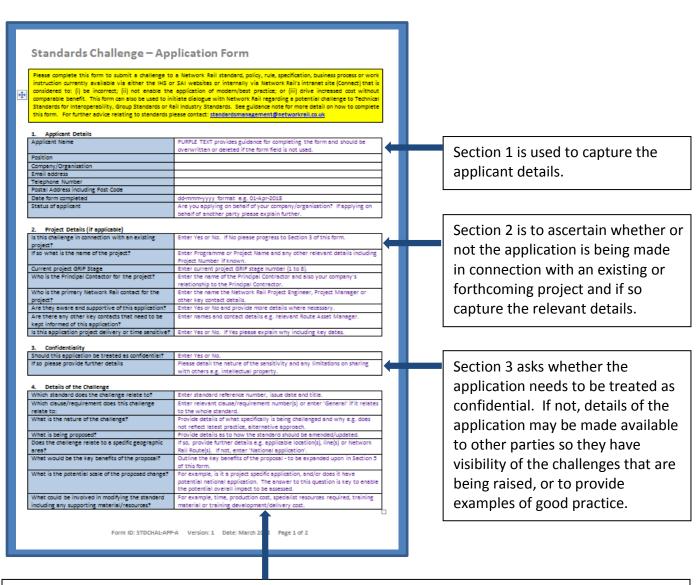
Standards Challenge – Application Form

Guidance for Completing the Standards Challenge Application Form

The standards challenge application form can be used to submit a challenge to a Network Rail standard, policy, rule, specification, business process or work instruction that is considered to: (i) be incorrect; (ii) not enable the application of modern/best practice; or (iii) drive increased cost without comparable benefit. The form can also be used to initiate dialogue with Network Rail regarding a potential challenge to Technical Standards for Interoperability, Group Standards or Rail Industry Standards.

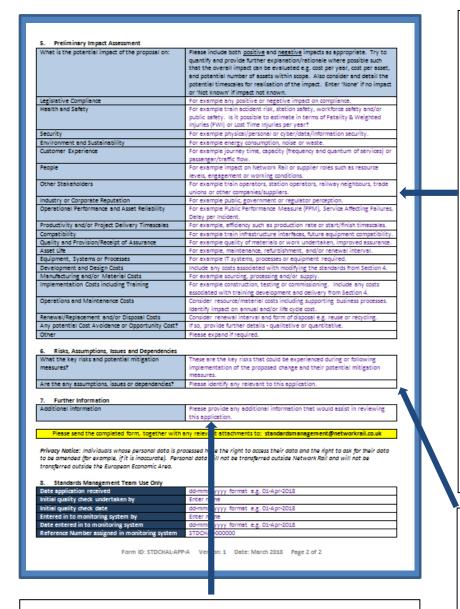
The form is relatively straightforward to complete. The PURPLE TEXT in the form is intended to provide further guidance or examples relating to the information requested and should be overwritten or deleted if the form field is not used.



Section 4 is focussed on the heart of the challenge seeking details of what is being proposed, why and the benefits it may bring? There are some key questions in this section that will help with further evaluation. It particular the question relating to the potential scale of application is seeking to identify if it is a project specific application and/or whether it could have potential national application. For example could it impact large quantity and/or high cost items such as electrification, track, structure, plant or signalling assets? This section also seeks information on what could potentially be involved in modifying the standard and any subsequent impact on training.

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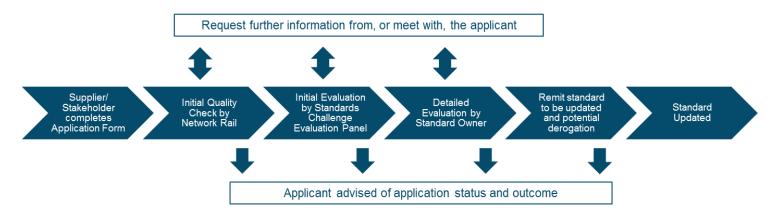


Section 5 is equally important. It lists a range of output capabilities and is asking the applicant to provide their view on whether these would be positively or negatively impacted if the challenge were to be accepted and to provide details of the expected scale of the change seeking quantification, particularly costs, where possible. Where items have been quantified this will assist in evaluation of the business case for change (benefits vs. cost). For benefits please indicate the timescales within which they could expect to be realised. Where there is considered to be no positive or negative impact please enter 'None'. If the impact is not known, for example if the applicant does not have sufficient knowledge of maintenance costs, please write 'Not known' or provide a qualitative response.

Section 6 requires the key risks to be identified that could be experienced during, or following, implementation of the proposed change and their potential mitigation measures.

Section 7 is available to reference any supporting information that is to be submitted with the application.

The completed form and supporting information should be sent to standardsmanagement@networkrail.co.uk and the application will follow the process below.



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