**Bank of England**

**Operating Model for the Reporting of Stress Test data**

Version 202101

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**1 General**

This document describes the operating model for both the business-related and the technical aspects of submitting, validating and managing data relating to the Bank of England (“ the Bank”[[1]](#footnote-1)) Solvency Stress Test.

## 1.1 Context

There are 43 templates for Stress Testing in 2021, the STDF dictionary contains 41 templates, which includes the AssetLiabilityManagement template that is submitted outside Stress Test timeframes. There are three Portfolio Quality Return templates for Stress Testing that are not included in the STDF dictionary. The effective reporting date for most Actuals data and Projections year 0 data is 31 December 2020. All templates that have different reporting dates are listed in Appendix B.

In line with previous communications, there are minimal changes to STDF templates for 2021, which are detailed in ‘028 STDF Change\_Summary’.

In line with General Data Protection Regulations, all firms continue to be reminded that the Bank has no requirements for personal data in any of the ‘free form’ submissions of these Stress Test data. Please remove any individual or personal data from those instances before submitting templates to the Bank. This also includes removing such data from any of the metadata of the submission files.

## 1.2 Stress Test artefacts

The current version of the artefact ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test data request – INDEX’ lists all structured and unstructured data requests for the 2021 Solvency Stress Test, the associated reporting deadlines, content codes and reporting format. Artefact reference numbers remain consistent with those in previous years.

## 1.3 Using the STDF dictionary

The STDF dictionary is provided in HTML format and needs to be saved onto a local drive and unzipped prior to use.

1. To view tabs within a template, open Home.html, click on Contents, click on Templates, click any template – this will present a linked list of tabs within that specific template along with a brief description of the purpose of the template.
2. To access definitions, continuing from step 1 above, click on any tab – this will present a list of data items (referred to as “Field Names”) and associated definitions.
3. To access the allowed enumerations for a data item, continuing from step 2, click on any enumeration item (4th column) – this will present a list of allowed enumerations for the specified data item and associated definitions.
4. To access validation rules, open Home.html, click on Contents, click on Rules – this will present a list of all rules, with the last column presenting the template, tab and field name the rule pertains to.
5. To view pattern rule values, open Home.html, click on Contents, click on Patterns, click on any tab to view the pattern rules that reported data must adhere to for that specific tab.
6. To view reconciliation rules, open Home.html, click on Contents, click on Reconciliations – this will present a list of all rules with linked qualified names for the right and left-hand sides of the equations.

# 2 Data submission process

## 2.1 Submission frequency

Firm submissions of Stress Test projections data occur on an annual basis when the Bank announces a Stress Test. Details of the frequency of actuals data submissions, as well as relevant deadlines, are within the artefact ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test data request – INDEX’. These will also be evident via scheduling of the returns to firms within the BEEDS system.

In addition, the Bank may occasionally make ad-hoc requests for updated information; in exceptional circumstances, firms may also prefer to send updated data. If this is required, appropriate detail and timing should be agreed with the Bank in advance of a submission.

## 2.2 Submission procedure, standard and conventions

**Please follow** **the instructions in this section exactly and completely**

Firms are expected to submit files for the 2021 Stress Test via the BEEDS portal. More detailed information – including the required set-up processes and example error handling – is also available via the [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds) published on the Bank of England website.

Appendix A describes the processes for submitting data via the Managed File Transfer (MFT) process (which is a Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) using authentication keys)**.** Firms may use this MFT process for Stress Testing only as a contingency and after agreement with the Bank. More detailed information is also available via the overall [MFT technical instructions](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/statistics/data-collection/mft/mfttechnicalinstructions.pdf).

There may be occasions where BEEDS is down for maintenance, so any firm attempting to submit data at e.g. weekends may be unable to access the portal until the following Monday. Maintenance will not take place around key stress test submission dates.

### 2.2.1 Summary of Stress Testing key support structures

There are two key support mechanisms for Stress Testing data submissions. Firstly, for technical questions specifically regarding the BEEDS portal, please contact [BEEDSQueries@bankofengland.co.uk](mailto:BEEDSQueries@bankofengland.co.uk.S) or 020 3461 5360. Standard support hours for these questions are 9am-5pm, Mon-Fri with further details in the [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds).

As part of the creation of Stress Testing firm profiles within the BEEDS portal, firms will be asked to supply details of named individuals to be either the ‘principal user’ or an ‘additional user’. The creation of these users forms part of the BEEDS security profile with the differences between these roles related mainly to different available functionality. Once a submission is made by any of these users via BEEDS (Excel or unstructured), all users will then receive relevant progress notifications.

Secondly, as in previous Stress tests, all other communication between the Bank and the firms involved in the Stress Test is via the Question & Answer (Q&A) process. Each firm will receive their own Q&A logs to use within the Stress Test process. Firms should aim to:

* Log and distribute communications sent by the Bank to relevant parties in the firm.
* Ensure firm queries are sent to the relevant Bank staff via the relevant stress testing Q&A inbox.
* Ensure actions for the firm and queries from the Bank are responded to within good time and to a high quality standard.

Please also contact [PRA-SRS-RALC-RDA@bankofengland.co.uk](mailto:PRA-SRS-RALC-RDA@bankofengland.co.uk) with very urgent queries. For example, if any part of a firm’s submission is likely to be delayed, the firm should contact the Bank as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements. In such a case, the firm may be asked to submit a partially completed template and then resubmit the template including the missing data as relevant (NB: the Submission ID should then be increased).

### 2.2.2 Number of files in a submission

Firms should send their STDF data within .zip files. Firms are reminded that:

1. For unstructured files, BEEDS will accept zipped submissions up to a maximum zipped file size of 30MB per upload option (and there are up to a maximum of 10 options within each unstructured submission).
2. For structured Excel files, BEEDS will accept larger files. Technically, the previous limit is now increased, but firms are reminded to consider factors, such as timing of submissions and potential performance impacts on their other systems, if they wish to upload particularly large structured files. Additionally, firms are recommended to contact the Bank for further guidance ahead of attempting to submit any individual files above 60MB in size.
3. Structured and unstructured data must be submitted in separate .zip files.
4. All structured or unstructured data within each individual .zip file must relate to one specific content/category code and must be the same one as noted within the .zip file name.
5. All .zip file names must include a content/category code equating to the one scheduled to each firm via BEEDS or that the firm creates themselves (for other unstructured submission purposes).
6. No folder structures should be embedded within .zip files – data submissions should be at the root of the zip file.
7. Firms should not put zipped files within other zipped files.

**Note that firms may be able to submit earlier than the deadline if they want – BEEDS will have scheduled a deadline for each submission but will be available to accept early if needed.**

### 2.2.3 Structured data

Structured data relating to a single STDF template **must not be split across multiple files except to resolve any total file size related issues**. Each template should be submitted as a separate file within its own zip file – i.e. firms should submit one file per zip file for structured data. The structured file within a zip file **must follow the same naming convention as the zip file** and should enable the file to be distinguished from any other submission or re-submission.

### 2.2.4 Unstructured data

Unstructured data refers to either the information that firms are requested to provide in response to the questions in the Basis of Preparation document or any other unstructured documents that firms proactively choose to submit to aid understanding of their structured submissions.

For responses to Basis of Preparation questions, firms will receive schedules for the relevant returns within BEEDS. For other unstructured STDF documents, firms should follow relevant steps in the [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds) on how to create their own ‘unscheduled’ unstructured returns within BEEDS. For these ‘unscheduled’ unstructured returns created by firms, firms must add an ‘effective date’ in BEEDS when creating them and must ensure that this chosen date is a quarter end date (submissions may be rejected if that is not the case).

Firms are reminded that, if they wish to submit more than one unstructured submission with the same category code and the same effective date, then there are ten upload options within each unstructured submission. Additionally, if they then wish to submit additional files at a later point for the same code and same effective date as before, they should do this via requesting a resubmission in BEEDS (see section 2.2.7 for more details).

Also, if a firm wishes to submit more than one unstructured submission with different category codes but with the same effective date, they may receive an error message stating there is already a return with the same effective date. If this occurs, please see [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds) on how this can be resolved.

Some unstructured data files will be related to a specific risk type and content code asking firms to provide supporting documents relevant to one or more structured templates. Other files will be more generic, for example outlining a firm’s approach to the stress test. Acceptable formats **specifically for unstructured data files** are .XLSX, .DOCX, .PDF, .PPTX, .CSV and .TXT. If a firm needs to report in other formats, they should contact the Bank to discuss next steps.

All unstructured data files relating to a specified template/content code should be sent in one or more .zip files (NB: up to 10 unstructured .zip files can be submitted within each submission). Firms are also requested to report all unstructured data filenames in the latest version of structured template 079 ‘Basis\_of\_Preparation\_and\_Unstructured\_Data\_INDEX’. As noted in the latest version of ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test Data Request – INDEX’, firms are also reminded that this template (079) now needs to be submitted under one of two different codes – either BOPUDIA (actuals) or BOPUDIP (projections) depending on the submission timing and purpose.

The files within the .zip should **all relate to the same content code** and, whilst they **do not need to follow the naming conventions** as displayed in the latest version of ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test Data Request – INDEX’, they should have an understandable, distinguishable and descriptive name. The names of the .zip files themselves **must** follow the naming conventions outlined in section 2.2.6.

Finally, firms are reminded that three of the current artefacts (**‘015 - STDF\_Retail Portfolio\_Quality\_Return (Secured UK)’, ‘016 - STDF\_Retail Portfolio\_Quality\_Return (Secured non-UK)’, ‘017 - STDF\_Retail Portfolio\_Quality\_Return (Unsecured)’**) will be scheduled and must be submitted as unstructured submissions in BEEDS at this point. Firms will receive updated instructions as to when to submit them as structured artefacts in due course. Until then, BEEDS will reject these submissions if they are submitted as structured returns.

### 2.2.5 Data encryption

The BEEDS portal is a secure interface through which firms submit Stress Testing templates. Firms should refer to the information available via the [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds) (and associated links) for further guidance on this connection and associated processes (for example usage of security questions).

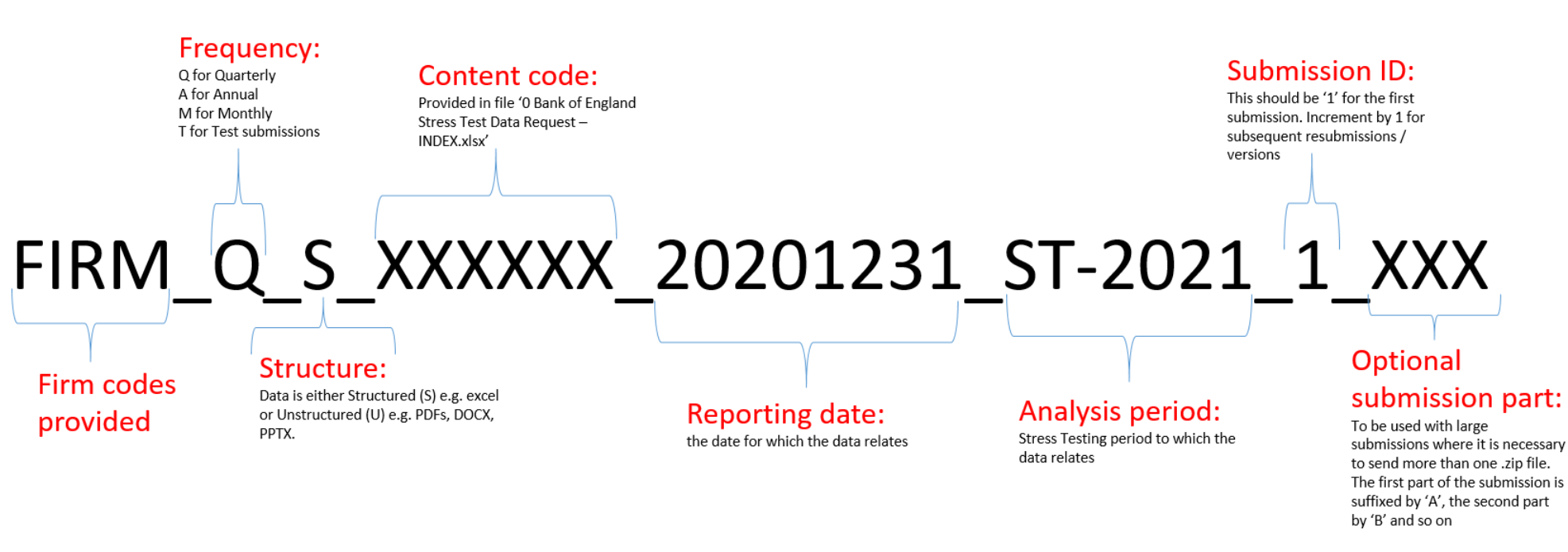
### 2.2.6 File conventions and identifiers

All Stress Test data should be provided in base units and all percentages should be expressed in decimals. Data in any particular currency can be rounded to the nearest unit, without the need to include any decimal points. Ratios and percentages need to be reported with a maximum of 4 decimal points.

For the .zip files submitted, a filename consists of a number of identifiers de-limited by an underscore ‘\_’and should **not** contain any of the following invalid characters: # % & \* : < > ? / { \ " |. For any **unzipped** versions of submissions, the filename should also not be longer than 100 characters. If this is the case (most likely for unstructured submissions), please shorten the file name before submitting it. **If this guidance is not followed, the firm will be asked to correct and re-submit its files.**

The latest version of artefact ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test Data Request – INDEX’ outlines how each .zip file name should be structured (in order of appearance in the filename):

* **Firm Codes:** codes for all data submissions are unchanged for the 2021 Solvency Stress Test.
* **Submission Frequency:** Q for quarterly, A for annualand T for test submissions. Where possible, the Bank of England may make available a User Acceptance Testing (UAT) environment around large system change and on ad hoc occasions. Any test periods will be communicated to all BEEDS portal Principal Users. Firms should no longer send test submissions using a Submission Frequency code ‘T’ but instead use the BEEDS UAT environment when open.
* **Structure:** Data is either Structured (S) or Unstructured (U).
* **Content Code:** ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test Data Request – INDEX’ contains all content codes for the main submissions. The Basis of Preparation document lists additional content codes specifically relevant to unstructured questions. Key Content Codes now end in A (Actuals), P (Projections) or S (Scenario-specific).
* **Reporting Date:** the date for which the data are applicable. For unstructured files, this is the reporting date of the associated structured data.
* **Analysis Period:** if required in the filename, the Analysis Period denotes the Stress Test period to which the data relates.
* **Submission ID:** this should be ‘1’ for the first submission of a file. For e.g. a first re-submission, this should be increased to ‘2’ and so on.
* **Submission Part (optional):** this is for use with large unstructured data submissions where it is necessary to send more than one email each containing one .zip file. The first part of the submission is suffixed by ‘A’, the second part by ‘B’ and so on. Firms are reminded that this part of the filename should **not** be used to identify different versions of submissions.



### 2.2.7 Resubmissions

Firms must log on to BEEDS to request a resubmission of any Stress Test information via the relevant functionality. As per the Submission ID in section 2.2.6 above, the version number in BEEDS should increase for every resubmission completed. Please see the [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds) for further details on resubmissions.

When then sending these resubmissions via BEEDS, the following guidance for firms remains:

* Use the Comments tabs within the structured templates to provide detail on the changes made since the previous submission, specifically the reason for resubmission, data quality issues addressed (e.g. in response to Stress Test Q&A log queries);
* Ensure that all templates still reconcile as expected, after any changes made;
* Submit only one final version of the template incorporating **all** changes; and
* Ensure re-submitted STDF templates are accompanied by an STDF Reconciliations template.

The deadline for final resubmissions will be confirmed to firms at a later point. Also, the Bank will only process changes to data that it has requested – firms therefore should limit changes to those that have been requested by the Bank and clearly highlight them.

### 2.2.8 Key Submission Header and other template guidance

**Submission header**

All firms must include both the legal **Firm name** and relevant **Legal Entity Identifier (LEI)** in the appropriately labelled cells in all submission headers. The **Firm name** should be exactly the same as the entry in the Firm Profile on BEEDS for the corresponding LEI.

**It is vital that firms fill in this name and LEI information correctly for every submission.** Also, if firms amend their LEIs for any reason, they should inform their PRA contacts through the standard Q&A process.

Please report the **Reporting date** in each template as per the templates sent out to firms. Reporting dates for stress testing artefacts should be the last calendar day of the relevant quarter, except for submissions that use the traded risk effective reporting date (which will be confirmed to firms as appropriate).

Please report the **PRA analysis period** as ST-2021 in all templates.

Please ensure that the **Risk Type** in the submission header remains as per the template when it was [published](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/stress-testing). The equivalent of this information will be in either ‘0 Bank of England Stress Test Data Request – INDEX’ or the template category chosen from the BSTSE list of options in BEEDS. Firms should not change this information.

Firms should also not amend the **Submission content type**, **Submission period type, Version** or any of the **tab headers** from what was provided in the templates when they were [published](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/stress-testing).

For the **Submission ID**, for the first submission please put 1, each subsequent resubmission should increase the Submission ID by 1 so that the Submission ID for the second submission would be 2 and so on.

In relation to **Worksheet names, Column names and Enumerations**, please do not replace or delete any of the published Worksheet names from what was published. For example, please do not replace underscores “\_” in worksheet names with dashes “-“ and do not amend the case of any letters in the Worksheet names (e.g. Submission\_header not Submission\_Header). Also, please do not change the spelling or order of any column names from the templates provided and do not add any columns or change the order of columns in the templates provided. Please also stick to using the enumerations as provided in STDF templates.

# 3 Data quality

## 3.1 Data quality

The STDF uses validations, reconciliations and plausibility rules to check the quality of stress testing data.

## 3.2 Validations

### 3.2.1 Overview and categories

In an STDF context, validation rules are checks on a submission’s data structure and consistency that evaluate to a result that can be interpreted as either pass or fail. In addition, the BEEDS data ingestion system performs metadata focussed checks. Further details are available via the [BEEDS User Guide](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/statistics/data-collection/beeds).

Failing a data validation rule does **not** necessarily imply the rejection of a submission at this point; as such, firms should take the reject on failure as guidance only, rather than being applicable in every instance. The Bank also conducts plausibility analysis of firm submissions and, as such, the passing of rules does not automatically imply the complete acceptance of a submission.

For Excel submissions, the table below summarises the main features of each of the rule categories used within the STDF. All exceptions to validations need to be agreed with the Bank via the comments tab in each template.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Description** |
| Enumeration check | Enumeration checks compare (individual or patterns/combinations of) data entries to STDF Dictionary pre-defined lists. The check will fail if a data item differs from those in the list in any way. This is not a check to ensure that all combinations from the reference list are present; only that the submitted value is a valid one.  With the exception of a small number of enumerations that are at least partially firm-defined, patterns do indicate if entries **within them** are mandatory or non-mandatory. However, other dimensions / enumerations **outside of the pattern but within the same tab and template** can still also be mandatory. All mandatory dimensions are described in the STDF Dictionary – patterns may only show the relevant subset of this wider ‘mandatory’ picture. |
| Range check | For some numeric fields, a reasonable submission range has been pre-defined. A justification must be provided for values outside this range. On a case-by-case basis, these checks either include or exclude data exactly on the boundaries of the range as appropriate.  In many cases, submission values outside the boundaries will result in the rejection of a submission. However, for some checks, unlikely but possible values have been explicitly excluded from the boundaries to elicit a firm justification. The Bank will discuss these with firms and apply, if necessary, pragmatic solutions. |
| Type check | Type checks ensure that data are in the correct format, e.g. no text items in numeric fields (or vice versa). These are fundamental constraints of the data request and exceptions result in the rejection of a submission. |
| Unique check | Duplicate data are identified by the dimension fields in a sheet. If **all** the relevant dimensions are duplicated across more than one row when that is not permitted, an error will be flagged and cause outright rejection. |
| Business rule | Business rules are complex consistency constraints that are imposed on submissions. Many conditional checks are formulated as business rules, e.g. where the values of field(s) or dimension(s) depend on others. The rejection of a submission due to a failed business rule will be subject to Bank judgement. In some cases, business rules have been formulated to exclude extreme or edge cases and firms are expected to provide justifications when a submission contains outliers. The Bank will work with firms to capture these over the course of the stress test exercise. |
| Mandatory rule | Mandatory rules flag if a data item that is expected to be filled in is left blank. They do not perform any mathematical checks – these are done by other checks.  With a very small number of exceptions - e.g. ‘Internal credit rating’ and ‘Credit rating scale name’, where cells are mandatory to be filled in but are **at least in part firm-defined** - possible enumeration options are defined within the STDF Dictionary. For non-enumeration based mandatory fields, please use ‘NA’ (text-based) or 0 (numerical) as required. Non-mandatory cells can be left blank if relevant. |

There are instances where there are patterns and enumeration lists without associated rules. This is deliberate in both cases. When patterns appear in the dictionary without a rule, this is just so we can pre-fill the template rather than check that columns are associated to each other, which are checked by pattern rules. Some enumeration lists are there to present Bank enumerations in columns where we also allow firm-defined values (e.g. Credit rating scale name); in these instances, there is no enumeration rule as it would automatically break and serve no purpose.

### 3.2.2 Validation requirements

Validation rules are published in the STDF Dictionary. However, additionally, within the Validations template (030), each rule is summarised on a separate row as follows:

* **RuleID:** A unique rule ID. All validations rule IDs now begin with a ‘1’ or ‘2’ and must not be changed as they feed into the Bank’s data quality checks.
* **Template:** The name of the template to which the rule applies.
* **Category:** The rule category.
* **Data type:** The data type for relevant checks.
* **RangeBottom:** The lower bound for Range checks.
* **RangeTop:** The upper bound for Range checks.
* **RangeScope:** Whether the ranges noted include or exclude the boundaries.
* **Description:** An articulation of rule-specific guidance (mainly for Business rules).
* **Sheet:** A one-line map of the required sheets needed for evaluation.
* **PRA Name:** A one-line map of the required key fields for evaluation.

### 3.2.3 Justifying validation exceptions

The ‘Comments’ tab in all Excel templates includes a ‘Rule ID’ column – this can be used when justifying validation exceptions within a submission. This should pre-empt Bank queries and reduce the burden on the firm and the Q&A process.

## 3.3 Reconciliations

### 3.3.1 Overview and categories

In an STDF context, reconciliation rules compare two sets of data with the ability for firms to explain any material difference, via the structure:

**Source ± Reconciling Items – Target = Unreconciled difference.**

Where reconciliation rules indicate a difference, firms must provide a list of reconciling items with meaningful and justifiable descriptions such that the remaining unreconciled difference can be considered immaterial.

The origin of the source and target components determines the rule type.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Rule type:** | **Source:** | **Target:** |
| Internal | An STDF template | An STDF template |
| **Description:** | | |
| These rules are designed to check the consistency of data within and across STDF submissions. | | |
| **Rule type:** | **Source:** | **Target:** |
| External | An STDF template | An external report |
| **Description:** | | |
| These rules are designed to support the accuracy and completeness of data within submission templates by reference against ‘External reports’. ‘External reports’ refer to any non-STDF submissions such as statutory reports, regulatory returns or firms’ internal risk reports. | | |

### 3.3.2 Reconciliation requirements

All firms must perform the pre-defined set of reconciliation rules and present the results via the 026 STDF Reconciliations template. All predefined items such as ‘Unique ID’, ‘Qualified Name’ etc. must not be altered by firms. A completed Reconciliation template includes reconciliations for all templates and **must accompany each set of submissions** for which rules are defined. We therefore expect a reconciliations template to be reported with the actuals and the projections data and any subsequent resubmissions.

Within the Reconciliations template, each Qualified Name is prefixed by either an ‘I’ (internal data) or an ‘E’ (external data). Also, all reconciliation rule IDs begin with a ‘6’ or ‘7’ and must not be changed as they feed into the Bank’s data quality checks.

Within the Reconciliations template (026), each rule is summarised as follows:

|  |
| --- |
| **Reconciliations:**  **Template name:** Indicates which template the Control type relates to.  **Unique ID:** A unique ID, assigned to each reconciliation rule.  **Control type:**   * **Source**: A data item from the STDF data item reference. * **Reconciling item:** Reasons for difference between Source(s) and Target(s). Firms must describe all reconciling differences with meaningful and justifiable descriptions. * **Target:** An STDF or External target data item reference. * **Unreconciled Difference:** The residual, immaterial difference between Sources and Targets that is not explained by the Reconciling Item(s).   **Qualified name:** The unique name, assigned to an STDF data item or External data item.  **Sign:** The sign, (positive or negative) that will be applied to the reported amount to determine the unreconciled difference.  **Reported amount:** The amount reported via the qualified name in the STDF Data Item Reference or External Report Data Item Reference sheets.  **Description:** A meaningful and justifiable description of the control type where relevant. |

As well as the information listed in the box above, the reconciliations template also now includes additional metadata for every qualified name. These metadata are also available in the STDF dictionary, but they are included in the template for ease of use after feedback from firms. These metadata cover the Template, Worksheet, Dimensions, Dimension values, Field name and High level reconciliation categories. The latter groups reconciliation IDs together logically so both the Bank and firms can see similar reconciliation IDs covering the same reconciliation, mainly for different scenarios and projection periods.

## 3.4 Plausibility checks

Once the data have been successfully validated and reconciled to within materiality thresholds, a subject matter expert at the Bank will plausibility check the data for appropriateness. Plausibility checks may be in many forms and are intended to identify potential data errors using expert judgement.

# Appendix A – Submitting Excel templates via MFT

If the BEEDS system is unavailable, then the contingency for firms to submit Stress Test data files will be MFT. Contingency processes should only be used after consultation with the Bank.

### MFT: Guidance for firms

As the primary alternative to BEEDS, firms would be expected to submit files for the 2021 Solvency Stress Test via a Managed File Transfer (MFT), which is a Secure File Transfer Protocol (SFTP) which includes the use of authentication keys[[2]](#footnote-2). More detailed information – including the required set-up processes and example error handling – is also available via the overall [MFT technical instructions](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/statistics/data-collection/mft/mfttechnicalinstructions.pdf).

SFTP submissions should be sent from **one fixed group email account for each firm;** the Bank accepts files via SFTP up to 25MB (both different from BEEDS). If files are larger than this, please split the file using Winzip[[3]](#footnote-3) into parts that will pass through your own gateway. The result is a sequence of files named filename.zip, filename.z01, filename.z02, and so on. Please send each part in a separate message and also contact the Bank to inform that you are submitting files created via Winzip. **Do not split the file in any other way.**

Firms should remove external email signatures before submitting any files to the Bank of England. Email signatures cause loading issues as they may come in as an attachment (the mailbox will only accept one zip file per message).

### MFT: Data Encryption

Within an SFTP process, relevant encryption will be through the firm – Bank connection itself rather than within any of the files sent over this connection. However, the email addresses supplied to the Bank as part of the on-boarding process are also required to be secure. Firms should refer to the information available via the [MFT technical instructions](https://www.bankofengland.co.uk/-/media/boe/files/statistics/data-collection/mft/mfttechnicalinstructions.pdf) for further guidance on this connection and associated processes.

**MFT: Communications**

Submissions will trigger an automated email sent to an email address provided by the firm to acknowledge receipt of each zip file submitted and indicate whether any issues will prevent processing, e.g. failure to follow naming conventions. If automated notifications are not received, firms should check to ensure that files contained within the zipped file do not include any of the prohibited characters noted.

There may be occasions where MFT is down for maintenance at weekends. Therefore, any firm attempting to use MFT as a contingency channel through which to submit data at weekends may not receive processing notifications until the following Monday.

**Support for contingency data submission channels**

If parts of a firm’s submission are likely to be delayed, the firm should contact the Bank at [PRA-SRS-RALC-RDA@bankofengland.co.uk](mailto:PRA-SRS-RALC-RDA@bankofengland.co.uk)

as soon as possible to discuss alternative arrangements. Firms may be asked to submit a partially completed template and then resubmit the template including the missing data (NB: the Submission ID should then be increased).

# Appendix B – Reporting basis of all Stress Test templates

All Stress test templates should have an effective reporting date of 31 December 2020 on a group basis, other than those listed below.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Template** | **Tab** | **Effective reporting date** | **Reporting basis** |
| Counterparty\_Credit\_Risk\_Losses\_Projections | Aggregate\_data | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Counterparty\_Credit\_Risk\_Losses\_Projections | Counterparty\_exposure\_data | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Counterparty\_Credit\_Risk\_Losses\_Projections | Default\_loss | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Counterparty\_Credit\_Risk\_Losses\_Projections | Exposure\_sensitivities | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| FinancialSectorExposures | Demand\_exposures | 31-Dec-20 | For Banking book exposures please report at 31-Dec-20, for Trading book exposures please report at the Traded Risk stress date. |
| FinancialSectorExposures | Term\_exposures | 31-Dec-20 | For Banking book exposures please report at 31-Dec-20, for Trading book exposures please report at the Traded Risk stress date. |
| Market\_Risk\_Stressed\_ProfitorLoss\_Projections | Illiquids | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book |
| Market\_Risk\_Stressed\_ProfitorLoss\_Projections | Issuer\_default | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book |
| Market\_Risk\_Stressed\_ProfitorLoss\_Projections | Liquids | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book |
| Market\_Risk\_Stressed\_ProfitorLoss\_Projections | Shocks | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book |
| Market\_Risk\_Stressed\_ProfitorLoss\_Projections | Structural\_liquids | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book |
| Market\_Risk\_Stressed\_ProfitorLoss\_Projections | Totals | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book |
| Stressed\_XVA\_Projections | CVA\_breakdown | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Stressed\_XVA\_Projections | Impact\_on\_income | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Stressed\_XVA\_Projections | Marginal\_drivers | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Stressed\_XVA\_Projections | Memo\_items | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Stressed\_XVA\_Projections | Net\_drivers | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| Stressed\_XVA\_Projections | XVA | Traded Risk stress date | All trading book and banking book |
| TradeableSecurities | Tradeable\_securities | 31-Dec-20 | For Banking book exposures please report at 31-Dec-20, for Trading book exposures please report at the Traded Risk stress date. |

1. Unless otherwise stated, references to the Bank or Bank of England in this document include the PRA. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Firms may be using different SFTP tools and some tools may require a specific login or sign-off process in firms. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. Please note that the full version of Winzip needs to be used. Please refer to [How to Create a Split Zip File](http://kb.winzip.com/kb/entry/86) for further information. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)