

And Whereas under section 6(2) of the Coinage Act 1971 We have power, with the advice of Our Privy Council, by Proclamation to prescribe the composition of the standard trial plates to be used for determining the justness of coins of any metal other than gold, silver or cupro-nickel:

And Whereas it appears to Us desirable to order that there should be made at Our Mint a new series of coins of the denomination of two pound in gold, in silver, and in cupro-nickel and nickel-brass, having joined concentric inner and outer sections, being in gold with a different coloured gold outer section, in silver with a gold-plated outer section and in cupro-nickel and nickel-brass with a cupro-nickel inner section and a nickel-brass outer section, one pound in platinum, in gold, in silver and in nickel-brass, coins of the denomination of fifty pence, twenty pence, ten pence and five pence in platinum, in gold, in silver and in cupro-nickel, and coins of the denomination of two pence and one penny in platinum, in gold, in silver and in mild steel coated with copper:

We, therefore, in pursuance of the said section 3(1)(a), (b), (c), (cc), (d), (dd), (f) and (ff), the said section 6(2), and of all other powers enabling Us in that behalf, do hereby, by and with the advice of Our Privy Council, proclaim, direct and ordain as follows:

TWO POUND

1. (1) A new coin of gold of the denomination of two pounds shall be made, being a coin of a standard diameter of 28.4 millimetres, being circular in shape and having joined concentric inner and outer sections.

(2) Without prejudice to section 1(2) of the Coinage Act 1971, the inner and outer sections may consist of different alloys.

(3) The approximate diameter of the inner section shall be 20 millimetres.

(4) The variation from the standard weight will be measured by weighing each coin separately.

2. (1) A new coin of silver of the denomination of two pounds shall be made, being a coin of a standard weight (including the gold plate) of 12 grammes, a standard diameter of 28.4 millimetres, a standard composition (excluding the gold plate) of 925 parts per thousand fine silver, being circular in shape, and having joined concentric inner and outer sections, the outer section being plated with fine gold.

(2) In the making of the said silver coin a remedy (that is, a variation from the standard weight, composition or dimensions specified above) shall be allowed of an amount not exceeding the following, that is to say:

(a) a variation from the said standard weight of an amount per coin of 0.095 grammes for the inner and outer sections;

(b) in relation to those parts of the coin other than the gold plating, a variation from the said standard composition of five parts per thousand fine silver; and

(c) a variation from the said standard diameter of 0.125 millimetres per coin.

(3) The variation from the standard weight will be measured as the average of a sample of not more than one kilogram of the coin.

(4) The approximate diameter of the inner section shall be 20 millimetres.

(5) The said silver coin shall be legal tender for the payment of any amount in any part of Our United Kingdom.

3. (1) A new coin of silver of the denomination of two pounds shall be made, being a coin of a standard weight (including the gold plate) of 24 grammes, a standard diameter of 28.4 millimetres, a standard composition (excluding the gold plate) of 925 parts per thousand fine silver, being circular in shape, and having joined concentric inner and outer sections, the outer section being plated with fine gold.

(2) In the making of the said silver coin a remedy (that is, a variation from the standard weight, composition or dimensions specified above) shall be allowed of an amount not exceeding the following, that is to say:

(a) a variation from the said standard weight of an amount per coin of 0.145 grammes for the inner and outer sections;

(b) in relation to those parts of the coin other than the gold plating, a variation from the said standard composition of five parts per thousand fine silver; and

(c) a variation from the said standard diameter of 0.125 millimetres per coin.

(3) The variation from the standard weight will be measured as the average of a sample of not more than one kilogram of the coin.

(4) The approximate diameter of the inner section shall be 20 millimetres.

(5) The said silver coin shall be legal tender for the payment of any amount in any part of Our United Kingdom.

4. (1) A new coin of cupro-nickel and nickel-brass of the denomination of two pounds shall be made, being a coin of a standard weight of 12 grammes, a standard diameter of 28.4 millimetres, being circular in shape and having joined concentric inner and outer sections, with a standard composition as to the inner section of seventy-five per centum copper and twenty-five per centum nickel, and as to the outer section of seventy-six per centum copper, four per centum nickel and twenty per centum zinc.

(2) In the making of the said cupro-nickel and nickel-brass coin a remedy (that is, a variation from the standard weight, composition or dimensions specified above) shall be allowed of an amount not exceeding the following, that is to say:

(a) a variation from the said standard weight of an amount per coin of 0.1 grammes for the inner and outer sections;

(b) a variation from the said standard composition as to the inner section of two per centum copper and two per centum nickel, and as to the outer section of two per centum copper, three-quarters of one per centum nickel and two per centum zinc; and

(c) a variation from the said standard diameter of 0.125 millimetres per coin.

(3) The variation from the standard weight will be measured as the average of a sample of not more than one kilogram of the coin.

(4) The approximate diameter of the inner section shall be 20 millimetres.

(5) The inner and outer sections of the said coin may contain impurities of three-quarters of one per centum.

(6) The said cupro-nickel and nickel-brass coin shall be current and shall be legal tender for the payment of any amount in any part of Our United Kingdom.

(7) The composition of the standard trial plates to be used for determining the justness of the nickel-brass outer section of the said coin shall be pure copper, pure nickel and pure zinc.

5. The design of the said coins shall be as follows:

'For the obverse impression Our effigy with the inscription "ELIZABETH II · DEI · GRA · REG · FID · DEF ·" and the date of the year, and for the reverse a depiction of Britannia holding a shield and a trident with the inscription "TWO POUNDS". The said coin will have graining on the edge and in incuse letters the inscription "QUATUOR MARIA VINDICO", save for the gold coin where the incuse letters will be accompanied by a plain edge.'

ONE POUND COINS

6. (1) A new coin of platinum of the denomination of one pound shall be made, being a coin of a standard weight of 19.59 grammes, a standard diameter of 22.5 millimetres, and being circular in shape.

(2) In the making of the said platinum coin a remedy (that is, a variation from the standard weight or diameter specified above) shall be allowed of an amount not exceeding the following, that is to say:

(a) a variation from the said standard weight of an amount per coin (measured as the average of a sample of not more than one kilogramme of the coin) of 0.205 grammes; and

(b) a variation from the said standard diameter of 0.125 millimetres per coin.

(3) The said platinum coin may contain impurities of three-tenths of one per centum.

(4) The said platinum coin shall be current and shall be legal tender for payment of any amount in any part of Our United Kingdom.

(5) The composition of the standard trial plates to be used for determining the justness of the said platinum coin shall be pure platinum.

7. (1) A new coin of gold of the denomination of one pound shall be made, being a coin of a standard weight of 19.619 grammes, a standard diameter of 22.5 millimetres, a millesimal fineness of 916.66, and being circular in shape.

(2) In the making of the said gold coin a remedy (that is, a variation from the standard weight, diameter or fineness specified above) shall be allowed of an amount not exceeding the following, that is to say:

(a) a variation from the said standard weight of an amount per coin (measured as the average of a sample of not more than one kilogramme of the coin) of 0.05 grammes;

(b) a variation from the said standard diameter of 0.125 millimetres per coin; and

(c) a variation from the said millesimal fineness of two per mille.

(3) The least current weight of the said gold coin shall be 19.45 grammes.