

DATED 2 May 2014

TRIAL OF THE PYX 2014

in accordance with

**the Coinage Act 1971,
the Trial of the Pyx Order 1998 and
the Trial of the Pyx (Amendment)
Orders 2005 and 2012**

VERDICT

of the Jury

TRIAL OF THE PYX 2014 – UNITED KINGDOM COINAGE

VERDICT OF THE JURY

1. Declaration

- (A) We, the members of the Jury, were duly sworn on 4 February 2014 before the Queen's Remembrancer at Goldsmiths' Hall in the City of London to assay gold, platinum, silver Maundy, silver, gold-plated silver, cupro-nickel, nickel-brass, bimetallic and kilogram coins of Her Majesty, which were produced to us by officers of the Royal Mint. Accounts of the Deputy Master of the Royal Mint were produced to us and showed that the coins were made by the Royal Mint in accordance with the Coinage Act 1971 (the "**Act**") and various Proclamations and were ready for issue between 1 January 2013 and 31 December 2013.
- (B) We ascertained the number of coins in each packet produced to us and we confirmed that it corresponded with the number which the officers of the Royal Mint represented each packet to contain.
- (C) In this verdict any reference to a permitted variation from the standard weight, fineness, composition or diameter is to such variation from the standard weight, fineness, composition or diameter as is permitted under the Act and the Proclamations.

2. Gold coins

- (A) We took out one coin from each of the single packets of gold coins.
- (B) We weighed in bulk the coins taken out and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being point one nine grams above (+0.19) the standard weight.
- (C) Next we melted the weighed Britannia coins into an ingot and assayed it, comparing it with the standard trial plate of gold, and found that the metal of the ingot was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation in parts per thousand being point zero seven above (+0.07) the standard fineness.
- (D) Then we melted the ten pounds five ounce coins into an ingot and assayed it comparing it with the standard trial plate of gold, and found that the metal of the ingot was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being point eight above (+0.8) the standard fineness.
- (E) Then we melted the other weighed coins into an ingot and assayed it, comparing it with the standard trial plate of gold, and found that the metal of the ingot was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being one point two above (+1.2) the standard fineness.

- (F) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of gold coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being thirty four point zero six grams above (+34.06) the standard weight.
- (G) We then took out of the residue three coins of each type and weighed and assayed them separately.
- (H) We found that each of the coins weighed separately was within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations in milligrams being:

for the coins of five hundred pounds Britannia:	forty five above (+45), two hundred and twenty five above (+225) and four hundred and fifty nine above (+459);
for the coins of one hundred pounds Britannia:	fourteen below (-14), nineteen below (-19) and thirty-nine above (+39) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pounds Britannia:	one below (-1), fifteen below (-15) and twenty above (+20) standard weight;
for the coins of twenty-five pounds Britannia:	one below (-1), one above (+1) and twenty above (+20) standard weight;
for the coins of ten pounds Britannia:	three above (+3), eight above (+8) and nine above (+9) standard weight;
for the coins of one pound Britannia:	one below (-1), six above (+6) and seven above (+7) standard weight;
for the coins of ten pounds five ounce:	one hundred and thirty-four below (-134), two hundred and four below (-204) and two hundred and seventy one below (-271);
for the coins of five pounds:	fifteen above (+15), seventeen above (+17) and thirty-seven above (+37) standard weight;
for the coins of two pounds:	two below (-2), three above (+3) and seven above (+7) standard weight;
for the coins of one pound:	four above (+4), six above (+6) and twenty-one below (-21) standard weight;

for the coins of fifty pence:	four below (-4), eight above (+8) and thirty-six above (+36) standard weight;
for the sovereigns:	one below (-1), two below (-2) and four above (+4) standard weight;
for the half-sovereigns:	two above (+2), five below (-5) and six below (-6) standard weight;
for the quarter-sovereigns:	three below (-3), four above (+4) and five below (-5) standard weight;
for the coins of twenty pence:	two above (+2), ten above (+10) and eighteen above (+18) standard weight;
for the coins of ten pence:	thirteen above (+13), sixteen below (-16) and twenty above (+20) standard weight;
for the coins of five pence:	two above (+2) and three above (+3) standard weight;
for the coins of two pence:	twelve above (+12), sixteen above (+16) and twenty below (-20) standard weight; and
for the coins of one pence:	three below (-3), four above (+4) and six above (+6) standard weight.

- (l) Finally, we found that each of the coins assayed separately was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the least to the greatest of the variations in parts per thousand being:

for the coins of five hundred pounds Britannia:	point zero three above (+0.03) and point zero four above (+0.04) the standard fineness;
for the coins of one hundred pounds Britannia:	point zero one above (+0.01) and point zero two above (+0.02) the standard fineness;
for the coins of fifty pounds Britannia:	point zero one above (+0.01) and point zero six above (+0.06) the standard fineness;
for the coins of twenty-five pounds Britannia:	point zero four above (+0.04), point zero five above (+0.05) and point zero seven above (+0.07) the standard fineness;

for the coins of ten pounds Britannia:	point zero two above (+0.02), point zero three above (+0.03), and point zero seven (+0.07) the standard fineness;
for the coins of one pound Britannia:	point zero two above (+0.02) and point zero three above (+0.03) the standard fineness;
for the coins of ten pounds five ounce:	point six above (+0.6) and point seven below (+0.7) the standard fineness;
for the coins of five pounds:	point four above (+0.4), point five above (+0.5) and point seven above (+0.7) the standard fineness;
for the coins of two pounds:	point six above (+0.6) and point seven above (+0.7) the standard fineness;
for the coins of one pound:	point one below (-0.1), point five above (+0.5) and point eight above (+0.8) the standard fineness;
for the coins of fifty pence:	point five above (+0.5), point six above (+0.6) and point nine below (-0.9) the standard fineness;
for the sovereigns:	point one below (-0.1), point five above (+0.5) and point seven above (+0.7) the standard fineness;
for the half-sovereigns:	point two above (+0.2), point three above (+0.3) and point four above (+0.4) the standard fineness;
for the quarter-sovereigns:	point one above (+0.1), point two above (+0.2) and point four above (+0.4) the standard fineness;
for the coins of twenty pence:	point five above (+0.5), point six above (+0.6) and one point three above (+1.3) the standard fineness;
for the coins of ten pence:	point one above (+0.1), point three below (-0.3) and point four above (+0.4) the standard fineness;
for the coins of five pence:	point seven above (+0.7), one point zero above (+1.0) and one point six above

(+1.6) the standard fineness;

for the coins of two pence: point one above (+0.1) and point four above (+0.4) the standard fineness; and

for the coins of one pence: point three above (+0.3), point five above (+0.5) and point eight above (+0.8) the standard fineness.

3. Kilogram coins

(A) We took out all of the coins from the packets of kilogram coins, weighed each of the coins separately and found that each coin was within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations in grams being:

for the gold kilogram coins: one point four nine below (-1.49), two point two one below (-2.21), five point two one below (-5.21), five point six four below (-5.64), seven point nine seven below (-7.97) and eight point zero one below (-8.01) standard weight; and

for the silver kilogram coins: six point two two below (-6.22), six point nine five below (-6.95), six point nine five below (-6.95), eight point zero seven below (-8.07), eight point three eight below (-8.38) and eight point seven seven below (-8.77) standard weight.

(B) We then assayed each of the kilogram coins by comparing:

- (i) the gold kilogram coins with the standard trial plate of gold, and found that the metal of each coin was within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variations in parts per thousand being zero (+0.0), point one above (+0.1), point seven above (+0.7), point seven above (+0.7), point eight above (+0.8) and point nine above (+0.9) the standard fineness; and
- (ii) the silver kilogram coins with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of each coin was within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations in parts per thousand being point five above (+0.5), point six above (+0.6), point seven above (+0.7), point eight above (+0.8), point eight above (+0.8) and point eight above (+0.8) the standard fineness.

4. Platinum coins

- (A) We took out all of the coins from the packets of platinum coins and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being three point six zero grams below (-3.60) the standard weight.
- (B) We then assayed three coins from the packets of platinum coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of platinum, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variation being one point seven one above (+1.71) the standard composition.

5. Silver Maundy coins

- (A) We took out all of the coins from the packets of silver Maundy coins and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being point zero three grams below (-0.03) the standard weight.
- (B) We then assayed all of the silver Maundy coins, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard fineness, the variation being one point six above (+1.6) the standard fineness.

6. Silver coins other than Maundy coins or Kilogram coins

- (A) We ascertained that the coins in the packets of two pounds Britannia coins, the coins in the packets of ten pounds five ounce coins, the coins in the packets of twenty pounds coins, the coins in the packets of five pounds Pied Forte coins and the coins in the packets of five pounds coins weighed more than one kilogram and that the coins in the packets of the other denominations weighed less than one kilogram.
- (B) We ascertained that the coins in the packets of the other denominations weighed more than five hundred grams.
- (C) We took out from the packets of two pounds Britannia coins sufficient coins to create a lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but not more than one kilogram. We found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the average variation in grams being point two two below (-0.22) the standard weight.
- (D) We took out from the packets of ten pounds five ounce coins sufficient coins to create a lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but not more than one kilogram. We found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the average variation in grams being point three seven below (-0.37) the standard weight.

- (E) We took out from the packets of twenty pounds coins sufficient coins to create a lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but not more than one kilogram. We found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the average variation in grams being one point seven nine below (-1.79) the standard weight.
- (F) We took out from the packets of five pounds Pied Forte coins sufficient coins to create a lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but not more than one kilogram. We found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the average variation in grams being one point zero two above (+1.02) the standard weight.
- (G) We took out from the packets of five pounds coins sufficient coins to create a lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but not more than one kilogram. We found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the average variation in grams being point zero six below (-0.06) the standard weight.
- (H) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of the coins in the packets of two pounds Britannia coins, the coins in the packets of ten pounds five ounce coins, the coins in the packets of twenty pounds coins, the coins in the packets of five pounds Pied Forte coins and the coins in the packets of five pounds coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation in grams being thirty-one point six one below (-31.61) the standard weight.
- (I) We took out all of the coins of each denomination, except for the two pounds Britannia coins, the ten pounds five ounce coins, the twenty pounds coins, the five pounds Pied Forte coins, the one pounds coins, the fifty pence Pied Forte coins pounds, and the five pounds coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations in grams being:
- | | |
|---|--|
| for the coins of one pound
Britannia: | point seven zero above (+0.70)
standard weight; |
| for the coins of fifty pence
Britannia: | point two eight above (+0.28)
standard weight; |
| for the coins of twenty pence
Britannia: | zero from standard weight; |
| for the coins of ten pence
Britannia: | zero from standard weight; |
| for the coins of one pound
Pied Forte: | point one zero below (-0.10) standard
weight; |

for the coins of fifty pence Pied Forte:	zero from standard weight;
for the coins of one pounds:	point four zero above (+0.40) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pence:	point six zero above (+0.60) standard weight;
for the coins of twenty pence:	point one zero below (-0.10) standard weight;
for the coins of ten pence:	zero from standard weight;
for the coins of five pence:	point two zero below (-0.20) standard weight;
for the coins of two pence:	point zero eight below (-0.08) standard weight; and
for the coins of one pence:	point zero eight below (-0.08) standard weight.

- (J) We assayed all the Britannia, ten pounds five ounce coins and twenty pounds coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variation being point eight above (+0.8) the standard fineness.
- (K) Finally, we assayed all the coins other than the Britannia, ten pounds five ounce coins and twenty pounds coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variation being one point nine above (+1.9) the standard fineness.

7. Gold-plated silver coins

- (A) We ascertained that the coins of each denomination in the packets of gold-plated silver coins weighed not more than one kilogram.
- (B) We also ascertained that all the coins contained in the packets weighed more than five hundred grams.
- (C) We took out all the coins and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations in grams being:

for the coins of five pounds:	point two six below (-0.26) standard weight;
for the coins of two pounds Pied Forte:	two point zero zero below (-2.00) standard weight; and
for the coins of two pounds:	two point two zero below (-2.20) standard weight.

- (D) Then, we assayed all of the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing the metal of the coins other than the gold-plating with the standard trial plate of silver, and found that such metal was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variation being point three above (+0.3) the standard composition.

8. Cupro-nickel coins

- (A) We ascertained that the coins of each denomination in the packets of cupro-nickel coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (B) We took from each packet a sufficient number of coins and grouped them into lots, each lot comprising coins of the same denomination, each lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but no more than one kilogram.
- (C) We then weighed each lot in bulk and found that it was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the least to the greatest of the variations in grams being:

for the lot of coins of five pounds:	one point zero seven below (-1.07) standard weight;
for the two lots of coins of fifty pence:	point three zero below (-0.30) standard weight each; and
for the two lots of coins of twenty pence:	one point zero zero below (-1.00) and one point eight zero below (-1.80) standard weight.

- (D) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of five points, fifty pence and twenty pence coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being one five zero point five four grams below (-150.54) the standard weight.
- (E) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plates of copper and nickel, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being:

for the coins of five pounds
and of fifty pence: plus point two three per cent. of
(+0.23%) of copper and minus point
two five per cent. (-0.25%) of nickel;
and

for the coins of twenty pence: plus point five one per cent. (+0.51%)
of copper and minus point five three
per cent. (-0.53%) of nickel.

- (F) Finally, we measured the diameters of twenty of the coins of each denomination and found that the average diameter of the coins of each denomination was within the permitted variation from the standard diameter, the variations in millimetres being:

for the coins of five pounds: point zero two above (+0.02) the
standard diameter;

for the coins of fifty pence: point zero one above (+0.01) the
standard diameter; and

for the coins of twenty pence: point zero three below (-0.03) the
standard diameter.

9. Nickel-brass coins

- (A) We ascertained that the coins of one pound contained in the packet of nickel-brass coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (B) We took from the packet a sufficient number of coins and grouped them into three lots with each lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but no more than one kilogram. We weighed each lot and found that each lot was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations being, in grams, point eight zero above (+0.80), one point five zero above (+1.50) and one point eight zero above (+1.80) the standard weight.
- (C) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packet of nickel-brass coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being, in grams, three hundred and fifty point two zero below (-350.20) the standard weight.
- (D) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, comparing them with the standard trial plates of copper, nickel and zinc, and found that the metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being minus point five zero per cent. (-0.50%) of copper, plus point two six per cent. (+0.26%) of nickel and plus point two five per cent. (+0.25%) of zinc.

- (E) Finally, we measured the diameters of twenty of the coins and found that the average diameter of those coins was within the permitted variation from the standard diameter, the variation being, in millimetres, point zero two below (-0.02) the standard diameter.

10. Bimetallic coins

- (A) We ascertained that the coins of two pounds contained in the packet of bimetallic coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (B) We took from the packet sufficient coins and grouped them into two lots with each lot weighing as close as possible to one kilogram but no more than one kilogram. We weighed each lot and found that each lot was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations being, in grams, point three zero below (-0.30) and one point two zero below (-1.20) the standard weight.
- (C) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packet and found that it was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being, in grams, ninety nine point one zero below (-99.10) the standard weight.
- (D) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, by comparing:
- (i) the cupro-nickel inner sections of the coins with the standard trial plates of copper and nickel, and found that that metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being plus point zero seven per cent. (+0.07%) of copper and minus point five one per cent. (-0.51%) of nickel; and
 - (ii) the nickel-brass outer sections of the coins with the standard trial plates of copper, nickel and zinc, and found that that metal of the coins was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition, the variations being plus one point three one per cent. (+1.31%) of copper, minus point one zero per cent. (-0.10%) of nickel and plus point two one per cent. (+0.21%) of zinc.
- (E) Finally, we measured the diameters of twenty of the coins and found that the average diameter of those coins was within the permitted variation from the standard diameter, the variation being, in millimetres, zero point zero one below (-0.01) the standard diameter.

We found that all the coins submitted to the Trial were, on the whole, within the permitted variations.

The following, being members of the Jury, have duly signed this Verdict this 2 May 2014:

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. | 9. |
| Mr Alastair John Dickenson
Foreman of the Jury | Mr Edward Cecil Wakefield |
| 2. | 10. |
| Dr R M Organ | Mr Alexander Alistair Brogden |
| 3. | 11. |
| Mr Richard Devenish Agutter | Mrs Joanna Jane Clark |
| 4. | 12. |
| Mr William Henry Marcello Parente | Mr Roger Stephen Burman |
| 5. | 13. |
| Mr Rupert Nicholas Hambro | Mr Vivian Peter Watson |
| 6. | 14. |
| Ms Mary Ann Simmons | Mr George William Lukes |
| 7. | 15. |
| Sir Stuart Anthony Lipton | Miss Susan Elizabeth Firle Aston |
| 8. | 16. |
| Mr Patrick Ewart Mitton Fuller | Mr Anthony John Bedford |