

British Hallmarking Council

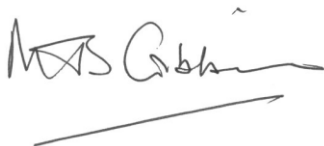
**Department for Business, Energy and Industrial
Strategy**

**Non-qualifying regulatory provision assurance
statement: confirmed**

The Regulatory Policy Committee (RPC) is content that, on the basis of the summary information provided, none of the measures or activities covered in the summary document should be considered as a qualifying regulatory provision for the purposes of the business impact target. This statement does not provide a detailed view of any specific activity in the regulator's summary document. Nor does it comment on any activities not included in the summary. Some activities might, however, have been the subject of separate assessments of qualifying regulatory provisions.

Comments on the non-qualifying regulatory provision summary

The NQRP summary would benefit from including a statement in the education, communications and promotion section that attendance at educational and promotional events is not compulsory and that none of the material produced creates a new regulatory standard that businesses will be expected to follow. This is particularly relevant to the statement relating to the guidance on the Hallmarking Act. The RPC finds that this guidance is unlikely to impact businesses but that the measure would qualify under the Business Impact Target if it did.



Michael Gibbons CBE, Chairman

Non-qualifying Regulatory Provisions Summary Report

Regulator: British Hallmarking Council

Business Impact Target Reporting Period Covered: 8/5/15 – 8/6/17

Excluded Category	Summary of measure(s), including any impact data where available
A – EU and International	A process was devised by the Council's Technical Committee for considering the equivalence of EEA hallmarks and work with the RD was completed in 2015. A Retailers Guide to Recognised Hallmarks was amended in 2016 to include Spanish hallmarks recognised under the Council's recognition procedure. The list is now published.
B – Economic Regulation	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
C – Price Control	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
D - Civil Emergencies	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
E – Fines and Penalties	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
F – Pro-Competition	One of the Council's statutory functions is to consider applications to open assay sub-offices. Six sub-Assay Offices were approved in the period, one of which was in Jaipur, India.
G – Large Infrastructure projects	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
H – Misuse of Drugs/National Minimum Wage	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
I – Systemic Financial Risk	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
K – Industry Codes	Following consideration of the exclusion category there are no measures for the reporting period that qualify for the exclusion.
L1 – Casework	<p>The Council's complaints procedure was invoked by a retailer in 2015. Such complaints, which are very rare, are considered by the Council's Technical Committee which makes a recommendation to the Council. In this case, the complaint was not upheld. The procedure was not invoked in 2016.</p> <p>The Council's primary function is to ensure that there are adequate facilities for hallmarking as required in the UK from time to time. The Royal Mint conducts annual inspections of the assay offices and provides a copy of their report to the Council. This assists the Council in assessing its performance in respect of this function. The Royal Mint conducted its inspection of the hallmarking and assaying operations of the four Assay Offices in October 2015. It concluded that their methods and procedures were satisfactory.</p>

Non-qualifying Regulatory Provisions Summary Report

Excluded Category	Summary of measure(s), including any impact data where available
L2 – Education, communications and promotion	<p>With the support of the Assay Offices the Council ran the Touchstone Award twice during the qualifying period and are planning to repeat this in 2017. The Touchstone Award, whose purpose is to enhance awareness of hallmarking and is presented to the Trading Standards Department which has taken the most innovative approach to raising the profile of hallmarking is regarded as an important, yet cost-effective, way of raising the profile of hallmarking among the Trading Standards community.</p> <p>The Council reviewed the draft guidance note on our website relating to the application of the Hallmarking Act 1973 on internet sales.</p> <p>In 2016 the Assay Offices produced guidance on the Hallmarking Act 1973 which included updated guidance on the hallmarking of mixed metals.</p> <p>The Council via the Secretary receives numerous telephone and email queries from members of the public usually relating to the application of hallmarking law or concerns about jewellery purchased which did not appear to be hallmarked. All queries are responded to.</p>
L3 – Activity related to policy development	<p>The Council implemented the recommendations of the Triennial review by establishing and publishing a risk register</p> <p>In October 2016 the Council reviewed and agreed the list of approved hallmarks put together by NMRO/RDD/BEIS</p>
L4 – Changes to management of regulator	<p>In April 2017 the Chairman, Christopher Jewitt and Secretary, Geraldine Swanton, stood down and were replaced by Noel Hunter, OBE, as Chairman and Katrina Ritters as Secretary.</p>