

TRIAL OF THE PYX 2007 – UNITED KINGDOM COINAGE

VERDICT OF THE JURY

1. Declaration

- (a) We, the members of the Jury, were duly sworn on 6 February 2007 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 and bimetallic 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 and various Proclamations and were ready for issue between 1 January 2006 and 31 December 2006.
- (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 the 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 within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being seventy milligrams above (+70) 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 being point three of a part per thousand below (-0.3) the standard fineness.
- (d) 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 there was point four of a part per thousand variation below (-0.4) the standard fineness in the metal of the ingot.
- (e) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of gold coins and found that they were within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being three hundred and seventy milligrams above (+370) the standard weight.
- (f) We then took out of the residue three coins of each type and weighed and assayed them separately.

- (g) 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 being, in milligrams, as follows:

for the coins of one hundred pounds Britannia:	fifteen above (+15), thirty six above (+36) and fifty one below (-51) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pounds Britannia:	four below (-4), seven above (+7) and eight below (-8) standard weight;
for the coins of twenty five pounds Britannia:	one below (-1), three below (-3) and five above (+5) standard weight;
for the coins of ten pounds Britannia:	one below (-1), three above (+3) and four above (+4) standard weight;
for the coins of five pounds:	twenty four below (-24), thirty eight above (+38) and forty four above (+44) standard weight;
for the coins of two pounds:	one below (-1) and eleven above (+11) standard weight;
for the coins of one pound:	one below (-1), fourteen below (-14) and thirty below (-30) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pence:	two below (-2) thirty below (-30) and thirty seven below (-37) standard weight;
for the sovereigns:	six above (+6) and seven above (+7) standard weight; and
for the half sovereigns:	one below (-1), two above (+2) and four below (-4) standard weight.

- (h) 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 being, in parts per thousand, as follows:

for the coins of one hundred pounds Britannia:	point three above (+0.3), point six above (+0.6) and point seven above (+0.7) standard fineness;
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for the coins of fifty pounds Britannia:	point five above (+0.5) and point seven above (+0.7) standard fineness;
for the coins of twenty five pounds Britannia:	point two below (-0.2), point four below (-0.4) and point six above (+0.6) standard fineness;
for the coins of ten pounds Britannia:	point one above (+0.1) and point two below (-0.2) standard fineness;
for the coins of five pounds:	point one above (+0.1) and point six below (-0.6) standard fineness;
for the coins of two pounds:	point one below (-0.1), point three below (-0.3) and point five above (+0.5) standard fineness;
for the coins of one pound:	point three above (+0.3), point six above (+0.6) and point seven below (-0.7) standard fineness;
for the coins of fifty pence:	point three below (-0.3) and point three above (+0.3) standard fineness.
for the sovereigns:	point one above (+0.1), point two below (-0.2) and point five below (-0.5) standard fineness; and
for the half-sovereigns:	point three below (-0.3), point four above (+0.4) and point five above (+0.5) standard fineness.

3. 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 two hundred and twenty milligrams above (+220) the standard weight.
- (b) We then assayed three 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 fineness.

4. Silver Maundy coins

- (a) We took out all 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 two hundred and nine milligrams above (+209) the standard weight.
- (b) We then assayed ten coins per denomination 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 two point four parts per thousand above (+2.4) the standard fineness.

5. Silver coins other than Maundy coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins in the packets of two pound Britannia coins weighed more than one kilogram and that the coins in the packets of the other denominations weighed not more than one kilogram.
- (b) We ascertained that the coins in all the packets, other than the two pound Britannia packets, weighed more than five hundred grams.
- (c) We took out all the coins of each denomination and weighed them in bulk and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variations being, in grams, as follows:

for the coins of two pounds Britannia:	point four seven above (+0.47) standard weight;
for the coins of five pounds Pied Forte:	point zero four below (-0.04) standard weight;
for the coins of five pounds:	point zero seven above (+0.07) standard weight;
for the coins of one pound Pied Forte:	point five seven above (+0.57) standard weight;
for the coins of one pound:	point zero nine below (-0.09) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pence Pied Forte:	point four above (+0.4) standard weight;
for the coins of fifty pence:	point two four above (+0.24) standard weight;
for the coins of twenty pence:	point zero three above (+0.03) standard weight;

for the coins of ten pence:	point zero eight above (+0.08) standard weight;
for the coins of five pence:	point zero three above (+0.03) standard weight;
for the coins of two pence:	point one four above (+0.14) standard weight; and
for the coins of one pence:	point one four below (-0.14) standard weight.

- (d) We assayed all the Britannia 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 fineness, the variation being point five parts per thousand above (+0.5) the standard fineness;
- (e) Finally, we assayed all the coins, other than the Britannia 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 five parts per thousand above (+1.5) the standard fineness.

6. 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 being, in grams, as follows:
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| for the coins of two pounds
Pied Forte: | point three one below (-0.31)
standard weight; and |
| for the coins of two pounds: | point three six below (-0.36)
standard weight. |
- (d) Then, we assayed all the coins, 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 fineness, the variation being for the inner section two point three parts per thousand parts

above (+2.3) and for the outer section one point seven parts per thousand above (+1.7) the standard fineness.

- (e) Finally, in assaying all the coins, we weighed the gold-plating of the outer section of the coins and found that the gold-plating was on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being, in milligrams, as follows:

for the coins of two pounds Pied Forte:	sixty eight above (+68) standard weight; and
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for the coins of two pounds:	thirty eight above (+38) standard weight.
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7. 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 and weighing not less than nine hundred and eighty grams or 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 being, in grams, as follows:

for the lot of coins of five pounds:	point three two above (+0.32) standard weight;
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for the two lots of coins of fifty pence:	point three four below (-0.34) and one point three three below (-1.33) standard weight;
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for the three lots of coins of twenty pence:	point two three below (-0.23), point eight three above (+0.83) and one point one below (-1.1) standard weight;
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for the lot of coins of ten pence:	point two two above (+0.22) standard weight; and
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for the lot of coins of five pence:	two point four two below (-2.42) standard weight.
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- (d) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of cupro-nickel coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being sixteen point three grams above (+16.3) 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 as follows:

for the coins of twenty pence:	plus point zero seven per cent (+0.07) of copper and minus point zero seven per cent (-0.07) of nickel; and
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for the coins of five pounds fifty pence ten pence and five pence:	plus point zero four per cent (+0.04) of copper and minus point zero four per cent (-0.04) of nickel.
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- (f) Lastly, 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 being, in millimetres, as follows:

for the coins of five pounds:	point zero one (-0.01) less than the standard diameter;
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for the coins of twenty pence:	point zero seven (-0.07) less than the standard diameter;
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for the coins of ten pence:	point zero one (-0.01) less than the standard diameter; and
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for the coins of five pence:	point zero two (-0.02) less than the standard diameter.
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8. Nickel-brass coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of one pound contained in the packets of nickel-brass coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (b) We took from each packet a sufficient number of coins and grouped them into three lots, each lot weighing not less than nine hundred and eighty grams or more than one kilogram. We 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 being, in grams, as follows:

point two below (-0.2), one point zero six below (-1.06) and two point five two below (-2.52) the standard weight.

- (c) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets of nickel-brass coins and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being twenty two point nine grams above (+22.9) 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 plus point zero eight of a per cent (+0.08) of copper, minus point zero four of a per cent (-0.04) of nickel and minus point zero three of a per cent (-0.03) 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 point zero nine millimetres below (-0.09) the standard diameter.

9. Bimetallic coins

- (a) We ascertained that the coins of two pounds contained in the packets of bimetallic coins weighed more than one kilogram.
- (b) We took from each packet sufficient coins and grouped them into two lots, each lot weighing not less than nine hundred and eighty grams or more than one kilogram, and 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 being, in grams, as follows:

one point one five below (-1.15) and one point nine zero below (-1.90) the standard weight.
- (c) We weighed in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets and found that they were on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight, the variation being one hundred and forty nine point three grams below (-149.3) the standard weight.
- (d) We then assayed the coins, not weighing less in all than five hundred grams, by:
 - (i) comparing 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 six per cent (+0.06) of copper and minus point zero six per cent (-0.06) of nickel; and
 - (ii) comparing 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 point zero six per cent (+0.06) of copper, minus point one five per cent (-0.15) of nickel and plus point zero nine per cent (+0.09) 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 point zero five millimetres below (-0.05) 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 4 May 2007.

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| 1.
Professor R L Himsworth | 10.
Sir John Kingman
Foreman of the Jury |
| 2.
Sir Jerry Wiggin | 11.
Miss Jane Short |
| 3.
Mr G G Macdonald | 12.
Mr R N Fox |
| 4.
Mr P J Byrom | 13.
Mr D A Beasley |
| 5.
Sir Timothy Clifford | 14.
Mr T R Prideaux |
| 6.
Mr C N Lawrence | 15.
Sir David Wilkinson |
| 7.
Mr C E G Toye | 16.
Doctor R Organ |
| 8.
Mr R G H Crofts | 17.
Mr E M Harley |
| 9.
Mr T R B Fattorini | |

DATED 4 MAY 2007

TRIAL OF THE PYX 2007

in accordance with

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

VERDICT

of the Jury
