

1983 No. 612

COINAGE

The Trial of the Pyx (Amendment) Order 1983

Made - - - - - 20th April 1983
Coming into Operation 21st April 1983

At the Court at Windsor Castle, the 20th day of April 1983

Present,
The Queen's Most Excellent Majesty in Council

Her Majesty, in pursuance of section 8(2) and (3) of the Coinage Act 1971(a) and of all other powers enabling Her in that behalf, is pleased, by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

Citation and commencement

1. This Order may be cited as the Trial of the Pyx (Amendment) Order 1983, and shall come into operation on 21st April 1983.

Coins to be set apart by the Mint for Trial

2.—(1) Article 3(1) of the Trial of the Pyx Order 1975(b) (hereinafter called “the said Order”) shall be amended by deleting sub-paragraphs (c) and (d) thereof and substituting the following:—

- “(c) one coin out of every 3,000 silver coins (not being Maundy coins) ready for issue;
- (d) one coin out of every 5,000 cupro-nickel coins ready for issue; and
- (e) one coin out of every 5,000 nickel brass coins ready for issue.”.

(2) Article 3(2) of the said Order shall be amended by deleting the words “coins and cupro-nickel coins” and substituting the words “coins, cupro-nickel coins and nickel brass coins”.

(a) 1971 c. 24.

(b) S.I. 1975/2192; a relevant amending Instrument is S.I. 1980/1967.

3. The said Order shall be further amended by inserting the following Article after Article 10:—

“Trial of nickel brass coins

10A.—(1) For the purpose of the trial of the nickel brass coins, the jury shall ascertain—

- (a) whether or not the coins of each denomination contained in the packets of nickel brass coins weigh more than one kilogram, and
 - (b) whether or not all the coins contained in the packets weigh more than 500 grams.
- (2) If the coins of any denomination weigh in all more than one kilogram—
- (a) the jury shall take out from each packet of nickel brass coins as many coins of that denomination as they think fit, and—
 - (i) shall group the coins so taken out into lots weighing not less than 980 grams nor more than one kilogram each; and
 - (ii) shall weigh each lot in bulk so as to ascertain whether the coins in that lot are on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight;
 - (b) the jury shall weigh in bulk the residue of the coins remaining in the packets, being coins of denominations to which this paragraph applies, so as to ascertain whether they are on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight.
- (3) If the coins of any denomination weigh in all not more than one kilogram, the jury shall take out all the coins of that denomination and weigh them in bulk so as to ascertain whether they are on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight.
- (4) If the coins contained in the packets of nickel brass coins weigh in all more than 500 grams, the jury shall assay such number of coins as they think fit, not weighing less in all than 500 grams.
- (5) If the coins contained in such packets weigh in all not more than 500 grams, the jury shall assay all the coins.
- (6) In assaying the coins, the jury shall compare them with the standard trial plates of copper, nickel and zinc so as to ascertain whether the metal of the coins is on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition.
- (7) If the number of coins of any denomination contained in the packets of nickel brass coins is more than ten, the jury shall measure the diameter of not less than ten, and not more than twenty, coins of that denomination.
- (8) If the number of coins of any denomination contained in such packets is not more than ten, the jury shall measure the diameter of all the coins of that denomination.

(9) In measuring the diameter of the coins of any denomination, the jury shall ascertain whether the average diameter of the coins of that denomination is within the permitted variation from the standard diameter.”.

Findings of the jury

4. Article 11(1) of the said Order shall be amended by deleting sub-paragraph (i) thereof and substituting the following sub-paragraphs:—

- “(i) whether the average diameter of the cupro-nickel coins measured is within the permitted variation from the standard diameter;
- (j) whether each group of nickel brass coins weighed in bulk is on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard weight;
- (k) whether the nickel brass coins assayed are on the whole within the permitted variation from the standard composition;
- (l) whether the average diameter of the nickel brass coins measured is within the permitted variation from the standard diameter.”.

Form of oath

5. Schedule 2 to the said Order shall be deleted and the following substituted therefor:—

“

SCHEDULE 2

Article 5(1).

FORM OF OATH TO BE ADMINISTERED TO THE JURY

You shall well and truly, after your knowledge and discretion, make the assays of these moneys of gold, silver, cupro-nickel and nickel brass, and truly report if the said moneys be in weight and fineness or composition according to the standard weights for weighing and testing the coins of the realm, and the standard trial plates of gold, silver, copper, nickel and zinc in the custody of the Secretary of State and used for determining the justness of the gold, silver, cupro-nickel and nickel brass coinage of the realm, and be in conformity with the Coinage Act 1971 or any proclamation in force in pursuance of that Act; and if the diameter of such of these coins as are of cupro-nickel and nickel brass be in conformity with that Act or any such proclamation as aforesaid; so help you God. ”.

N. E. Leigh,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

(This Note is not part of the Order.)

This Order amends the Trial of the Pyx Order 1975 by providing for the trial of nickel brass coins.

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