

EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Issued by authority of the Assistant Minister for Competition, Charities and Treasury

Currency Act 1965

*Currency (Australian Coins) Amendment (2024 Royal Australian Mint No. 11)
Determination 2024*

Subsection 13(2) and section 13A of the *Currency Act 1965* (the Act) provide that the Treasurer may, by legislative instrument, determine details of Australian coin characteristics including denomination, standard composition, standard weight, allowable variation from standard weight, design and dimensions.

The purpose of this legislative instrument is to determine the characteristics of 11 new non-circulating coins proposed to be issued by the Royal Australian Mint.

The Treasurer may authorise the making and issuing of coins specified, or taken to be specified, in the Schedule to the *Currency Act 1965*. A payment of money is a legal tender if it is made in coins that are made and issued under the *Currency Act 1965*. Through the issue of a currency determination, the Treasurer can add, remove and alter the coin characteristics specified, or taken to be specified, in the Schedule to the *Currency Act 1965*.

In accordance with section 19 of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*, any Minister in the Treasury portfolio may, by legislative instrument, determine details of Australian coin characteristics.

Details of the legislative instrument are set out in the Attachment.

The legislative instrument commenced on the day after it was registered on the Federal Register of Legislation.

The legislative instrument is subject to disallowance under section 42 of the *Legislation Act 2003*.

The Determination is a legislative instrument for the purposes of the *Legislation Act 2003*. The Determination is not subject to sunseting under the *Legislation Act 2003* on the grounds that the instrument ensures economic certainty (see item 20 of the table in section 12 of the *Legislation (Exemptions and Other Matters) Regulation 2015*). The instrument's operation is integral in ensuring that the currency produced by the Mints becomes, and remains, legal tender unless or until returned to a mint to be taken out of circulation in accordance with the *Currency Act 1965*.

Consultation

No public consultation was undertaken in relation to this legislative instrument. The effect of this instrument is to determine details of new Australian coin characteristics which will enable the Royal Australian Mint to continue its production of circulating and numismatic coins.

Members of the public have the opportunity to contact the Royal Australian Mint to present any themes they would like to see commemorated on Australian legal tender. These concepts are then researched and assessed in accordance with the Royal Australian Mint's coin design policies. The Royal Australian Mint also uses market-based tools to identify interested parties and gauge interest in coin themes.

Statement of Compatibility with Human Rights

Prepared in accordance with Part 3 of the Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011

Currency (Australian Coins) Amendment (2024 Royal Australian Mint No. 11) Determination 2024

This Legislative Instrument is compatible with the human rights and freedoms recognised or declared in the international instruments listed in section 3 of the *Human Rights (Parliamentary Scrutiny) Act 2011*.

Overview of the Legislative Instrument

The purpose of this legislative instrument is to determine the characteristics of 11 new non-circulating coins proposed to be issued by the Royal Australian Mint.

Human rights implications

This Legislative Instrument does not engage any of the applicable rights or freedoms.

Conclusion

This Legislative Instrument is compatible with human rights as it does not raise any human rights issues.

ATTACHMENT

Details of the *Currency (Australian Coins) Amendment (2024 Royal Australian Mint No. 11) Determination 2024*

This Attachment sets out further details of the *Currency (Australian Coins) Amendment (2024 Royal Australian Mint No. 11) Determination 2024* (the Determination).

Section 1 – Name

This section provides that the name of the Determination is the *Currency (Australian Coins) Amendment (2024 Royal Australian Mint No. 11) Determination 2024*.

Section 2 – Commencement

This section prescribes that the Determination commences the day after the Determination is registered.

Section 3 – Authority

This section provides that the Determination is made under the *Currency Act 1965*.

Section 4 – Schedule

This section provides that each instrument specified in a Schedule to the Determination is amended or repealed as set out in the Schedule.

Schedule 1 – Amendments

Schedule 1 amends the *Currency (Australian Coins) Determination 2019* by adding the details of new coin characteristics. The newly determined coin characteristics are set out below.

New non-circulating coins

2025 50c Coloured Uncirculated Coin – Australian Honours System 50th Anniversary

2025 50c Coloured Proof Coin – Australian Honours System 50th Anniversary

The design on the 2025 50c coloured coins – Australian Honours System 50th Anniversary consists of a representation of Stuart Devlin’s original insignia of the Order of Australia. Superimposed over the insignia, there is a coloured ring representing the ribbon colours of the following Australian honours and awards:

- i. The Order of Australia; and
- ii. The Cross of Valour; and
- iii. The National Medal.

The design includes the following inscriptions: “AUSTRALIAN HONOURS AND AWARDS”; “50”; and “1975-2025”.

Consistent with the tradition of an effigy of the reigning monarch appearing on the obverse side of all Australian legal tender coinage, an effigy of His Majesty King Charles III will appear on the obverse side of the coins together with the inscriptions “CHARLES III”, “AUSTRALIA”, and the inscription, in numerals, of a year. The obverse design includes the initials of the designer Dan Thorne “DT”.

2025 \$1 Gold Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

2025 \$1 Silver Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

The design on the 2025 \$1 proof coins – Daniel Thorne Effigy consists of a stylised representation of five kangaroos. The design includes the inscription: “1 DOLLAR”.

Consistent with the tradition of an effigy of the reigning monarch appearing on the obverse side of all Australian legal tender coinage, an effigy of His Majesty King Charles III will appear on the obverse side of the coins together with the inscriptions “CHARLES III”, “AUSTRALIA”, and the inscription, in numerals, of a year. The obverse design includes the initials of the designer Dan Thorne “DT”.

2025 50c Gold Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

2025 50c Silver Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

The design on the 2025 50c proof coins – Daniel Thorne Effigy consists of a representation of the Coat of Arms of the Commonwealth. The design includes the inscriptions: “50”; and “SD” (being the initials of the designer Stuart Devlin).

Consistent with the tradition of an effigy of the reigning monarch appearing on the obverse side of all Australian legal tender coinage, an effigy of His Majesty King Charles III will appear on the obverse side of the coins together with the inscriptions “CHARLES III”, “AUSTRALIA”, and the inscription, in numerals, of a year. The obverse design includes the initials of the designer Dan Thorne “DT”.

2025 20c Gold Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

2025 20c Silver Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

The design on the 2025 20c proof coins – Daniel Thorne Effigy consists of a representation of a platypus in water. The design includes the inscriptions: “20”; and “SD” (being the initials of the designer Stuart Devlin).

Consistent with the tradition of an effigy of the reigning monarch appearing on the obverse side of all Australian legal tender coinage, an effigy of His Majesty King Charles III will appear on the obverse side of the coins together with the inscriptions “CHARLES III”, “AUSTRALIA”, and the inscription, in numerals, of a year. The obverse design includes the initials of the designer Dan Thorne “DT”.

2025 10c Gold Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy
2025 10c Silver Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

The design on the 2025 10c proof coins – Daniel Thorne Effigy consists of a representation of a lyrebird. The design includes the inscriptions: “10”; and “SD” (being the initials of the designer Stuart Devlin).

Consistent with the tradition of an effigy of the reigning monarch appearing on the obverse side of all Australian legal tender coinage, an effigy of His Majesty King Charles III will appear on the obverse side of the coins together with the inscriptions “CHARLES III”, “AUSTRALIA”, and the inscription, in numerals, of a year. The obverse design includes the initials of the designer Dan Thorne “DT”.

2025 5c Gold Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy
2025 5c Silver Proof Coin – Daniel Thorne Effigy

The design on the 2025 5c proof coins – Daniel Thorne Effigy consists of a representation of an echidna. The design includes the inscriptions: “5”; and “SD” (being the initials of the designer Stuart Devlin).

Consistent with the tradition of an effigy of the reigning monarch appearing on the obverse side of all Australian legal tender coinage, an effigy of His Majesty King Charles III will appear on the obverse side of the coins together with the inscriptions “CHARLES III”, “AUSTRALIA”, and the inscription, in numerals, of a year. The obverse design includes the initials of the designer Dan Thorne “DT”.