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## PRESS RELEASE

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London, 15 May 2017

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### The Royal Mint launches its first ever platinum bullion products

High resolution images can be downloaded from the following link: [DOWNLOAD](#)

The Royal Mint has timed its **first entry into the platinum bullion market** to coincide with **London Platinum Week**. The first of a range of bullion platinum coins and bars will be launched on Monday 15 May via bullion trading platform [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com), and will be the first investment-grade platinum to be retailed by the 1,000 year-old organisation. A strategic partnership with The World Platinum Investment Council (WPIC) to deliver the physical platinum products was announced in December 2016.

Monday will see the launch of The Royal Mint's 500g and Kilo platinum bars on the platform, which will be followed in the next few weeks by a 100g and 1oz platinum bar, and a 1oz 'Queen's Beasts Lion of England' coin – the first platinum coin to be launched in the popular heraldic series.

Chris Howard, The Royal Mint's Director of Bullion, said, "This is a new and exciting marketplace for us, and we look forward to working with the WPIC to expand the range of trusted Royal Mint Bullion products available to investors."



"The introduction of platinum to our portfolio is the next logical step for The Royal Mint and increases the choice available to our customers, supporting our ambition to be recognised as the home of the 'complete bullion solution'."

David Crawford, Program Manager at the World Platinum Investment Council, said: "The Royal Mint is one of the world's oldest and foremost authorities and issuers of bullion coins and bars, and we are honoured to be working with them. The partnership is the latest in a series of strategic initiatives from the WPIC to stimulate further investor demand for physical platinum, and increase the number and type of platinum investment opportunities available worldwide."

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The Royal Mint - the world's leading export mint, has been producing precious metal coinage since the 9<sup>th</sup> Century, and throughout this time has continued to strike coins in gold and silver. With the launch of bullion trading site [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com) in 2014 The Royal Mint became the first mint to offer bullion coins and bars direct to individuals on a 24/7 basis, dispatched to the customer or stored on their behalf in The Royal Mint's vault - [The Vault™](#).

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**Notes to Editors:**

**About the World Platinum Investment Council**

The World Platinum Investment Council Ltd. (WPIC) is a global market authority on physical platinum investment, formed to meet the growing investor demand for objective and reliable platinum market intelligence. WPIC's mission is to stimulate global investor demand for physical platinum through both actionable insights and targeted product development. WPIC was created in 2014 by the six leading platinum producers in South Africa: Anglo American Platinum Ltd, Aquarius Platinum Ltd, Impala Platinum Ltd, Lonmin plc, Northam Platinum Ltd and Royal Bafokeng Platinum Ltd. The World Platinum Investment Council is not authorised by the Financial Conduct Authority to give investment advice.

For further information, please visit [www.platinuminvestment.com](http://www.platinuminvestment.com).

WPIC's offices are located at: 64 St James's Street, London, SW1A 1NF.

**For further information please visit [www.royalmint.com](http://www.royalmint.com)**

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### **About The Royal Mint**

The Royal Mint has an unbroken history of minting British coinage dating back over 1,000 years. By the late thirteenth century the organisation was based in the Tower of London, and remained there for over 500 years. By 1812 The Royal Mint had moved out of the Tower to premises on London's Tower Hill. In 1967 the building of a new Royal Mint began on its current site in South Wales, UK.

While The Royal Mint's finest traditions are always respected, it continually innovates in order to stay at the forefront of world minting, embracing the latest production techniques and technology in order to offer excellence to our clients across the globe. By underpinning our proud heritage with a highly progressive outlook, The Royal Mint produces coins that remain a byword for trust and reliability the world over. There were estimated to be 28.9 billion UK coins in circulation at 31 March 2014, with a total face value of over £4 billion, all manufactured by The Royal Mint. In total, nearly 2 billion UK coins were issued during 2013-14.

As well as over 1,000 years of producing British coinage, The Royal Mint has long been trusted with the currencies of other countries. It has served more than 100 issuing authorities around the world and currently meets approximately 15% of global demand, making us the world's leading export mint.

The Royal Mint has been making official military campaign medals since it was commissioned to make awards for soldiers who fought in the battle of Waterloo in 1815. The year 2012 was of particular significance for The Royal Mint's medal-making team, with the manufacture of all 4,700 Victory Medals for the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Royal Mint has recently introduced a new fineness of Britannia bullion coins and a highly-secure on-site bullion vault storage facility, building on the gold Sovereign's long-standing reputation for integrity, accuracy. This positions The Royal Mint and its bullion products as a premium proposition in this marketplace.

In September 2014, The Royal Mint launched a new bullion trading website, [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com), enabling customers to buy, store and sell bullion coins at constantly updated prices directly from The Royal Mint quickly, effortlessly and securely, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

In January 2015, The Royal Mint announced the revival of The Royal Mint Refinery bullion brand. Gold and silver minted bars bearing the historic marque became available for the first time since 1968, available direct to the public at [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com).

In June 2015, The Royal Mint launched Signature Gold, a new addition to its bullion trading service, allowing customers to purchase and own a fractional amount of a 400 oz gold bar from [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com).

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In May 2016, The Royal Mint opened 'The Royal Mint Experience', a purpose-built visitor attraction, located at its headquarters in Llantrisant, South Wales. [www.royalmint.com/Experience](http://www.royalmint.com/Experience).

In November 2016, The Royal Mint announced its partnership with derivatives marketplace Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), to develop and trade an innovative new product, Royal Mint Gold (RMG), to be launched in 2017. This new service will provide an easier, cost-effective and cryptographically secure alternative to buying, holding and trading spot gold.

In December 2016 Royal Mint Bullion announced that it will be launching investment-grade platinum coins and bars via [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com).

In May 2017, The Royal Mint announced that it had become the first mint worldwide to achieve compliance with the Shari'ah Standard on Gold for retail sales of its gold and silver bullion coins and bars, enabling it to serve an even wider audience of investors via trading site [www.royalmintbullion.com](http://www.royalmintbullion.com).