

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BANK OF SCOTLAND UNVEILS TWO NEW £20 POLYMER NOTE DESIGNS

- **New £20 Polymer note retains Sir Walter Scott and The Mound in Edinburgh, as well as the Forth Bridge.**
- **Commemorative note will be launched celebrating the Queensferry Crossing.**
- **Michael Matheson, Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure and Connectivity, is quoted.**

Bank of Scotland has today unveiled the design of its new Polymer £20 note which will enter circulation early in the new-year.

The front of the note will continue to feature the portrait of the Scottish novelist and poet, Sir Walter Scott, alongside the image of The Mound in Edinburgh. The distinctive red Forth Bridge remains on the reverse which was listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in July 2015.

One of the key security features of Bank of Scotland's Polymer notes is the anti-counterfeit 'window effect' which can be found in the windows of The Mound. The £20 Polymer note features a holographic depth stripe, the top of the foil features a Northern Lights effect when tilted, additionally the clouds adjacent to 'Fame' will move left to right when tilted east to west.

Holders of the new £20 polymer note will recognise a new image of the Forth Bridges, with the Queensferry Crossing visible in the background. In celebration of the longest three-tower, cable stayed bridge in the world, the Queensferry Crossing will be celebrated in its own right by featuring on a limited number of commemorative £20 notes. Designed by De La Rue, the commemorative notes will be marked with 'QF & QC' with this pre-fix featuring only on this design.

Sir Walter Scott will remain on the front of the note.

Tara Foley, Managing Director Bank of Scotland, said: "Bank of Scotland has issued bank notes for more than 320 years, showcasing the country's proud history.

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The Queensferry Crossing is the perfect example of Scottish ingenuity and innovation, and that's why we have decided to commemorate the landmark site on a collection of our £20 Polymer notes."

Cabinet Secretary for Transport, Infrastructure & Connectivity Michael

Matheson said: "It is marvellous to see Bank of Scotland marking the arrival of the record breaking structure over the Firth of Forth, the Queensferry Crossing, in this commemorative £20 note.

"It's a fitting tribute to the ingenuity and endeavour of all of the people involved in the creation of this iconic bridge to have a special edition note dedicated to them."

Measuring 139 x 73 mm compared to the current 149 x 80mm, the two notes are slightly smaller than the existing paper £20 notes in circulation. This size is consistent with the new £20 notes that will be issued by the Bank of England and other UK banks next year.

Like the £10 Polymer note, the £20 note will also introduce the tactile emboss feature to aid the visually impaired.

All existing paper Bank of Scotland £20 notes will be gradually withdrawn following the issue of the new note, but any currently in circulation will continue to be accepted at shops, banks and cash payment machines

FORTH BRIDGE 'DID YOU KNOW'

- The Forth Bridge first opened in 1890
- The main structure (portal to portal) measures 1,630 metres
- The highest point of the Forth Bridge stands 110 metres above high water and 137 metres above its foundations
- 53,000 tonnes of steel and 6.5 million rivets were used to construct the Forth Bridge
- There are 1,040 lights installed on the Forth Bridge, using approximately 35-40,000 metres of cable

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QUEENSFERRY CROSSING 'DID YOU KNOW'

- The Queensferry Crossing opened to traffic on 30 August 2017
- The structure spans 1.7 miles (2.7km) making it the longest three-tower, cable-stayed bridge in the world.
- The biggest infrastructure project in Scotland for a generation.
- New world record in 2013 when Transport Scotland achieved the largest continuous underwater concrete pour. The 24-hour non-stop operation successfully poured 16,869 cubic metres of concrete into the water-filled south tower caisson.
- Prior to the completion of the final closure sections on the deck, the balanced cantilevers which extend 322m north and south from the central tower, i.e. 644m tip to tip, were recorded by Guinness World Records as the longest ever.
- Highest bridge towers in the UK. (210m)

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