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Bank of England to Redesign Banknotes — Public Invited to Take Part

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London, July 1, 2025. The Bank of England has announced plans to redesign the UK's banknotes and is inviting the public to help decide who or what should appear on them.

For the first time in years, the central bank is updating the look of its polymer notes, and this time, it wants ideas from people across the country. Members of the public will be able to nominate important British individuals, themes, or achievements they believe deserve to be featured on the new series.

“Our banknotes are not just a way to pay, they reflect our history and values,” said Bank of England Governor Andrew Bailey. “We want to hear from the public about what they feel

represents modern Britain.”

How the Process Works

The public consultation is open now and will run until September 30, 2025. People can send in their nominations through the Bank of England’s official website. After that, a panel of experts from the fields of history, science, and the arts will review the suggestions and create a shortlist. The final designs will then be chosen by the Bank in coordination with HM Treasury.

The notes will still be made of polymer, which was introduced in 2016 to improve durability and prevent counterfeiting. However, the designs and featured figures will change, marking a new chapter in the look and feel of British currency.

In previous years, the Bank has featured well-known figures such as Jane Austen, Winston Churchill, and Alan Turing. This time, the focus may shift to include more diverse and modern choices, with early suggestions already including David Attenborough, Mary Seacole, NHS workers, and themes like climate science or innovation.

“We’re looking for stories that inspire and unite,” said Sarah John, the Bank’s Chief Cashier. “This is a chance to make sure our money reflects the full range of people and ideas that make Britain what it is today.”

The final selections are expected to be revealed in late 2026, with the new notes entering circulation shortly after.

This public consultation marks an important opportunity for individuals to play a part in shaping what the next generation of British banknotes will look like and what they will represent for years to come.