



Labour for a Republic

Democracy, Equality. No Exceptions.

Dear Rachel,

The next Labour Government will be an opportunity to address the many examples of Tory mismanagement of public finances.

Recent press reports have highlighted how this extends to the way in which the monarchy is financed. Under arrangements put in place by the Cameron government, the Sovereign Grant, paid from the public purse, ensures that royal income can never fall. It has meant an £86m increase in royal funding over the last financial year. Meanwhile, the £17m yearly profit from the publicly owned Duchies of Cornwall and Lancaster continue to be paid to the prince of Wales and monarch respectively.

These arrangements are completely unjustifiable in any context, but at a time when households are having to choose between heating and eating and both public and private sector workers are experiencing real-term pay cuts, the special status afforded the monarchy is an insult to ordinary working people.

At this point, we do not expect details of how Labour will address the monarchy's status as an economic anomaly, but we do seek your reassurance that the monarchy will not be exempt from the necessary and urgent scrutiny of public finances.

Yours sincerely,

Nick Wall

Chair, Labour for a Republic