

To the Mayor,

I am a staff member at Crewe and want to remain anonymous. So, please will you accept this as a question in writing for Council in December, as a question to various responsible Councillors.

This is really important to your people, and I ask that you put this out with the Council papers, and read it out so that people, and the public, can see it.

My union people tell me that we have a constitution, and that allows questions at Council. This is important to the people you employ, and is also with the newspapers, so please make sure to get a response at the meeting from those responsible.

Rule 32 and Appendix 7 to the Constitution allow for questions to be put to Cabinet Members and chairs.

This is my question which I would like you to ask each person to answer, and I hope that you will ask each to answer each question in full.

“The recent announcement by Mr Sunak about freezing staff pay is scandalous.

When it was a headline, people clapped people like me on a Thursday night. Now, Mr Sunak unfairly penalises us by cutting our pay after 10 years of pay cuts (see IFS data).

Therefore, will all those listed below, answer whether they support the statement below, as the responsible Council member:

- That each member of staff is valued by the Council.
- That Mr Sunak has acted disgracefully in freezing public sector pay for just certain people.
- That this unfairly penalises public sector staff, when it would be fairer to make all share the burden by increasing income tax for all.
- That targeting the public sector makes key workers and others pay twice: pay freeze and increased tax, whilst the private sector pays just once-tax.
- That the Government must be lobbied in the strongest terms to reverse this proposal.
- That the Council will instruct its employees to work only their contracted hours, ending years of exploitation, when they have been expected to work many hours over what they are paid for.
- That, if Mr Sunak does not reverse his proposal, the Council will add to its budget the cost of making up the pay which its officers will lose and pay it to them.

1. Question to the Leader: do you agree the above statement, and will you comply with it?
2. Question to the Portfolio Holder for Finance: do you agree the above statement, and will you comply with it?
3. Question to the Chair of the Corporate Overview and Scrutiny Committee: do you agree the above statement, and will you ask your Committee to formally agree the statement, and ask Cabinet to action it?
4. Question to the Chair of the Audit and Governance Committee: do you agree the above statement, and will you comply with it?
5. Question to the Chair of the Staffing Committee: do you agree the above statement, and will you comply with it?
6. Question to the Mayor: will you have this question, and a written answer from all of the above, put into the Council minutes?"

[Note: an original version of the above question is held by the Head of Democratic Services and Governance and may be inspected upon request. The text of the question has been clarified in order to assist the meeting]