The Comprehensive Spending Review -- Autumn 2010

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(Email me if you would like a copy of this presentation)
Public policy analysis and the CSR

- policy framing
- relationship between the British state, economy and society
- a new model for the British welfare state?
Policy framing: the ‘problem’

- Britain ‘on the brink of bankruptcy’
- ‘economic ruin’
- ‘catastrophe’
- ‘the country has run out of money’
- ‘hole in public finances’
- debt levels which ‘threatened every job and public service in the country’
Policy framing: the ‘problem’ II

British debt in comparison: with other countries

British debt in comparison: over time

British public spending: over time
www.guardian.co.uk/politics/interactive/2010/oct/15/comprehensive-spending-review-2010-public-spending

(Composition of public spending if you’re interested:
Policy framing: who’s good, who’s bad?

‘we are all in this together’(x2)

BUT

• Deserving vs undeserving
• Public vs private
• Hardworking vs unemployed
• Fraudsters vs honest (but got it wrong… again)
The free economy, the shrunken state- and the missing ‘big society’?

- How is the state now ‘strong’? - it has certainly reduced in size, but does this make it ‘stronger’?

- The (almost) missing ‘big society’

- Accountability - but need for technical support…
The new British welfare state: ‘Liberal-plus’?

- Britain previously seen as ‘liberal’ (vs social democratic and conservative)
- New time limits on claiming benefits - and requiring support from partner
- Councils to have control over council tax benefit - decentralisation of welfare state
- Residualisation - localisation and feminisation
Useful websites I

The documents
www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/spend_index.htm
Voluntary sector’s response
www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/politics/spending-review-our-response
http://tinyurl.com/npcresponse
TUC reaction
www.touchstoneblog.org.uk/
Carers’ Watch
www.carersuk.org/Newsandcampaigns/News/ReactiontotheComprehensiveSpendingReview
Institute of Fiscal Studies
www.ifs.org.uk/projects/346
Useful websites II

Crisis

Friends of the Earth
www.foe.co.uk/resource/press_releases/csr_response_20102010.html

Age UK
http://tinyurl.com/ageukresponse

Child Poverty Action Group

Fawcett Society
http://tinyurl.com/fawcettwomen

Campaign for Better Transport
www.bettertransport.org.uk/blogs/traffic/spending-review-reaction

Interesting discussion of distributional impact of CSR- from centre-left
http://www.leftfootforward.org/2010/10/the-regressive-unfair-comprehensive-spending-review/