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Environmental Health in the current UK landscape 24 September 2010

Tim Everett

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EH and the current landscape



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- The four PDB themes 2010-2012
 - The public health implications of climate change
 - Improving health and dealing with health inequalities
 - Better regulation
 - Safe and decent homes for all

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- The CIEH manifesto - nine key wishes
 - Deal with excess cold hazards in 2.1M dwellings
 - More effective action against rogue landlords
 - Deliver the six Marmot Review policy objectives
 - Establish a National Public Health Forum
 - Action on children's health – sunbeds and food
 - Improve consumer information (SOTD + labelling)

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- The CIEH manifesto - nine key wishes
 - Climate Change – 40% reduction in CO₂ by 2020
 - Climate Change – Enhance LA powers including dealing with emissions
 - Air quality complies with PM and NO₂ targets, workable regime for contaminated land
 - <http://www.cieh.org/media>



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- The Coalition Agreement - Business
 - Cut red tape - 1 in 1 out
 - End to tick box regulation *target inspection on high risk, co-regulation, improved professional standards*
 - Sunset clauses for regulations/regulators
 - Public challenge to the “worst” regulations
 - End “gold plating” of EU Rules



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- The Coalition Agreement – CLG
 - End of RSS, Housing/planning to LAs
 - Neighbourhood control
 - Abolish IPC, new fast track process/new National Framework
 - General power of competence
 - Restrict use of RIPA by Councils



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- The Coalition Agreement – Crime
 - More controls on alcohol sales
 - Below cost price ban, closure of premises, increased fines, taxation?
 - Extension to powers to remove/refuse licenses to problem premises
 - Elected police chiefs
 - BUT encourage live music



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- The Coalition Agreement – Environment
 - Full compliance with Air Quality Standards!
 - Zero waste economy, pay people to recycle, action on littering (Example of nudge)
 - More efficient use of water
 - Presumption on SD in planning
 - No 3rd runway at Heathrow, no 2nd at S & G



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- The Queen's Speech
 - **Cutting the deficit is the first priority**
 - 21 Bills/1 draft Bill in next 18 months:
 - Decentralisation and Local Government Bill
 - Energy Security and Green Economy Bill
 - **Health Bill**
 - Parliamentary Reform Bill
 - Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill
 - Public Bodies Reform Bill



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- The great Quango cull
 - IPC going/gone (and many more)
 - HPA going
 - FSA reduced functions
 - LBRO under review
 - EA & HSE Cuts

Tracking the recession

August '10

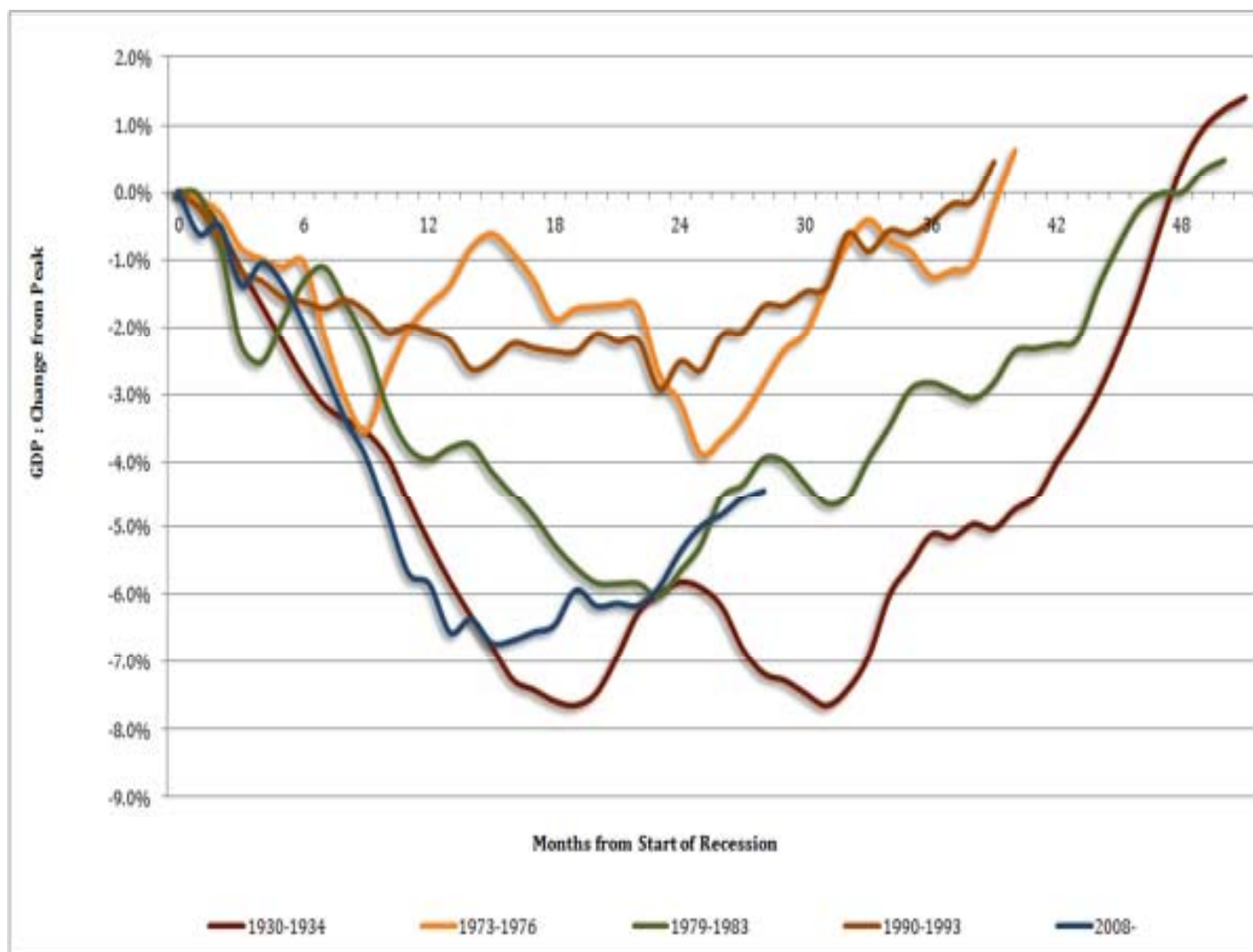


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- £927.4BN national debt
- £156BN deficit in 09/10 £149BN 10/11
- 2.46M current unemployed (ILO)
- 3.1%/4.8% inflation (CPI/RPI)
- +1.2% last ¼ GDP +1.7% last 12/12
- 27 months overall –ve GDP



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- UK Prospects
 - Consumer spending per head below last peak until 2015
 - Inflation above target until 2012
 - Chance of decline in output in 2011 increasing
 - Real house prices flat and heading back down, 5% below 2006



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- The first £6BN of cuts
 - DECC cuts to NDA, Carbon and Energy Savings Trusts
 - Local Govt, lower grants and cuts to housing (£1BN)
 - Cuts to RDAs (£230M)
 - Cuts to devolved administrations (£704M)



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- The Emergency Budget (1)
 - VAT rise to 20% raises £13.5BN
 - Benefit cuts to raise £11BN
 - Real spending cuts of 25% - PSR10 (20%)
 - 10/11 total reduction £8.1BN (£0.8BN)
 - 11/12 total reduction £41BN (£26BN)
 - 14/15 total reduction £113BN (£73BN)
 - (The figures in brackets are from the Labour Budget)



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- The Emergency Budget (2)
 - State Pensions improved rate, later payment
 - Public sector pay freeze for two years
 - Public sector pension review
 - Change to occupational pension and benefit inflators
 - Business tax reductions (NI, Corporation tax)



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- What are the strategic issues?
 - Climate Change
 - Public Health
 - Flooding
 - Housing/affordable housing shortage
 - Health inequalities (LE and DFLE) growing
 - The reduced role of regulation

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- Marmot Review – Inequalities in health
 - Four key tasks
 - Identify the evidence
 - Translation of evidence into practice
 - Possible objectives – to build on PSA target on infant mortality and life expectancy
 - Publish report to develop post 2010 strategy

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- Action on six policy objectives
 - A Every child needs the best start in life
 - B Children etc to have control over their lives
 - C Fair employment and good work for all
 - D Healthy standard of living for all
 - E Healthy and sustainable communities
 - F Strengthen the role of ill health prevention

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- Fair Society, healthy lives
 - It's a matter of fairness and social justice
 - A social gradient in health
 - Health inequalities result from social inequalities – action on the social determinants
 - Proportionate universalism
 - Reducing health inequalities benefits society
 - Economic growth is not the best indicator of success
 - Action needed by all partners not just the NHS
 - Local delivery requires local involvement

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- The Social Gradient (LE & DFLE at birth)
 - Inequalities affect more than the worst off
 - Only about 35% can expect DFLE over 65
 - Only about 5% can expect DFLE over 68
 - Average 9 years less LE across UK (100/1)
 - Average 16 years less DFLE

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- Key health behaviours follow the social gradient
 - Smoking
 - Obesity
 - Lack of physical activity
 - Unhealthy nutrition



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- The Health White Paper
 - Abolition of PCTs and SHAs
 - Shared decision-making GP/patient
 - National and local commissioning
 - Targets out/clinical judgement in
 - Stronger voice for patients/public
 - Local health and wellbeing boards
 - Ring-fenced local public health budgets

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- The new Public Health Service
 - Three pillars
 - HPA becoming part of DH
 - DPH's based in LAs
 - Where does EH fit in?
 - The next White Paper

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- Summary and challenges
 - How much will the landscape change over the next 2-3 years?
 - UK will have a smaller state and less important economy
 - What will be affordable?
 - What will environmental health look like and who will deliver it?



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- Our vision
 - Leading, inspiring and delivering a safe, clean and healthy world.
- Our mission
 - To promote effective environmental health practice.



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- Our strategic goals (1)
 - Set and maintain high standards in education, training and professional behaviour
 - Promote excellence in environmental health delivery and practice
 - Be the voice of the profession in the promotion of public health, sustainable development and climate change solutions



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- Our strategic goals (2)
 - Increase knowledge of environmental health practice
 - Provide products and services to support environmental health gains
 - Be an inclusive membership body