

The notes are written to give you ideas on how to use the various resources produced on the theme of 'Government Spending'. The resources have been designed so that you can use them in whatever context or way that you wish. The data are sourced from the HM Treasury http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/junebudget_diagrams.htm.

In the Excel file you will find data for the years 1973, 1990, 2003 and 2010. These are available for you to use to make comparisons over time. Be aware of the changes in spending e.g. from millions to billions, and the structure of the Government. Making comparisons may be tricky but it is a useful exercise in interpreting real data. Along with these data tables is a pie chart to show the spending for 2003. This could be used as an OHP/Whiteboard exercise where pupils guess and reveal hidden labels/titles.

The other two worksheets, 'Balancing the Budget' and 'Sharing Out the Pot' give exercises based on the 2010 data. The activities themselves are self-explanatory and can be used as either main activities, plenaries or homework.

Your own notes/ideas: