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# Designing the future: *What should society look like post-coronavirus?*

*BSc Applied Social Policy  
Continuous Learning Challenge*

# Background: What are the issues?

## Activity:

- Listen to this podcast from the organization Compass of activist & entrepreneur Hilary Cottam talking about the pandemic & the welfare state
- Make notes on: what issues she discusses, what currently happens, what should happen according to Cottam

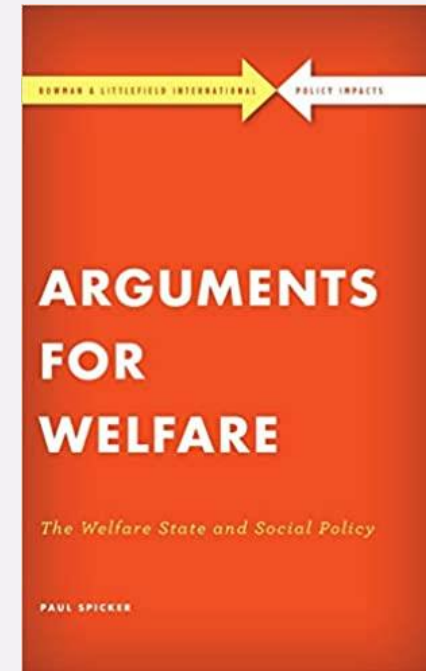


<https://compassonline.buzzsprout.com/914668/3572956-episode-6-designing-a-better-britain-in-conversation-with-hilary-cottam>

# Background: What is the welfare state?

## Activity:

- Read this blog on the welfare state
- Think about the what you heard in the podcast, how does this information on the welfare state relate to this?



<http://spicker.uk/social-policy/socpol.htm#wstate>

# Background: What is the welfare state?

- A core element of the design of a welfare state is what we understand the relationship between citizen and state to be
- This relates to concepts of equality and fairness
- Are we all equal? What should we have equality of?  
Resources, opportunities, money, services?
- How we answer these questions have an impact on how we think the state should operate

## Activity:

What are your answers to these questions?

# Background: What is social policy?

“The name of 'social policy' is used to refer to the policies which governments use for welfare and social protection, to the ways in which welfare is developed in a society, and to the academic study of the subject.”

“In the first sense, social policy is particularly concerned with social services and the welfare state. In the second, broader sense, it stands for a range of issues extending far beyond the actions of government - the means by which welfare is promoted, and the social and economic conditions which shape the development of welfare.”  
([Spicker](#))

We can broadly see social policy as relating to:

- Housing
- Education
- Health
- Employment
- Social care

# Designing the future – what do we need to think about

What do we think the relationship between citizens and the state is?

What should society look like after the pandemic?

How does the welfare state fit in?

What would this look like?

## Activity:

What has the pandemic taught us about?

- Housing
- Education
- Health
- Employment
- Social care

Find news articles about the pandemic & these issues & make notes on these

# Designing the future – useful resources

Wilkinson & Pickett (2020) *Why coronavirus might just create a more equal Britain*

[Available at: <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/may/04/coronavirus-equal-society-britain-wellbeing-economic-growth>]

The Bevan Foundation: <https://www.bevanfoundation.org/commentary/>

The Institute of Welsh Affairs: <https://www.iwa.wales/>

Senedd Research blog: <https://seneddresearch.blog/2020/04/15/coronavirus-equality-issues/>



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