

# Headline findings of a survey of the public conducted on behalf of The Centre for Policy Studies



June 2010



## **Methodology Note**

ComRes interviewed 1000 GB adults by telephone between 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> May 2010. Data were weighted to be demographically representative of all GB adults. ComRes is a member of the British polling council and abides by its rules.

### **Guidelines for the public use of survey results**

ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules ([www.britishpollingcouncil.org](http://www.britishpollingcouncil.org)). This commits us to the highest standards of transparency.

The BPC's rules state that all data and research findings made on the basis of surveys conducted by member organisations that enter the public domain, must include reference to the following:

- The company conducting the research (ComRes)
- The client commissioning the survey
- Dates of interviewing
- Method of obtaining the interviews (e.g. in-person, post, telephone, internet)
- The universe effectively represented (all adults, voters etc)
- The percentages upon which conclusions are based
- Size of the sample and geographic coverage.

Published references (such as a press release) should also show a web address where full data tables may be viewed, and they should also show the complete wording of questions upon which any data that has entered the public domain are based.

All press releases or other publications must be checked with ComRes before use. ComRes requires 48 hours to check a press release unless otherwise agreed.

## HEADLINE FINDINGS

The public were asked whether they agree or disagree with a series of statements about the Government's announcement that it plans to increase the rate of Capital Gains Tax. The results are summarised below.

*It would be wrong for the Conservative party to double the rate of Capital Gains Tax when this was not in their manifesto.*

- Two thirds of people (64%) agree that it would be wrong for the Conservative party to double the rate of Capital Gains Tax when this was not in their manifesto. 31% of people disagree.
- 68% of people who voted Conservative in the general election last month agree with this statement, compared to 64% of people who voted Labour and 63% who voted Liberal Democrat.

*It should be an explicit policy aim of the government to minimize the tax burden on people's long term savings and investments.*

- Three quarters of people (77%) agree that it should be an explicit policy aim of the government to minimise the tax burden on people's long terms savings and investments.
- More than 80% of people in social group AB and C1 agree with this statement, compared to 75% of people in social group C2 and 68% of people in social group DE.
- 81% of people who voted Conservative last month and 78% of people who voted Liberal Democrat agree with this statement.

*Investments held by individual savers over the long term should be taxed at a lower rate than those held for short term gains.*

- Three quarters (74%) of people agree that investments held by individuals over the long term should be taxed at a lower rate than those held for short term gains, 21% disagree.
- 85% of Liberal Democrat voters agree with this statement, in comparison to 77% of Conservative voters and 71% of Labour voters.

*Taxes which discourage investment, enterprise and growth should deliberately be set as low as possible.*

- Again three quarters of people (75%) agree that taxes which discourage investment, enterprise and growth should deliberately be set as low as possible. 19% of people disagree with this.
- 84% of Conservative voters agree with this statement, compared to 76% of Liberal Democrat voters and 74% of Labour voters.