

24th June 2008

BOURNEMOUTH THRESHOLD DIALOGUE

Where everyone learns but nobody teaches

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

Tuesdays 6:15-7:45pm Clubhouse, Bournemouth

We'll be running three sessions next Tuesday

2 Agency Staff and 2 from PD took part

LEARNINGS

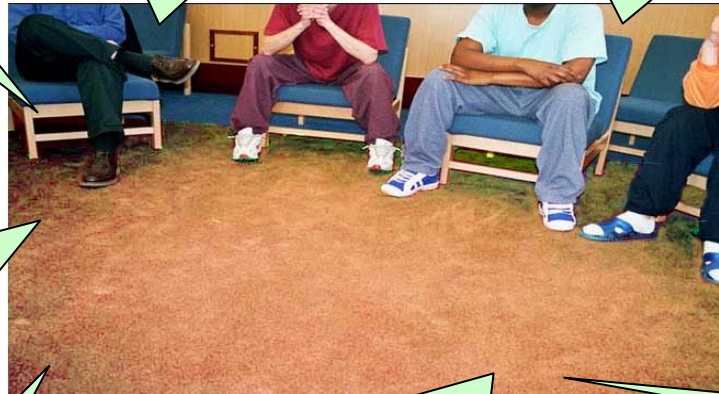
"You could lay out the invitation differently. Just listing the agencies like that doesn't look very attractive. You can put a paragraph in to give it a more informal feel. It needs to look more inviting." (Agency)

"It's the boring, basic, everyday stuff that people find hard. If they got help with those things they'd come along. Like getting those benefit forms filled out – I hate it too!" (Agency)

"When clients are doing badly, they sort of hide away and don't want to engage with us. When they're doing well they think they've got it all covered and want to do it without help 'their way'." (Agency)

Court and Probation recognition of attendance – as and when it happens – will definitely have an impact on participation.

"We'll be running 3 sessions next Tuesday, Guys Marsh in the morning, then Dorchester, then here. It'll be interesting to see how it turns out. Guys Marsh have done the whole set-up themselves. We don't have the time to do our regular footwork in Dorchester in the morning – the prison have to take that on now." (PD)



Next Tuesday sessions start at Guys Marsh. The cycle from local prison to training prison to community will be complete and offenders will start to trickle through to this dialogue.

"I'll do what ever I can to get people here. If I saw them on my way I'd stop and bring them with me" (Agency)
"I'm in Guys Marsh on Thursday. I'll tell people to come along. I'd like to make the Resettlement Day in Dorchester too." (Agency)

"I can understand how (Police Team) want to keep themselves separate. They've worked hard to break down those barriers (with offenders). My take is that I'm doing that too in my way on the frontline every day. It's why I'm coming here too." (Agency)

"How can you explain the benefit of coming along to community sessions when there isn't a clear recognition of attendance by courts or probation?" (Agency)
"They are both on the Governance Board and part of thinking this through so I believe that recognition will come." (PD)

Agencies all have their own ways of breaking down barriers between offenders and the available support.

Bournemouth Threshold Dialogue brings Bournemouth offenders together in open conversation with the agencies responsible for their supervision and support. Dialogues are themed on the issues affecting re-offending. The process starts in custody and continues post-release in the community, emphasising support, challenge, responsibility and early intervention. Threshold Dialogue is supported by Bournemouth Safer and Stronger Communities Partnership.